

BARNSLEY METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

REPORT OF: EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR GROWTH & SUSTAINABILITY

TITLE: ACCEPTANCE OF NATIONAL PORTFOLIO ORGANISATION FUNDING FROM ARTS COUNCIL ENGLAND FOR BARNESLEY MUSEUMS

REPORT TO:	CABINET
Date of Meeting	8 February 2023
Cabinet Member Portfolio	Regeneration and Culture
Key Decision	Yes
Public or Private	Public

Purpose of report

The purpose of this report is to inform members of the National Portfolio Organisation (NPO) status awarded to Barnsley Museums for the financial years 2023 - 2026 and to outline the activities that are proposed to be delivered with the associated £1,425,252 in Arts Council England (ACE) funding

Council Plan priority

Barnsley Museums' status as a National Portfolio Organisation supports several of the Council's priorities:

Healthy Barnsley

- People are safe and feel safe.
- People live independently with good physical and mental health for as long as possible.
- We have reduced inequalities in health and income across the borough.

Learning Barnsley

- Children and young people achieve the best outcomes through improved educational achievement and attainment.

Growing Barnsley

- People have a welcoming, safe, and enjoyable town centre and principal towns as destinations for work, shopping, leisure, and culture.

Sustainable Barnsley

- Our heritage and green spaces are promoted for everyone to enjoy.

Recommendations

That Cabinet:-

1. Approve the funding allocation
2. Approve the delivery of the agreed activity

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 Arts Council England (ACE) provides regular revenue 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 National Portfolio Organisations (NPOs). Barnsley Museums secured a place in the Arts Council portfolio in 2018 and has received annual funding for the last five years.
- 1.2 The current fund is for a period of three years from April 2023 – March 2026. Barnsley Museums are one of 990 organisations who have successfully bid to be part of the new portfolio sharing £446M of annual funding. NPOs deliver against the Arts Council's 'Let's Create' Strategy.
- 1.3 With this Portfolio, Arts Council England has focused on investing to make certain that as many people as possible in England - no matter where they come from or what their circumstances - can access the very best of art and culture on their high streets and in the community spaces of their villages, towns and cities.
- 1.4 Several new NPOs attracting their own separate funding have been created in Barnsley including Barnsley Libraries, Gary Clarke Dance, Invisible Flock and Lung which is great news for the Borough which is a Priority Place for Arts Council England Investment. We will work together to expand and improve Barnsley's cultural offer.

2. PROPOSAL

- 2.1 Our vision is that Barnsley Museums will play a vital role in improving quality of life for people across the borough, now and in the future, by sharing its amazing collections, buildings and green heritage.
- 2.2 Our Mission is to:
 - To care for and share the rich heritage of our Borough
 - To contribute significantly to the local economy and placemaking
 - To enhance people's wellbeing
 - To provide venues, exhibitions and activities which are excellent, welcoming, inspirational, inclusive, diverse and innovative

- To work with the residents of Barnsley, giving them a voice and creating programmes *with* people not for them
- To raise aspirations and help build strong and cohesive communities
- To co-develop and deliver empowering, inspirational learning opportunities for people of all ages
- To look after and enhance our green heritage to support climate change and wellbeing opportunities
- To always look to the future and become a self-sustaining service with ambitious yet achievable plans
- To develop strong partnerships which help us deliver our vision
- To support our workforce and communities to develop new skills

2.3 Retaining NPO status for Barnsley Museums is recognition of the excellent work that Barnsley Museums does and enable us to realise our vision and mission in line with Council Priorities.

2.4 Barnsley Museums NPO Business Plan outlines how the NPO funding will enable Barnsley Museums to programme a range of activity contributing to ACE Let's Create Strategy and delivery of six key aims:

Aim 1 - Barnsley Museums will have a strong community focussed visitor offer and programme which is inclusive and fosters a sense of pride in our borough.
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Aim 2 - Barnsley Museums will excel in the research, management, conservation and development of its collections, buildings and green spaces with a strong focus on accessibility, diversity and environmental sustainability.
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Aim 3 - Barnsley Museums will create enjoyable lifelong learning programmes which bring people together, and support educational attainment, skills and routes to employment.

Aim 4 - Barnsley Museums will make a strong contribution to the happiness and health & wellbeing of the Borough

Aim 5 - Barnsley Museums will become more financially sustainable and resilient and increase the economic potential for the Borough as a visitor destination.

