

CABINET

Museum Business Plan 2019-21 and Museum Collections Development Policy 2019-24 Individual Cabinet Member Decision

PURPOSE OF REPORT			
To approve the City Museums Business Plan 2019-21 and the Museum Collections Development Policy 2019-24			
Key Decision	<input type="checkbox"/>	Non-Key Decision	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Referral from Cabinet Member
Date of notice of forthcoming key decision	Not applicable		
This report is public.			

RECOMMENDATIONS

- (1) To approve the Lancaster City Museums' Business Plan
- (2) To approve the Lancaster City Museums' Collections Development Policy

1.0 Introduction

1.1 Lancaster City Museums comprise the Lancaster City Museum, Lancaster Maritime Museum and the Cottage Museum. All these museums are currently Accredited under the national Museum Accreditation Scheme administered by the Arts Council for England. The Museum Accreditation Scheme has been running since 1988 and is a reflection of a museum that is well run in terms of governance, collections care and user services. Accredited Museums are also committed to following the Museums Association's Code of Ethics. Only Accredited Museums are able to apply for Arts Council museum funding.

1.2 Lancaster City Museums have been asked to submit their renewal application for Museum Accreditation by 31 July 2019. Formal approval of the Business/Forward Plan and the Collections Development Policy is a requirement under the scheme.

2.0 Proposal Details

2.1 It is proposed that Lancaster City Council formally approves the City Museums' Business Plan 2019-21 and the Collections Development Policy 2019-24. This will enable the City Museums to apply for renewal of their Accredited status.

2.2 The Business Plan covers two years, which is the minimum allowed. This is because the situation is still very fluid following the transfer of the City’s museums from the County Council back to City control on 1 October 2018.

2.3 The Collections Development Policy is written to a template provided by the Arts Council and covers a standard five years – although it can be re-written before this if required. Changes from the previous policy show a commitment to active contemporary collecting, ensuring that the collections are representative of the local population, and also a focus on collecting Morecambe’s heritage so that it can be better represented.

3.0 Details of Consultation

3.1 Priorities for collecting within the museum service have been developed using the previous policy and then consulting with museum and economic development staff as well as the Friends of the City Museum. The Equality Act 2010 is also referenced as we work to ensure that the collection represents all of those with protected characteristics.

3.2 The Business Plan has been developed with senior officers and includes plans to consult as widely as possible with users and non-users as we develop a museum strategy. The development of a museum strategy forms part of the business plan. The Friends of the City Museum have been consulted regarding the Business Plan.

4.0 Options and Options Analysis [including risk assessment]

	Option 1: Approve	Option 2: Do not approve
Advantages	City Museums have approved documents to work to and can apply for Museum Accreditation	None
Disadvantages	None	Museums will fail to gain Museum Accreditation
Risks	Due to Accreditation timetable it is likely that the Business Plan action points will change, although the key aims and objectives will not so the risk level to the overall strategic direction of the document is low	Reputational risk of failing to become Accredited Loss of funding source from the Arts Council

5.0 Officer Preferred Option (and comments)

5.1 To approve the City Museums Business Plan 2019-21 and the Museum Collections Development Policy 2019-24

6.0 Conclusion

6.1 That the Museum Business Plan 2019-21 and the Museum Collections Development Policy 2019-24 should be approved so as to ensure that the development of the City Museums are planned, ordered and guided by appropriate documents. Also to ensure that the City Museums successfully achieve Accredited status and are eligible to apply for Arts Council funding.

6.2 The Business Plan links to these ambitions of the Corporate Plan: -

1. A thriving and prosperous economy
2. Clean, green and safe neighbourhoods
3. Healthy and happy communities
4. A smart and forward-thinking Council

The detail on how this links to the Corporate Plan can be found within the Business Plan itself.

RELATIONSHIP TO POLICY FRAMEWORK	
Corporate Plan	
CONCLUSION OF IMPACT ASSESSMENT (including Health & Safety, Equality & Diversity, Human Rights, Community Safety, Human Resources, Sustainability and Rural Proofing)	
No implications	
LEGAL IMPLICATIONS	
There are no direct legal implications as a result of this report.	
FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS	
There are no direct financial implications as a result of this report as current plans are met within existing budgets and any additional expenditure would only proceeding once external funding has been confirmed.	
OTHER RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS, such as Human Resources, Information Services, Property, Open Spaces:	
No direct implications	
SECTION 151 OFFICER'S COMMENTS	
The s151 Officer has been consulted and has no further comments.	
MONITORING OFFICER'S COMMENTS	
The Monitoring Officer has been consulted and has no further comments.	
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