

Museum Trust progress update

SUMMARY

- 1.1 The Planning, Housing and Leisure Board requested an update on the progress of the Museum Trust and this report provides a summary of the key initiatives that are currently being progressed by the Trust with the support of the Council as appropriate.
- 1.2 The most significant project that is being developed is the Vision for the Derby Silk Mill. As such a specific summary of progress on this project is provided in the report.

RECOMMENDATION

- 2.1 To note the very pleasing progress made on the key initiatives and for the Board to provide comments for the Museum Trust Board to consider as appropriate.

REASON FOR RECOMMENDATION

- 3.1 To ensure that the Planning, Housing and Leisure Overview and Scrutiny Board is kept up to date on the progress of the work of the Museums Trust and particularly the Silk Mill project.

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

- 4.1 The Museums Trust is progressing a number of key initiatives that relate to developments in Customer Experience, Information Technology, Human Resources and Programming and Projects. A summary of these are provided below:

- 4.2 **Customer Experience**

A project to improve the visitor experience is underway, examples of initiatives include:

- Revision of opening hours to better suit the needs and demands of customers
- Implementation of a Joseph Wright study centre at the Museum and Arts Gallery, which will help improve access to reserve fine art collections
- Setting up of a learning strategy group to devise a new vision and strategy for museum learning

- Improved signage, branding and promotional materials
- Bringing in a master-planning practice (ELLIS Williams Architects) to provide some pro bono advice on a master plan for the Museum and Art Gallery
- Organising an academic seminar, held at Paul Mellon Centre in London, to discuss a theme for the Joseph Wright major exhibition. The results will feed into the feasibility study and future funding bids

4.3 Information Technology

A number of changes have been made to improve IT, examples include:

- Changes implemented to the IT system and processes
- A number of computers and laptops being upgraded
- Introduction of ipads to better equip staff to interact with the public.

4.4 Human Resources

Various changes are being implemented in this area, examples include:

- Nick Dodd being appointed as interim Executive Director. He came highly recommended with a significant amount of museums experience. He is providing some excellent direction and leadership to the team.
- The Resources Director post being appointed to, who will be inducted in August.
- A restructure taking place to align the staffing resources to the priorities of the business. It has been tackled in two phases. Phase one focuses on the business and administration workforce and the restructure is partially completed with new posts out for consultation and interviews set up during July. Phase two of the restructure will be once the Resource Director has had a chance to participate, which will be in late September. Members of staff receive regular information and communication on the restructure.
- A workshop being renovated into staff offices to enable a re-allocation of staff to support the new teams with the Business Hub moving to the Silk Mill and the customer experience project team based at the Museum and Art Gallery

4.5 Programming and Projects

The following projects have been established by the Derby Museums Trust staff and partners while the Silk Mill has been mothballed. They are a practical demonstration of what is possible when an experimental new approach is taken. They form the cornerstone of the developing concept and are primed to be taken forwards as a significant part of the Silk Mill programme over the coming months and years. They are summarised in paragraphs 4.6 – 4.10.

4.6 The Vision for Derby Silk Mill

The development of Derby Silk Mill is an ambitious, and strategic project to re-position

the city's heritage as a driver for economic and community regeneration. This is founded on the assertion that the city's rich heritage is living proof that this is a place where ideas and inventions happen. It draws the golden thread between:

- The world class heritage of the Derwent Valley Mills World Heritage Site
- The site of the world's first factory
- The city's Enlightenment heritage and the international significance of Joseph Wright of Derby
- Derby's engineering foundations and the city's modern day position as one of the world's leading centres for advanced engineering, design and manufacture

The project will link this inspiring heritage to the themes of Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Maths (STEAM). It will use the principles of Enlightenment to reconnect people into the mind-set that helps them believe '*Anything is Possible!*' and will inspire the maker, creator and innovator in all of us.

There will be a series of flexible spaces within the building that can be used for display, accessible collections storage, and audience participation that can be managed to generate income and contribute to Derby Museum's future sustainability.

4.7 **How the Silk Mill project will be developed**

In order to achieve the vision over £15 million of funds needs to be raised over the next 5-7 years. The fundraising plan is focused on a national Heritage Lottery Fund bid for a maximum of 70% of the total project costs - equating to approximately £10 million - which would require £5 million to be secured from other sources. The first round bid will be submitted in November 2013.

