

We the undersigned petition the council to ensure that sufficient staff are retained to maintain the combined Oxfordshire Studies and Oxfordshire Record Office services in future and that the services are adequately funded.

We very much fear that the cuts in personnel currently proposed-including a loss of eight posts-will disastrously affect public access to collections and put collections at risk. The services concerned have been squeezed for decades now. The total spent on them is 0.76 per cent of the county's annual £973m budget. The cuts now proposed come close to execution. Everyone in the county will be losers if we are no longer able to research our past and thus better understand our present and future.

Caroline Mary Dalton

Started by: Malcolm Graham (Oxfordshire Local History Association)