The new Past Forward service (https://www.past-forward.co.uk/what-is-past-forward) is an initiative from the East of England Regional Archive Council which aims to highlight the professional services available from many Record Offices and archive services. The project has been funded by the National Archives (TNA).

The website is intended to support organisations embarking on a project where they may be working with historic documents, photographs, film, sound recordings or oral histories.

The services essentially break down into three areas:

- **Plan** – supporting you with essential budgeting considerations, particularly important during the planning and grant funding application stage of your project

- **Deliver** – from project and archival research to collection, policy, strategy and documentation development, cataloguing, conservation, packaging and storage, digital collecting, gathering oral histories and depositing archives

- **Engage** – a variety of services to help project leads develop ways to engage with the public; from events and celebrations, to book publication, to the creation of exhibitions and websites; help open up projects for the enjoyment and appreciation of others.

Case studies are included on the website to guide organisations. A few examples can be found here https://www.past-forward.co.uk/projects to assist in exploring the art of the possible and gather ideas.

Archive services participating in the Past Forward initiative can be found here https://www.past-forward.co.uk/get-started