

Cllr. Nick Wilkinson  
Lancaster City Council  
Dalton Square  
Lancaster  
LA1 1PJ

19 January 2016

Dear Cllr. Wilkinson

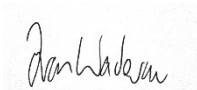
I write on behalf of The Dukes Playhouse Ltd in support of the motion to Council 'Working in Partnership - Reviewing Options for Lancaster Museums'.

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, being part of the Lancaster: City of Heritage and City of Arts branding as well as a potential driver for economic development through tourism.

The Dukes has worked on joint projects with Lancaster museums and with the County Museums services previously to engage residents and visitors and to unlock stories from our rich, local heritage. 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.

Yours sincerely,



**Ivan Wadeson**  
Executive Director