

This matter is a Key Decision within the Council's definition and has been included in the relevant Forward Plan

**Report of Executive Director,
PLACE**

Barnsley Museums National Portfolio Organisation Status

1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to inform members of the National Portfolio Organisation (NPO) status awarded to Barnsley Museums for the financial years 2018 – 2022 and to outline the activities that are proposed to be delivered with the associated £1,866,000 in Arts Council England (ACE) funding

2. Recommendations

It is recommended that:

- 2.1 **Cabinet agrees to the delivery of the Barnsley Museum NPO Business Plan funded by £1,866,000 from the Arts Council England in recognition of Barnsley Museums as a National Portfolio Organisation**

3. Introduction / Background

- 3.1 Arts Council England (ACE) provides regular funding to organisations that demonstrate best practice and are able to deliver the ACE's strategic priorities. The organisations that receive this regular funding are known as NPO's. The current fund is for a period of four years from April 2018 – March 2022. NPO's represent some of the best arts practice in the world.
- 3.2 NPO status is achieved through a competitive bidding process and organisations need to demonstrate how they are able to deliver ACE's strategic priorities with the funding award provided.
- 3.3 The National Portfolio includes organisations across England of all sizes and scales and for the first time in 2018 – 2022 museums and libraries have been eligible to apply for this funding. In total there are 72 Museums across England that have been recognised with NPO status.

- 3.4 ACE is subject to a Government Funding Review in 2020-21 and will announce their proposals for funding NPO's from 2022-2026 once their funding package has been agreed. It is anticipated that NPOs will be then invited to reapply for further funding.

4. Proposal and Justification

- 4.1 Barnsley Museums Vision is to be a first-class Museum Service bringing quality experiences to inspire, engage and play an active and positive role in the life of the Borough and all its communities. Barnsley Museums contributes significantly to the local economy, and to people's well-being and quality of life, providing venues and events which are welcoming, inspirational, inclusive and innovative within a service which is a centre of excellence for heritage, engagement with the arts and learning for all.
- 4.2 Achieving NPO status for Barnsley Museums is recognition of the excellent work that Barnsley Museums does and this status puts it on a national footing. The additional revenue funding of £466,500 per year for four years will enable Barnsley Museums to ensure that great art and culture is available to all. The focus of the work will be on the social impact of Barnsley Museums in their local community and how museums can change lives. There will be the opportunity to strengthen and enhance the museum service and its programme of activities as well as to drive improvement and innovation. There will be a focus on digital work and on equalities and diversity.
- 4.3 Barnsley Museums NPO Business Plan outlines how the NPO funding will enable Barnsley Museums to contribute to ACE goals, specifically:
- Goal One: "Excellence is thriving and celebrated in the arts, museums and libraries"
 - Goal Two: "Everyone has the opportunity to experience and to be inspired by the arts, museums and libraries"
 - Goal 5 "Every child and young person has the opportunity to experience the richness of the arts, museums and libraries"
- 4.4 The aims of NPO Business Plan set out the six areas of focus and change that will make this happen:

AIMS	
1	Barnsley Museums will have a strong community focussed programme engaging more people, promoting diversity and fostering a sense of pride
2	Barnsley Museums will excel in the research, management, conservation and development of its collections and heritage assets
3	Barnsley Museums will create aspirational and educational opportunities for families and young people
4	Barnsley Museums will make a strong contribution to the happiness and health & wellbeing of the Borough
5	Barnsley Museums will strengthen the service to be more effective and financially resilient, and increase economic potential for the Borough as a visitor destination
6	Barnsley Museums will build a bigger and better digital offer

4.5 The NPO budget will fund:

- Six new posts (Family Learning, Community Arts, Community Heritage, Marketing Assistant, Volunteer Co-ordinator and Learning Support Assistant); plus provide support towards a schools engagement post.
- Family Learning Programme
- Targeted Programme in Schools
- Community engagement commissioning and delivery
- Volunteer programme
- Specialist external support - e.g. audience development, fundraising, business planning
- Evaluation, research and toolkits
- Marketing product & PR
- Digital engagement
- Community Exhibitions
- Staff training and development
- Equipment and Materials
- General overheads (IT etc.)

5 Consideration of Alternative Approaches

- 5.1 The alternative approach is to not to accept the funding resulting the Barnsley Museums not being recognised for its excellent contribution at a national level and the benefits of implementing the NPO action plan would not be able to be delivered.

6 Implications for Local People / Service Users

- 6.1 This funding will enable Barnsley Museums to deliver more cultural activities as well as working more closely with local communities; inspiring people to engage with the museums and their collections and to volunteer.

7. Financial Implications

- 7.1 Consultation on the financial implications has taken place with colleagues in Financial Services on behalf of the Service Director – Finance (S151)
- 7.2 There will be no additional financial implications arising directly from this report which is to accept additional funding of £1,866,000 for the financial years 2018-2022.

8. Employee Implications

Six new posts will be created as a result of this NPO funding; this is subject to a separate HR Delegated report.

9. Communications Implications

- 9.1 Marketing and promotion is a central component to the successful delivery of the NPO Business plan. The NPO funding provides additional funding for marketing which will include an additional employee to support this function.

10 Consultations

- 10.1 Extensive consultation has taken place with ACE in the development of the NPO funding bid. Internal consultation has also taken place with various departments relating to the development of the NPO activity plan, including People, Communities, Communications, performance, equalities and inclusion and Public Health. In addition Human Resources and recognised Trades Unions have been consulted in so far as the proposals provide additional funding to create a number of new posts within the service.

11 Community Strategy and the Council's Performance Management Framework

11.1 In coming to a decision on awarding NPO status ACE took into account each organisation's ability to meet their strategic goals and how these fit with Barnsley Museums and the Council's Corporate objectives. The NPO funding will enable Barnsley Museums to contribute more effectively to BMBC corporate priorities, in particular a Thriving and Vibrant Economy People Achieving their Potential, in particular KPIs relating to visitor numbers at Museums, visitors estimated contribution to the economy economic impact of visitors and volunteering will be impacted positively.

12 Promoting Equality and Diversity and Social Inclusion

12.1 The case for diversity is a central part of NPO funding and Barnsley Museums has produced an Equalities and Diversity Action Plan as part of the NPO Action Plan. Work has commenced on the production of a full Equalities Impact Assessment

13. Risk Management Issues, including Health and Safety

13.1 A Risk register has been produced as part of the NPO Business Plan this will be approved by ACE and monitored as part of the management of the project.

14. List of Appendices

14.1 None


15. Background Papers

- Barnsley Museums NPO Business Plan
- Barnsley Museums NPO Risk Register
- Barnsley Museums Equalities and Diversity Action Plan
- Barnsley Museums Environmental Policy and Action Plan
- Barnsley Museums Digital Policy and Action Plan
- Barnsley Museums Core Programme
- Barnsley Museums Audience Development Plan

Background papers are available from Sue Thiedeman Head of Culture and Visitor Economy

Office Contact: Sue Thiedeman Date: 11.01.18
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If an Appendix A is not required, please include the box below:

Financial Implications/Consultations :  Date : 24/01/2018
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Consultations on the financial implications have taken place with representatives of the Executive Director of Finance.
