

The Friends of Barnsley Archives  
'Moorings'  
19 Cockerham Avenue  
Barnsley  
S75 1BA

Deborah Mason  
Communications Manager  
Archives and Records Association (UK & Ireland)  
The Keep  
Creech Castle  
Taunton  
Somerset  
TA1 2DX

May 1<sup>st</sup> 2022

Dear Deborah,

**Re. ARA Excellence Awards**

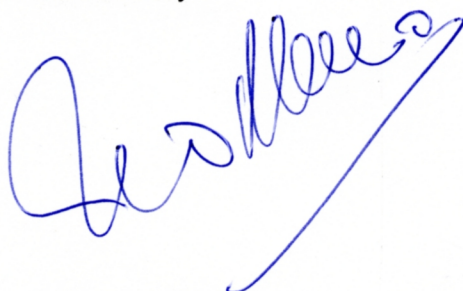
I write to offer the full support of the Friends of Barnsley Archives to the nomination of Barnsley Archives and Local Studies for the ARA Excellence Award for Record Keeping Service of the Year. The substantial achievements made by the service in the last 18 months, during an incredibly difficult period, have been exemplary.

In the last few years, we have been delighted with the move of the department from the Central Library to the Town Hall to form part of the new Experience Barnsley Museum and Archives Discovery Centre. The small team of staff worked tirelessly to provide Barnsley with something that it can be very proud of. From a department that started off in a very small room in the basement of the Central Library in 1987, Barnsley MBC now offer a modern archives service, very much looking to the future.

The last 18 months has seen the service continue to strive to offer a public service during the pandemic and crucially a large project has seen all the collections being brought under one roof for the very first time. This will revolutionise collections management and the ability to make archives available to the public in an efficient and timely manner.

We wish Barnsley Archives and Local Studies the very best of luck and hope that they can secure this award, of which they are thoroughly deserving.

Yours sincerely



Mr Roger Walton  
Chairman of the Friends of Barnsley Archives