



# Archives West Midlands



**Strategy 2023-2028**



# Background

**Archives West Midlands is a subscription based organisation for archives across the region. It uniquely pulls together a variety of organisations and a wealth of skills, knowledge and expertise into a single body, focused on supporting its members' work by delivering practical support, professional knowledge and collaborative opportunities.**

**Membership is open to formal archive organisations within the West Midlands. Any member is expected to be an accredited archive or working towards Archive Service Accreditation.**



# Aims

## AWM strives to:

- 1 Develop a collaborative working environment which empowers our members to achieve more by working together and supports ongoing service innovation and resilience.
- 2 Enable, support and promote improvements in professional best practice across the region's archives.
- 3 Explore new ways to evidence the value of the region's archives to a broad range of stakeholders and partners.
- 4 Sustain a resilient network by providing a confident and coherent voice for the region's archives.

# Values

To achieve these aims  
AWM will be guided by  
the following principles:



### 1. Inclusion.

We will take an inclusive approach to everything which we do; opening up our collections in new ways and celebrating the diversity of our archives, their creators and users.



### 2. Environmental sustainability.

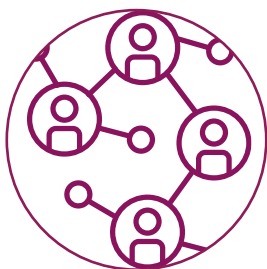
Archives often rely on building or technological infrastructures that have negative environmental impacts. We will commit to promoting environmental sustainability in archives across the region.



### 3. Innovation.

We will encourage innovation, creativity, transparency, and skills development

# Core offer to members



**1. A professional network which enables** members, their staff and volunteers to engage and seek advice from peers, key stakeholders and partners on key issues, within a confidential space.



**2. Professional development, training and shared learning** for the staff and volunteers of members and a focus on continuous service improvement/innovation/best practice.



**3. Enhanced service development, including** supporting members in working towards or retaining Archive Service Accreditation.



**4. Development and participation in regional projects** that focus on collections and personal development and which are informed by the voice of our members



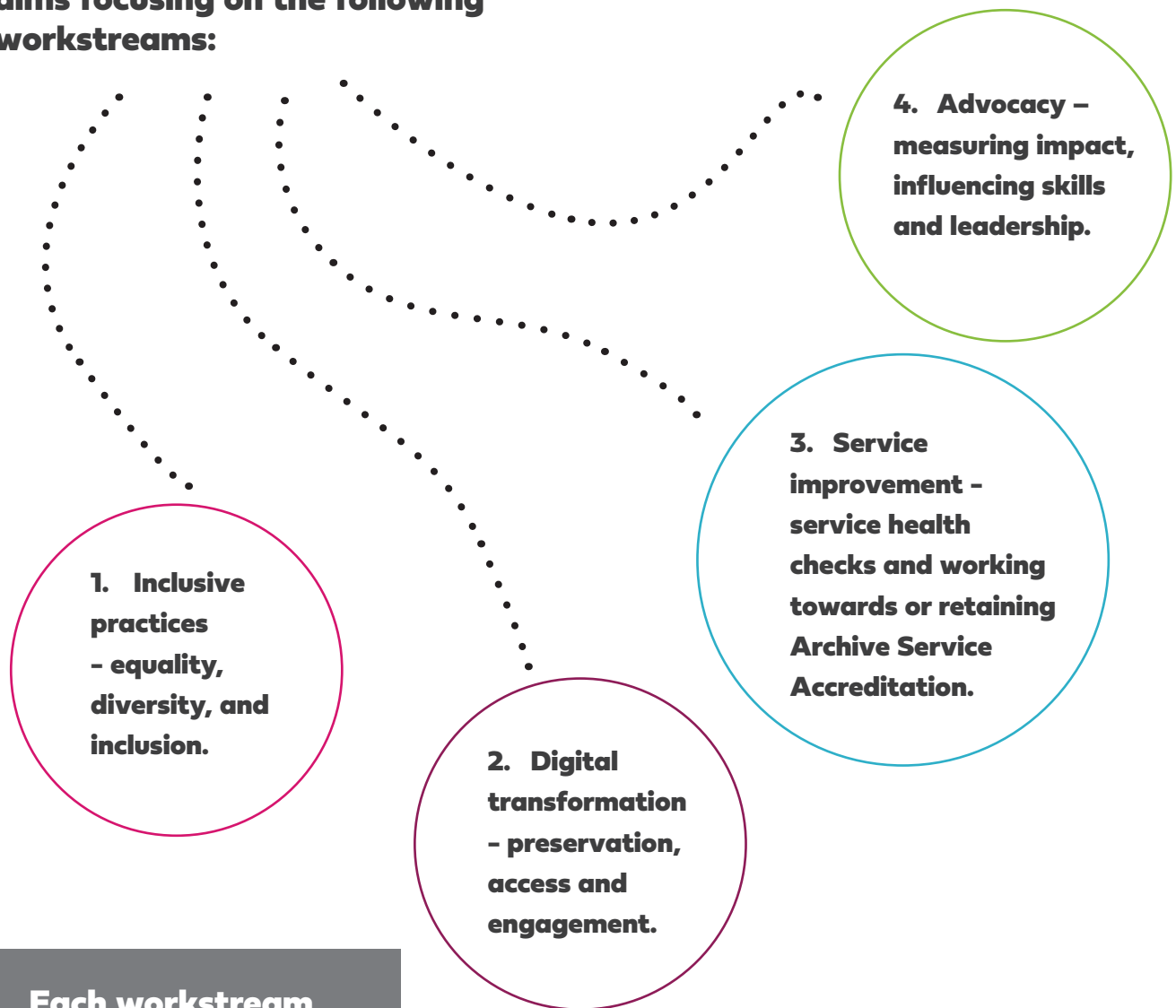
**5. Value for money – participation in projects** and training which members and their staff may not have the capacity or budget to do on their own.



**6. A professional website and a social media presence** which enables members to share and promote relevant projects, share resources and celebrate achievements.

# Workstreams

**AWM will develop an action plan for 2023-2028 to deliver its aims focusing on the following workstreams:**



**Each workstream will be underpinned by the AWM values of inclusion, environmental sustainability and innovation.**





Archives West Midlands

[www.archiveswestmidlands.org.uk](http://www.archiveswestmidlands.org.uk)

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