

HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

Decision Report

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| Decision Maker: | Executive Member for Culture and Recreation |
| Date: | 8 March 2012 |
| Title: | Arts and Museums Service – Planning for the Future: Phase 2 |
| Reference: | 3698 |
| Report From: | Director of Culture, Communities and Business Services |

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1. Executive Summary

- 1.1 This report seeks Executive Member approval to proceed with the proposed new model of community partnership working at Eastleigh Museum. It also seeks to provide an update on the transitional arrangements into the new structure. As part of these transitional arrangements, selected community museums identified in this report will close for three weeks during May 2012 to prepare for the public re-launch of new community partnerships from 29 May 2012.
- 1.2 It also updates on progress regarding other key aspects of the Arts and Museums Service Phase 2 reorganisation approved by the Executive Member on 20 January 2012, and provides an update on the outcome of the application by Hampshire-Solent Alliance to the Renaissance Major Grants Fund.

2. Contextual information

- 2.1 The Executive Member approved the Arts and Museums Strategic Plan and Phase 2 Reorganisation at his Decision Day on 20 January 2012. The report presented on 20 January 2012 outlined the wider contextual framework for the Service.

3. Implementing the Phase 2 Re-organisation

- 3.1 The Phase 2 reorganisation will primarily be implemented on 1 May 2012.
- 3.2 A voluntary redundancy scheme has been offered to staff as part of the Phase 2 reorganisation process and significant progress has been made

been made in reducing the compulsory redundancies to a minimum. Overall the Service expects to reduce current staffing levels by a total reduction of 9.21fte. During February 2012, voluntary redundancies have been confirmed and interviews held for ring-fenced posts. A further update on the outcome of these activities will be provided at the Decision Day on 8 March 2012.

4. Update On Community Museum Welcome Host Volunteer Partnerships

- 4.1 On 1 February 2012 a recruitment drive for our “welcome museum” volunteers was launched for the community museums. 10-15 are sought at each venue (excluding Eastleigh Museum which will have a different arrangement detailed in section 5.5). This role involves providing information to visitors, helping with the café and shop and supporting the overall operation of the museum.
<http://www3.hants.gov.uk/museum/museums.htm>
- 4.2 Recruitment of volunteers will take place February/April 2012 and training will commence in May 2012 . Details of the plans for recruiting and training volunteers have been presented at the Joint Management Committees (JMCs) for each of the Community Museums.
- 4.3 Current arrangements for the community museums listed below will continue until 4 May 2012. A temporary transition closure to the general public is planned for these community museums from 5 May to 28 May 2012 inclusive, to allow for transition and re-launch of venues. On the 29 May 2012 these museums will reopen under new community partnership arrangements.
- Aldershot Museum
 - Andover Museum
 - Eastleigh Museum-Partnership arrangement with One Community
 - Fareham Museum
 - Willis Museum (top floor archaeology galleries closed only 5-28 May; remainder of museum including Sainsbury Gallery to remain open throughout period)
 - Red House Museum (temporary exhibition gallery only to remain open until 19 May for New Forest National Park Olympic Art Exhibition and in the Foyer Gallery an Exhibition of paintings Sunlight and Shadow. Rest of museum to close 5-28 May.)
- 4.4 During this transition period the team will focus on volunteer training and development activities, deep clean of the museum venues and installation of the Inspire: Hampshire's stories of the Olympic Games exhibition. Schools and other booked groups will continue to be hosted throughout this period.

- 4.5 The proposition for temporary transitional closures was raised at the Joint Management Committees. No JMC expressed concern regarding the idea of a temporary transition closure of 3 weeks to allow the new model to be embedded, and some actively supported the idea.
- 4.6 Community Museums will reopen for business on the 29 May with simultaneous celebratory community launches for the Diamond Jubilee and the Inspire: Hampshire's stories of the Olympic Games exhibition on Saturday 2 June.

