

HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

Decision Report

Decision Maker:	Executive Member for Culture and Recreation
Date:	4 November 2011
Title:	Hampshire Arts and Museums Service – Planning for the Future: Phase 2
Reference:	3374
Report From:	Director of Culture, Communities and Business Services

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1. Executive Summary

1.1. The purpose of this paper is to:

- Seek approval for Hampshire County Council to act as Lead Applicant for the Hampshire-Solent Alliance application to the Renaissance Major Grants scheme administered by the Arts Council, with the intention of submitting an application by the deadline of 2 November 2011.

2. Contextual information

2.1. The strategic and contextual background to this application is outlined in detail in the Executive Member for Culture and Recreation report approved on 8 July 2011, entitled 'Hampshire Arts and Museums Service – Planning for the Future: Phase 2.

3. Hampshire-Solent Alliance

3.1. The Hampshire-Solent Alliance has been established during 2011/12 with the funding support of the Museums, Libraries and Archives Council (MLA) Renaissance via the Hampshire County Council Renaissance Operational Plan 2011/12. It builds upon the work of previous strategic partnerships, including the Hampshire and Isle of Wight Renaissance SE sub-regional panel and the Partnership for Urban South Hampshire (PUSH) Find Your Talent project. Preparatory work on this was reported to, and approved by, Elected Members in Phase 1 of the Arts and Museums Review in 2010.

3.2. The Alliance consists of the following membership:

- a) Hampshire County Council

- b) Isle of Wight Council
- c) Mary Rose Trust
- d) National Motor Museum Trust, Beaulieu
- e) Portsmouth City Council
- f) Southampton City Council
- g) Winchester City Council

This membership constitutes the 4 primary local authority services in the area and the 2 Nationally Designated independent museum organisations.

- 3.3. The vision of the Alliance is to champion the innovation and excellence of the diverse cultural heritage in the Hampshire and Solent area for the enjoyment and benefit of the public.
- 3.4. During 2011/12, the Alliance has established a Renaissance Alliance Group to steer a programme of activity as follows:
 - a) Governance: work by Hampshire, Southampton and Winchester local authorities to investigate the option of creating a fully integrated merger (FIM) organisation to deliver aspects of their cultural service, particularly in the area of museums and arts. A further report on this work will be provided to the Executive Member in January 2012, with a likely recommendation to prepare a detailed business case during spring 2012 for a preferred option.
 - b) Re-uniting collections: a programme that includes investigation of joint collection storage and management opportunities, and which explores the themes which connect our collections together: e.g. maritime heritage; Saxon and Medieval archaeology; transport and technology
 - c) Digital collections: the development of an online resource that encourages local communities to co-curate a virtual exhibition of 100 star items from the Alliance collections
 - d) Tourism marketing 2012+: the development and implementation of a strategy to market the museums resource in the Hampshire-Solent area during 2012, with a specific target to increase visitors by 4% during 2012.

4. Renaissance Major Grants Application

- 4.1. On 13 September 2011, the Arts Council England (ACE) launched its new Renaissance Major Grants Scheme. Members will be aware that ACE will take over responsibilities in this area from the MLA which will be wound up in 2012. The Scheme is open to all single museum organisations or consortia which fulfil a specific set of criteria, with a deadline for applications on 2 November 2011. Results will be announced by the end of January 2012.
- 4.2. The criteria include:

- a) The ability to make a major contribution towards delivering overall strategy for the sector
 - b) Significant multi-themed collections, part of which should be Designated
 - c) Demonstrable track record in research and scholarship and collections development
 - d) Minimum visitor attendance of 150,000 per year and strong track record of delivering services to the public
 - e) Financial resilience
 - f) Firm track record in strong, stable and effective governance, management, leadership and partnership development
- 4.3. Through the Major Grants Scheme, ACE is seeking to identify a small number of key museums, or groups of museums, with which it can develop a long-term relationship to support delivery of an ambitious transformational agenda. Successful Major Grant applicants will enter into a 3 year agreement with the Arts Council, receiving up to £2 million per annum
- 4.4. It is proposed that the Hampshire-Solent Alliance submit a Major Grants application as a consortia with a bold ambition to become a world class centre of excellence and one of the top regional cultural destinations in the UK.
- 4.5. Specifically, we are proposing to ask ACE to work with the Alliance to:
- a) Deliver world-class collections and museum experiences.
 - b) Champion an innovative and creative cross-cultural approach to deliver these collections and museum experiences
 - c) Strengthen our resilience through collective resource management, including the development of an FIM and work towards joint collection storage
 - d) Deliver significant sector leadership for the wider museums and cultural community in Southern England.
- 4.6. Proposal to transfer Lead Applicant status to an FIM if established during the 3 year period in question

