

THIS ITEM IS FOR INFORMATION ONLY

(Please note that "Information Only" reports do not require Integrated Impact Assessments, Legal or Finance Comments as no decision is being taken)

Title of meeting:	Culture, Leisure and Economic Development Decision Meeting
Subject:	NPO application
Date of meeting:	29 July 2022
Report by:	Director of Culture, Leisure and Regulatory Services
Wards affected:	ALL

1. Requested by

1.1 Cabinet Member for Culture, Leisure and Economic Development

2. Purpose

2.1 To update the Cabinet Member on the recent application to Arts Council England (ACE) for National Portfolio Organisation (NPO) funding.

3. Information Requested

3.1 The Museums bid for NPO status reflects the aspirations of the City Vision, the council's Museums Strategy 2020-2026 and the ACE strategy Let's Create. ACE has also identified Portsmouth as a Priority Place for support.

3.2 Our aim is to transform the cultural offer by involving and engaging with the people of Portsmouth in their own community setting. We will target people from some of the city's most socio-economically deprived and most diverse communities from Charles Dickens, Paulsgrove and Fratton Wards and other under-represented groups, enabling and empowering them to shape the development of the museum collections and the events and exhibition programmes at the city's museums. We will embed co-production in all that we do as a means of increasing representation.

3.3 Critical to our success will be the appointment of six new community connector posts led by a museum development post. This will be a diverse team of young people recruited from our target communities. Partnerships will also be key. Delivery of the NPO programme will involve individual freelance creatives to organisations including Aspex and the University of Portsmouth.

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- 3.4 To achieve NPO status Portsmouth Museums also has to address ACE's four investment principles - ambition and quality, environmental responsibility, dynamism and inclusivity and relevance - explaining how we plan to change and grow over the three years of the programme. Under ambition and quality for example we said our ambition is to have co-developed an approach for a new museum of Portsmouth developed in conversation and through practice with residents, creatives, partners and other stakeholders that was supported and championed by residents. We then had to state what we would achieve in year one and the actions required to get us there.
- 3.5 As a local authority we are required also to establish an advisory board, accountable to ACE for the delivery of the NPO. The advisory board needs to reflect the commitment to diversity and inclusion expressed in the Museums Strategy and integral to Let's Create. In order to meet NPO timescales we have taken the step of convening a Shadow NPO Advisory Board (with two members at present) so that we can draft the relevant Terms and Conditions and be ready to recruit more Board Members should our application be successful,
- 3.6 The NPO application was submitted in May. We will hear the outcome in October. Our bid is for just over a total of one million pounds for the three years of the NPO funding. If successful, the programme will begin in April 2023.
- 3.7 It should be noted however, that the bidding process will be highly competitive. Although we have endeavoured to fully meet ACE requirements and aspirations, this is of course no guarantee of success.

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Signed by
Stephen Baily
Director of Culture, Leisure and Regulatory Services

Appendices: None

Background list of documents: Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972

The following documents disclose facts or matters, which have been relied upon to a material extent by the author in preparing this report:

Title of document	Location



Portsmouth
CITY COUNCIL

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