5. Eastleigh Museum

- 5.1 Consultation with external stakeholders is reported upon more fully in the Executive Member Report:- Hampshire Arts and Museums Service – Planning for the Future: Phase 2 - 20 January 2012
- 5.2 In summary the Phase 2 proposals and copies of the first and second drafts of the strategic plan have been provided on the Hampshire County Council website since July 2011 and arrangements made for public comments to be received up to and including 2 December 2011.
- 5.3 Specifically with regard to Eastleigh Museum, Eastleigh Borough Council as partners through joint management arrangements announced their intention in October 2011 to significantly reduce their investment in Eastleigh Museum from £66,750 to £30,000 in 2012/13. The scale of this reduction rendered the original Phase 2 proposals financially unviable. With full support from the Eastleigh Museum JMC options were identified to seek community partners to sustain service delivery.
- 5.4 After further discussions with Eastleigh Borough Council, with the Friends of Eastleigh Museum and local history and community groups a new fledgling community partnership has emerged.
- 5.5 This new community partnership for Eastleigh Museum is being developed with One Community –Council for Voluntary Services in Eastleigh for the location of community advisory services at Eastleigh Museum. This arrangement would enable One Community to provide “front of house services “ through volunteer arrangements for the Museum. This arrangement would exist alongside the continued provision of professional museum services by Hampshire County Council Arts and Museums Service and as defined within the Service Level Agreement between Hampshire County Council and Eastleigh Borough Council.
- 5.6 At the One Community Board Meeting on the 20 February 2012 the Members received an outline report on the proposal of working with Hampshire County Council regarding Eastleigh Museum and unanimously accepted the Chief Executive Officer's recommendation to progress with the negotiations to establish formal partnership arrangements, to manage with volunteers, the front of house services at Eastleigh Museum.

- 5.7 A draft Memorandum of Understanding which establishes a framework for cooperation between Hampshire County Council and One Community for the operation of “front of house services” for Eastleigh Museum for an initial period of 18 months is attached as Appendix 1 for approval.
- 5.8 On two counts this partnership stands to be ground breaking nationally:-
- Firstly Voluntary Services will be based within a local community museum offering community information and advice as well as managing volunteers to run front of house services.
 - Secondly the partnership will commit to developing new approaches to using arts and museums collections relating to the health and well being of Eastleigh Communities, whilst retaining the local history and sense of place for all.
- 5.9 In developing these proposals due regard has been given to the County Council's duty to eliminate discrimination, advance equality of opportunity and to foster good relations between protected and non protected groups. The recommendations take account of the mitigation steps identified in the Equality Impact Assessment and balance the operational needs of the service with the equalities duty.

6. Update re Phase 1 Community Partnerships

- 6.1 A community partnership has been established for Bursledon Windmill chaired by Eastleigh Borough Council. This partnership is taking forward proposals which include the restoration of the wind shaft, which has come to the end of its natural life. Key achievements include the development of refreshed interpretation including a new audio visual presentation funded through the Renaissance transition fund. A feasibility study is under preparation by Hampshire Property Services in readiness for funding applications for the restoration work.
- 6.2 A community partnership has been established for Rockbourne Roman Villa. Key achievements include refreshed interpretation and graphics for the site, including a natural history trail funded through the Renaissance transition fund. In addition new work is underway in developing services for schools at Rockbourne and with partners in the area. A questionnaire survey of schools has been distributed and new marketing approaches are being investigated.
- 6.3 The Volunteer Coordinators at both Bursledon Windmill and Rockbourne Roman Villa, funded by the Renaissance transition fund until the 31 March 2012, have established core groups of volunteers to support the operation of each site. At Rockbourne an exciting development is the creation of a “Roman Garden”, which visitors will be able to enjoy during 2012.

- 6.4 The Alton partnership continues to develop through the management of the Hampshire Museums and Galleries Trust and with the support of volunteers. Key achievements are the completion of an audience development plan and an architectural feasibility study in preparation for an HLF bid.
- 6.5 Over sixty people have volunteered their time to support these Phase 1 community partnership schemes to date.

7. Update re District and Borough Council Partnership Budget Setting, 2012/13

- 7.1 The JMC budget setting meetings and SLA outcomes have concluded as of 30 January 2012. There has been an overall reduction in partner contributions of 15% compared to 2011/12 budgets, and this reduction has been planned for as part of the Phase 2 reorganisation.

