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litfest

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

17<sup>th</sup> January 2015

Dear Cllr. Wilkinson

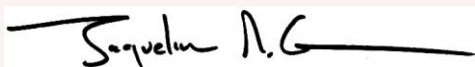
I write on behalf of Litfest in support of the motion to Council  
'Working in Partnership - Reviewing Options for Lancaster Museums'.

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. Whilst we fully understand the current budgetary situation that Councils currently face, we are concerned at the lack of imagination being displayed by the proposed deployment of the 'usual' solution i.e cuts. The importance of the Lancaster museums as a potential driver for economic development through tourism, for employment and student retention, as well as from a cultural perspective, cannot be underestimated. We believe potential closure is a short-sighted and fear-driven response to the current challenges.

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. We believe that this would be an enormous missed opportunity if this option was not assessed in detail before any Lancaster wide museum buildings or exhibits were sold or transferred.

Yours sincerely



Jacqueline Greaves  
Chair, Litfest