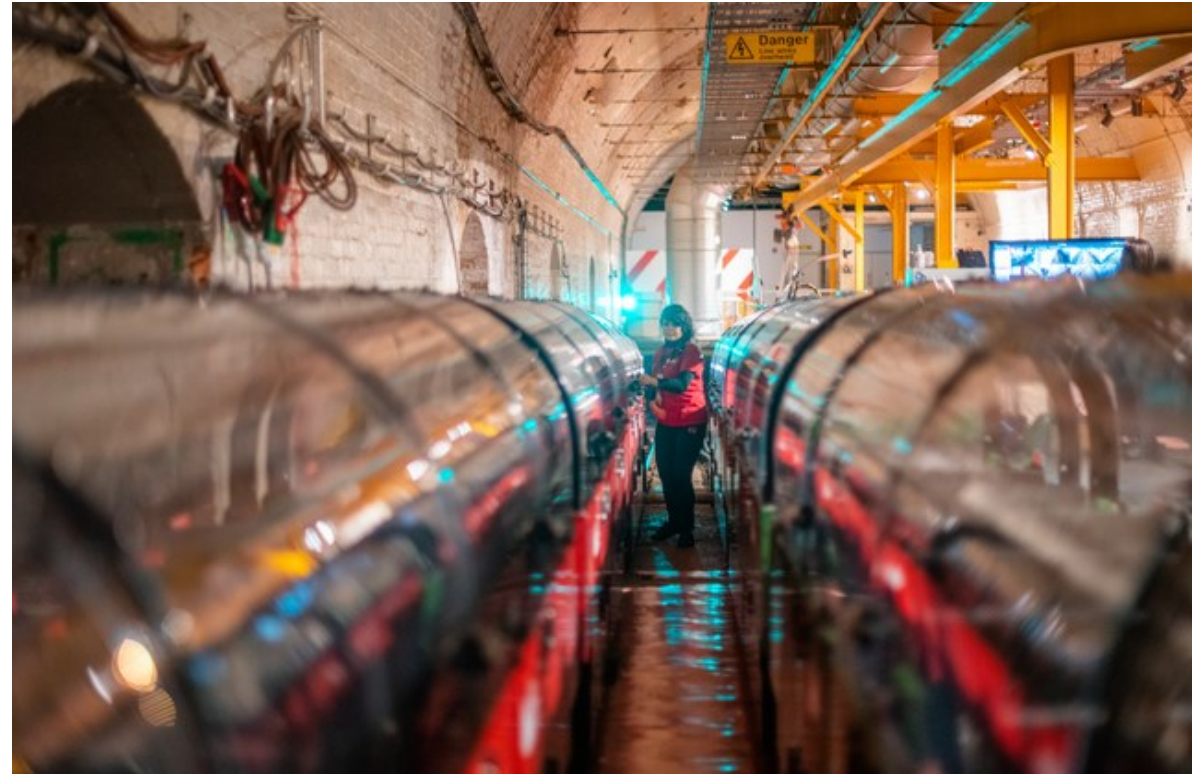


# What's new DPC CAT?

Helen Dafter, Archivist (Digital Preservation), The  
Postal Museum

# The Postal Museum

- Based in central London
- Museum with miniature underground train ride
- Cares for the archives of Royal Mail and Post Office Limited
- Also has an archive of its own records
- Working on procuring and implementing Preservica
- Aiming to share workload across collections team



## DPC CAT



- Companion to the Competency Framework
- Framework has 5 competency areas and 28 skills elements
- Practical, structured processes for assessing the skill levels of those undertaking digital preservation work
- Can assess at individual or organizational basis
- Map to DPC RAM to identify skills gaps and barriers to progression

## Why?

- **Wanted to assess the current position of The Postal Museum**
- **Needed to test assumptions around skills – both positive and negative**
- **Engage colleagues in digital preservation and the skills needed**
- **Needed baseline assessment of current position to plan future work**

## How?

- **Discussion with Head of Collections**
- **2 phase approach**
- **Emailed links to spreadsheet and supporting information on DPC website**
- **Reassured colleagues of confidentiality**
- **Drop in session for questions**

## Findings – Digital Preservation Group

01

No skills gap in most areas for current DPC RAM level

02

One level gap to current DPC RAM level metadata standards and implementation

03

There were several gaps between current skills level and target RAM level

04

Larger gaps in average skill levels – reflects how the skills are concentrated in a small number of staff

## Findings – Collections

01

No skills gap for  
current DPC RAM  
level

02

There were several  
gaps between current  
skills level and target  
RAM level

03

Larger gaps in average  
skill levels – reflects  
how the skills are  
concentrated in a  
small number of staff

# Reflections

- **More clarity on how to complete**
- **Subjectivity**
- **Two phase approach?**
- **Meaning of terms**



## Next steps

- **Share results internally and externally**
- **Monitor and share training opportunities with colleagues**
- **Repeat assessment 2024**
- **Explore whether The Postal Museum could use role description aspect of CAT**

## Conclusion

- **Both the process and the results provided useful learning experience**
- **Need to use this to support staff development**
- **Activity descriptor words very useful at focusing thinking**

