

# CABINET

## MUSEUMS SERVICE 21 January 2014

### Report of the Chief Executive

PURPOSE OF REPORT					
To present to Cabinet, for its consideration, a shared service proposal for the future management of the City Council's Museums Service.					
Key Decision	<input type="checkbox"/>	Non-Key Decision	<input type="checkbox"/>	Officer Referral	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Date of notice of forthcoming key decision	N/A				
This report is public					

#### RECOMMENDATIONS OF COUNCILLOR SANDS

- (1) That Cabinet notes the progress made concerning the future of the City Council's Museums Service.
- (2) That progress towards the development of a shared service proposal is routinely reported back to Cabinet.

#### 1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 The City Council's museums are currently managed by Lancashire County Council through the Museums Partnership.
- 1.2 The City Council shares a number of services and is committed to exploring opportunities for further sharing of services.
- 1.3 An opportunity exists to share museums services in a partnership with both the County Council and Preston City Council.
- 1.4 The Local Government Association (LGA) was commissioned to provide a workshop to 'test' the feasibility of a shared approach across the three councils. As a result, a report has been produced and is attached at **Appendix A**.
- 1.5 The workshop was attended by representatives from the City Council, Preston City Council and Lancashire County Council.

## 2.0 Proposal Details

- 2.1 That a shared service is created to manage the museums located in the western half of Lancashire that are owned by Lancashire County Council, Lancaster City Council and Preston City Council.
- 2.2 The shared service will enable shared management and expertise. However, governance arrangements will enable each authority to determine the overall scope of service provision for their museums.

## 3.0 Options and Options Analysis (including risk assessment)

	<b>Option 1:</b> Work towards creating a shared service with Preston City Council and Lancashire County Council	<b>Option 2:</b> Cease working on a shared service and begin to work towards direct management of Lancaster City Council's Museums by Lancaster City Council
Advantages	The ability to share expertise and management costs	None identified
Disadvantages	None identified	An increase in management costs
Risks	The development of a shared service across three Councils may not come to fruition	The Museums become a bigger draw on City Council resources.

## 4.0 Officer Preferred Option

- 4.1 Option 1

### RELATIONSHIP TO POLICY FRAMEWORK

The efficiencies delivered from developing a shared service programme will greatly assist in achieving the objectives in the Council's Corporate Plan, particularly in terms of efficiencies and working closely with other partner organisations to deliver improved benefits for the Lancaster district community.

### CONCLUSION OF IMPACT ASSESSMENT

**(including Health & Safety, Equality & Diversity, Human Rights, Community Safety, HR, Sustainability and Rural Proofing)**

None arising directly as a result of this report

### LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no legal implications directly arising from this report.

### FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no direct financial implications as a result of this report at this stage. However, for information the 2014/2015 budgeted cost for management of the City Council's museums is £510,000. Any financial implications arising would be presented for consideration in future reports.

**OTHER RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS****Human Resources:**

None arising directly as a result of this report

**Information/Property Services:**

There are no direct implications as a result of this report at this stage. Any implications arising would be presented for consideration in future reports.

**Open Spaces:**

None arising directly as a result of this report

**SECTION 151 OFFICER'S COMMENTS**

The Section 151 Officer has been consulted and has no further comments to add.

**MONITORING OFFICER'S COMMENTS**

The Monitoring Officer has been consulted and, on the basis that details of the proposed governance arrangements will be developed as work on the shared service progresses, has no further comments at this stage.

**BACKGROUND PAPERS**

none

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**Ref:** CE/ES/Cttees/Cabinet/21.01.14