The project is split into two phases:

- Phase one - Ground floor refurbishment and public opening for programming and engagement, which will include new toilets, café offer to generate income and workshop facilities. To be completed by the end of Oct 2013.
 - a) *Display and Interpretation*: Plans and designs for the display and interpretation of objects and stories related to the STEAM programming themes below
 - b) *Programming*: designs a programme of activity that uses the theme of STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Maths) to demonstrate and engage audiences in the value of the story of our city and collections, the city's position as a world leader in advanced technology and engineering, and helps inspire and enable creativity, innovation and making
 - c) *Partnerships*: to develop meaningful partnerships on local, national and international levels to help achieve short and long-term ambitions
- Phase two

- a) Completion of a first round Heritage Lottery application for the development phase of the complete redevelopment of the Silk Mill in November 2013 for a funding decision in April 2014
- b) Development of the second round Heritage Lottery application
- c) Delivery of the full project vision - It is anticipated the absolute earliest completion of the redevelopment for opening would be in September 2017. The final concept for this phase will be determined once the level of funding achieved is known.

4.8 ArtScience Prize

Derby Museums has been leading on the pilot in the UK, in partnership with Ignite and Ravensbourne College in London. The programme links in with an international network of ArtScience Labs (in USA, France, Saudi Arabia and Singapore) with funding support from The Walt Disney Company. The programme nurtures student creativity, belief in and enthusiasm for innovative cross-disciplinary science-technology-design projects which they think could be socially useful.

In Derby the pilot school has been Landau Forte, where nine teams, totalling thirty Year 9 students, were selected from a cohort of one hundred and fifty. The students were supported by a team of Mentors. The panel of judges selected one team from each College to go forward to a weeklong event in Paris at the end of June, to take part in the annual Idea Translation Workshop of the ArtScience Lab's centre, Le Laboratoire. During the six months of the programme, the Museums have hosted partners from Boston and California, including the Heads of Strategic Philanthropy for Europe and Worldwide from Walt Disney Company. The ambition is for this programme to extend in Derby so that young people from across the city are able to take part. This is in planning stage and will need additional funding/sponsorship from Derby stakeholders.

4.9 Derby Mini-Maker Faire

The 2013 event is planned to take place on the last weekend of October and follows on from a hugely successful event in June 2012 where over five hundred and fifty visitors and seventy makers from across the UK engaged in workshops and activities around the themes of Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Maths. There are Maker Faires developing all over the world (Derby's was the third in the UK), with the leading events in New York and San Francisco. The ambition is to grow the Derby Mini-Maker Faire to become a city-wide event, taking inspiration from the largest UK event in Newcastle which had 10,000 visitors In April of this year.

4.10 En-code

This is a seed project that was run by Derby Museums Trust with Derby primary school children. Using the Joseph Wright collection and themes of Enlightenment, Year 5 pupils worked with Derby Museum's Trust staff and a leading digital games developer to programme and code their own animations using Scratch – an open-source coding programme developed by MIT Media Lab in Boston. We are building

on this programme in partnership with the RSA Derby network (Royal Society for the encouragement of Arts, Manufactures and Commerce: an enlightenment organisation committed to finding innovative practical solutions to today's social challenges.). This will include the use of Raspberry Pi technology in schools across Derby.

OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

5.1 None relevant to this report

This report has been approved by the following officers:

Legal officer Financial officer Human Resources officer Service Director(s) Other(s)	Claire Davenport, Director of Leisure and Culture Nick Dodd Executive Director – Derby Museum Trust
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For more information contact: Background papers: List of appendices:	Claire Davenport on 01332 642433 claire.davenport@derby.gov.uk None Appendix 1 – Implications
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IMPLICATIONS

Financial and Value for Money

- 1.1 Key external funding streams are being explored to fund the vision and ambitions of the Silk Mill development. Some Council support will be required for capital funding if the full ambitions are too be realised. Discussions will take place with key Council decisions makers over the coming months to explore this support.

Legal

- 2.1 None arising directly from this report.

Personnel

- 3.1 A restructure is taking place within the Museums Trust that is being supported by specialist HR advice.

Equalities Impact

- 4.1 None arising directly from this report.

Health and Safety

- 5.1 None arising directly from this report.

Environmental Sustainability

- 6.1 None arising directly from this report.

Asset Management

- 7.1 The report provides an update on the current position of the development of the Silk Mill, which is a unique asset within the city.

Risk Management

- 8.1 As part of the project management of the Silk Mill a risk log has been developed and implemented to manage all associated risks to this project.

Corporate objectives and priorities for change

- 9.1 The Council Plan objectives met by the Silk Mill project are; a thriving sustainable economy; good health and well-being; a strong community and an active cultural life.

