



DERBY CITY COUNCIL

COUNCIL CABINET
8 November 2005

ITEM 13

Report of the Cabinet Member for Leisure and Culture

The Soldier's Story: Proposed bid to Heritage Lottery Fund

SUMMARY

- 1.1 Derby Museums and Art Gallery wishes to submit a bid to the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) to provide for the refurbishment of the military gallery. The refurbished gallery will be called The Soldier's Story.
- 1.2 Derby City Council is required by HLF to contribute 5% of the overall project cost of £670,536.
- 1.3 The match funding can be found from existing funds.

RECOMMENDATION

- 2.1 To approve the City Council's contribution of £33,526 to the Soldier's Story project.
- 2.2 To authorise the Keeper of Military and Social History to submit the bid for the Soldier's Story to HLF.

REASON FOR RECOMMENDATION

- 3.1 The Soldier's Story will provide integrated public access to the history of three regiments that recruit or have recruited from Derby and its catchment. Many local people have family connections to these regiments.
- 3.2 The Soldier's Story will be much more than a display of military memorabilia. It will use objects to explain and explore the experiences of local people serving in far-flung corners of the globe as well as the stories of their families left at home
- 3.3 The refurbishment will encourage more people to visit the gallery, improve security and environmental conditions of items on display, and offer high standard curriculum linked facilities for school groups to use.



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ITEM XX

Report of the Director of Development and Cultural Services

The Soldier's Story: Proposed bid to Heritage Lottery Fund

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

- 1.1 This scheme to refurbish the Military Gallery at the Central Museum is included on the 2005/06 capital programme; this was approved by Council on 2 March 2005.
- 1.2 The City Council's £33k contribution levers in £586k from other sources to carry out improvements to the Military Gallery.
- 1.3 The three regiments are the 9th/12th Royal Lancers, the Sherwood Foresters and the Derbyshire Yeomanry. All have a significant history of recruitment in Derby and Derbyshire.
- 1.4 The proposed displays will include items such as uniforms, weapons, medals (including five Victoria Crosses), personal items belonging to soldiers and trench art. But the Gallery will also give access to memoirs in both paper and recorded formats so that the experience of serving officers can be brought to life.
- 1.5 The focus will not be wholly on warfare: the experiences of soldiers and their families will be shown on foreign soil and fulfilling duties at home quelling civil unrest.
- 1.6 Visitors will come away from the Gallery informed about the lives of Derbyshire people in military service and they will be stimulated to delve further into the background of conflict and empire.
- 1.7 The Soldier's Story will provide a platform for education programmes directed at adults and children, and a focus for people interested in finding out about the military history of members of their own family.
- 1.8 The bid for the Soldier's Story will not stand in the way of any other major bids we may make to HLF for further museum capital developments. This is because the Soldier's Story project is costed at under £1 million.

OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

2. The current Military Gallery could be left as it is but this would mean that an important aspect of the history of Derby's people is not being represented in a modern and comprehensive fashion.

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Background papers:	None
List of appendices:	One

IMPLICATIONS

Financial

- 1.1 Since the original capital programme was approved more detailed costings have been carried out and HLF have conducted an initial assessment of the scheme.
- 1.2 There are no revenue implications
- 1.3 The revised cost of the scheme and sources of funding are detailed below:

Costs	Value £	
Capital works	602,848	
One off revenue costs	58,086	
Volunteer labour & preparation costs	9,604	
Total	670,538	

Funding		Status of funding
Derby City Council	33,526	Confirmed
Regimental contributions	50,489	Confirmed
HLF	586,523	Bid to be submitted
Total	670,538	

- 1.4 Derby City Council's contribution of £33,526 equates to 5% of the total project cost. £9,604 is in-kind contributions & preparation costs funded in previous year. £10,000 is held in D&CS service reserve as match funding for this project – this was approved by Cabinet on 12 July 2005 – the remaining £13,922 will be funded from public donations received from visitors to the Museums' collections.

Legal

2. Derby City Council will be required to enter into a 25 year contract with HLF: This obliges the Council to keep public access to the gallery open throughout that period, otherwise penalties would be incurred. There is a management agreement with the Regiments who are contributing to the costs of the project.

Personnel

3. None

Equalities impact

4. The new gallery will provide a refurbished gallery that has been designed on the basis of consultation with education consultants, and with users and stakeholders. The new gallery will therefore meet the needs of present day audiences, and will encourage children, families, young people, and BEM audiences to visit and enjoy the gallery experience.

Corporate objectives and priorities for change

5. The proposal comes under the Council's Objective of **a stimulating and high quality learning environment** and also **a lively and energetic cultural life, a diverse, attractive and healthy environment** and **a shared commitment to regenerating our communities**. It also meets the Council's Priority of **raising educational achievement**.