5. Financial and Legal Implications

- 5.1. The total value of the grant requested by the Alliance over the 3-year period will be in the region of £6 million. More detailed figures will be available after the time of writing this report and will be updated accordingly.
- 5.2. The County Council and other Alliance partners will be required to provide outline 2012/13 budgets as part of the application process to demonstrate levered funding from their own resources in support of these projects. For the County Council, it is intended that this match funding would be achieved from existing cash limit budgets.
- 5.3. It is proposed that Hampshire County Council will act as Lead Applicant, and if successful, would enter into the Alliance funding agreement with Arts

Council England. It is also proposed that a proportion of the £6 million would be distributed across the Alliance partners, in a process managed by partner sub-funding agreements. The Council will build upon the experiences gained within the MLA Renaissance programme and work with ACE and Alliance partners to ensure these arrangements are put in place to rigorously manage risk for all parties.

Prior to confirming any such role or programme for Hampshire County Council, a clear and robust exit strategy will be produced to ensure appropriate arrangements for dealing with the removal or reduction of funding at the end of the contract period.

- 5.4. It is proposed that the Alliance partnership arrangement would be managed, if the grant application is successful, by a Renaissance Alliance Board consisting of senior officers from all partners. This Board would meet on a quarterly basis with working groups undertaking specific project delivery on the ground. It is also proposed that this Board is advised by a Renaissance Advisory Committee meeting twice per annum and consisting of representatives from the Alliance governing bodies.
- 5.5. It is intended that the Renaissance Major Grants application will propose that the Lead Applicant status for the Alliance be transferred from Hampshire County Council to the FIM organisation if established during the 3 year period of any funding agreement with Arts Council England.

6. Recommendations

- 6.1. That the Executive Member for Culture and Recreation:
 - a) Approves the Hampshire-Solent Alliance application to the Renaissance Major Grants fund, 2012/13-, with Hampshire County Council acting as the Lead Applicant, in accordance with the proposals identified in this report.
 - b) Notes that Arts Council England announcements will be made regarding Major Grants awards in January 2012. If the Hampshire-Solent Alliance application is successful, the Executive Member will receive a further report in Spring 2012 outlining the detailed outcomes of the application process and seeking approval to accept the grant together with any necessary legal agreements in the County Council's role as lead applicant.

CORPORATE OR LEGAL INFORMATION:

Links to the Corporate Strategy

Hampshire safer and more secure for all:	no
Corporate Improvement plan link number (if appropriate):	
Maximising well-being:	yes
Corporate Improvement plan link number (if appropriate):	
Enhancing our quality of place:	yes
Corporate Improvement plan link number (if appropriate):	

Other Significant Links

Links to previous Member decisions:		
<u>Title</u>	<u>Reference</u>	<u>Date</u>
Renaissance SE Hub		17/07/2008
Renaissance SE	920	10/09/2009
Hampshire Arts and Museums Service – Planning for the Future	1637	08/07/2010
Hampshire Arts and Museums Service – Planning for the Future	2154	17/11/2010
Hampshire Arts and Museums Service – Planning for the Future		28/01/2011
Hampshire Arts and Museums Service – Planning for the Future		08/03/2011
Hampshire Arts and Museums Service – Planning for the Future		08/07/2011

Section 100 D - Local Government Act 1972 - background documents

The following documents discuss facts or matters on which this report, or an important part of it, is based and have been relied upon to a material extent in the preparation of this report. (NB: the list excludes published works and any documents which disclose exempt or confidential information as defined in the Act.)

<u>Document</u>	<u>Location</u>
None	

IMPACT ASSESSMENTS:

1. Equalities Impact Assessment:

- 1.1. An Equalities Impact Assessment for Phase 2 will be developed during the July-November 2011 period for consideration in December 2011 as part of the decision-making process. It will include a review in relation to the Hampshire-Solent Alliance Renaissance Major Grants Application.

2. Impact on Crime and Disorder:

- 2.1. The County Council has a legal obligation under Section 17 of the Crime & Disorder Act 1998 to consider the impact of all the decisions it makes on the prevention of crime. The proposals in this report have no impact on crime and disorder.

3. Climate Change:

- a) How does what is being proposed impact on our carbon footprint / energy consumption? Not applicable
- b) How does what is being proposed consider the need to adapt to climate change, and be resilient to its longer term impacts? Not applicable