8. Update re Hampshire-Solent Alliance

- 8.1 On 24 January 2012 we were informed by Arts Council England that our Major Grants application to Renaissance on behalf of the Hampshire-Solent Alliance was unsuccessful. It was a highly competitive process with 29 bids received across England and only 16 successful, 2 from each region. Our application was regarded as strong and fundable in the regional and national assessment stage but was turned down at the final 'balancing of national portfolio stage' which considered geographic spread.
- 8.2 We have received constructive feedback from Arts Council South East regarding our application and they are very supportive of the Alliance collaboration approach, the Fully Integrated Merger work with Southampton and Winchester, and our overall direction of travel. The intention is therefore to explore new strategies for taking forward the Hampshire-Solent Alliance agenda in partnership with wider cultural sector colleagues and as part of this to tap into alternative funding streams which may be available.
- 8.3 Hampshire County Council is eligible, as a former Renaissance Hub Museum, for transition funding during 2012-13. Applications for this funding would be planned to support the following activities:
- a. Development and implementation of the Fully Integrated Merger with Southampton and Winchester (FIM)
 - b. Developing new models of delivery for an integrated teaching and learning centre at SEARCH with arts and libraries, for six community museums by engaging more local people through volunteering with professional support and for exhibitions at Milestones
 - c. Consolidated partnership working with the Hampshire-Solent Alliance through the continued development of its innovative digital

platform and outreach programme 'Heritage 100' and joint marketing projects.

We are currently negotiating with ACE regarding the detail of this.

9. Recommendation(s)

That the Executive Member

- i) Approves the proposed model for community partnership between Hampshire County Council Arts and Museums Service and One Community, Council for Voluntary Services in Eastleigh and the attached Memorandum of Understanding (Appendix 1) between Hampshire County Council and One Community for the management partnership with volunteers for the front of house facilities and services at Eastleigh museum for an initial 18 month period from 29/5/2012.
- ii) Notes the temporary transitional closure for a three weeks period, to the general public of the selected community museums as per sections 4.3 and 4.4 of this report.
- iii) Welcomes the significant progress made in reducing the number of compulsory redundancies in Phase 1.
- iv) Notes the progress in developing the Community Museum Volunteer programme, and Community partnerships at Alton, Rockbourne Bursledon and Eastleigh.
- v) Notes the update on the Hampshire-Solent Alliance and supports efforts to negotiate alternative funding streams with Arts Council England.

CORPORATE OR LEGAL INFORMATION:

Links to the Corporate Strategy

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| Hampshire safer and more secure for all: | Yes |
| 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 | 2994 | 08/07/2011 |
| Hampshire Arts and Museums Service – Planning for the Future | 3374 | 04/11/2011 |
| Hampshire Arts and Museums Service – Planning for the Future: Phase 2 | 2595 | 20 January 2012 |

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: Arts and Museums Service Phase 2 Reorganisation and Strategic Plan - Impact on service users

Specific issues identified:-

Negative

Reductions in staffing levels at SEARCH in Gosport will have a negative impact on the number of sessions provided for school groups, reminiscence sessions for elderly people and holiday activities for families. It will also have an impact on targeted work with schools that have significant numbers of children from disadvantaged backgrounds.

Reduction in front-of-house staffing at all community museums will have an impact on the number and quality of holiday activities provided for families.

To manage these issues, the following actions will be undertaken:

- Touring Exhibition and Interventions Programme (including the Inspire: Hampshire's stories of the Olympic Games exhibition and 2014 anniversaries) to be developed for community museums.
- The Alliance 'Waking the Sleeping Giant' project to develop a touring exhibitions programme at alternative, flagship venues and joint schools education planning and marketing.
- Vision for an integrated teaching and learning resource at SEARCH to be developed.
- Community Museum Welcome Museum Volunteer partnerships to be developed.
- More integrated arts and museums offer to be developed for young people.

Positive: The increase in opportunities for volunteering in the community museums will benefit young people and older people by providing greater scope for getting involved in community activity leading to improved health and well-being and supporting development of skills for employment

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:

- 3.1 How does what is being proposed impact on our carbon footprint / energy consumption? Not applicable

- 3.2 How does what is being proposed consider the need to adapt to climate change, and be resilient to its longer term impacts? Not applicable