

Cllr. Nick Wilkinson  
Lancaster City Council  
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**Vice Chancellor**

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18 January 2016

Dear Cllr. Wilkinson

I write on behalf of the University of Cumbria in support of the motion to Council 'Working in Partnership - Reviewing Options for Lancaster Museums'.

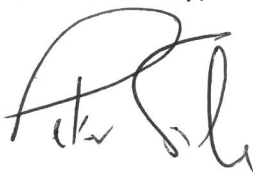
The motion calls for the City and County Councils to work together to investigate and appraise the option to create a Lancaster wide organisation for Museums. We understand the current budgetary situation that Councils currently face but note the importance of the Lancaster museums from a cultural perspective as well as a potential driver for economic development through tourism.

The principle of Lancaster museums working under a single umbrella organisation and in partnership with business, community, education and arts institutions should be explored fully as a potential opportunity to increase income, improve the museum offerings and improve the overall visitor experience of Lancaster.

To confirm we would support the review of the option for a Lancaster wide museums organisation and feel that it would be an opportunity missed if this option was not assessed in detail before any Lancaster wide museum buildings or exhibits were sold or transferred.

The University of Cumbria would, in principle, explore and encourage the new organisation to work with us on a number of knowledge exchange opportunities to support business development, commercial sustainability, cultural heritage, learning resources provision and tourism opportunities.

Yours sincerely,



Professor Peter Strike  
**Vice Chancellor**