Aim 6 - Barnsley Museums will enrich its offer through the innovative use of digital
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IMPLICATIONS OF THE DECISION

3. Financial and Risk

3.3.1 Consultation on the financial implications has taken place with colleagues in Financial Services on behalf of the Service Director – Finance (S151)

3.3.2 This is the second NPO grant BMBC have received, the first being for 2018 to 2022 where we received £466,550 per annum for 4 years, with an extension year due to the pandemic for 2022-23 of £475,085. The government has only approved 3 years funding for the current round of £475,084 per year.

3.3.3 There will be no additional financial implications arising directly from this report which is to accept additional National Portfolio Organisations (NPO) funding of £1,425,252 for the financial years 2023- 2026. The grant will be claimed in 3 equal sums regardless of spend.

3.3.4 The grant will be used to fund the following types of activities:

- Learning Activities – Schools, Families, Barnsley Local Cultural Education Partnership.
- Volunteering Programmes
- Support for Creative Sector
- Collections Management and Exhibitions
- Visitor Experience Enhancements
- Access and Inclusion Activity
- Digital Programming
- Marketing Activity
- Community Arts and Heritage Programmes

3.2 Legal

3.2.1 To accept the grant the Council will have to agree to the Arts Council's Standard Terms of Grant. Please see Appendix 1 for further details.

3.3 Equality

3.3.1 Equality Impact Assessment Pre-screening completed determining full EIA not required

3.3.2 Barnsley Museums have developed a suite of Equality and Diversity Principles that guide its work

We believe:

- In making everyone feel welcome
- In remaining relevant to audiences
- In caring about people
- That we are a safe place to experience, challenge and inspire
- That everyone has the opportunity to learn
- In fun and wellbeing
- That the people of Barnsley are the custodians of their own stories

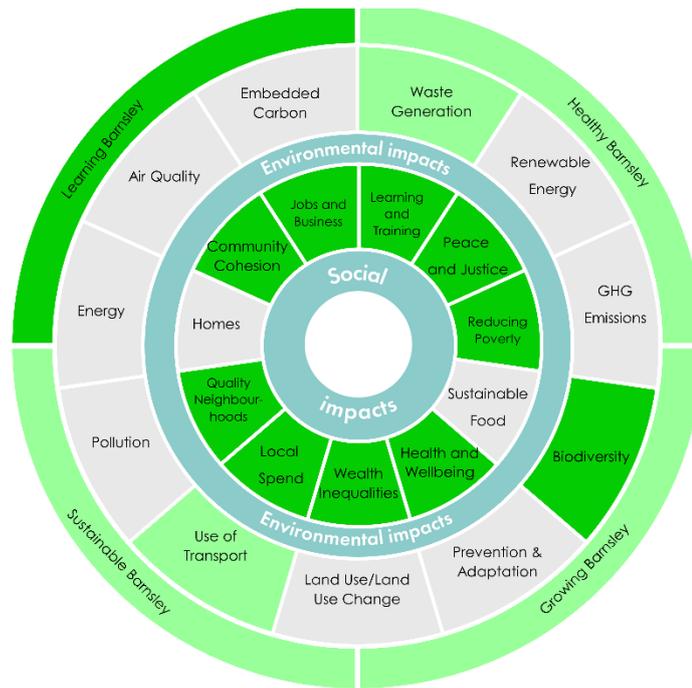
We want to:

- Be diverse and inclusive
- Record, share, archive and celebrate the stories of Barnsley past, present and future
- Be welcoming and relevant to all, including and involving everyone
- Have ongoing conversations, being responsive to change
- Create innovation for the sector
- Be interesting, authentic, aspirational and fearless

- Be reflective of our audiences
- Take risks, be ambitious and experimental

3.4 Sustainability

3.4.1 Decision-making wheel completed. It shows that the activity generated by the funding has significant benefits in terms of Learning and shorter term benefits related to Healthy Barnsley, Growing Barnsley and Sustainable Barnsley.



3.5 Employee

3.5.1 The funding allows for the continuation of six fixed term contracts.

3.6 Communications

3.6.1 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.

4. CONSULTATION

4.1 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 Communities, Finance, Communications 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.

5. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

- 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 for local communities would not be able to be delivered.

6. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 6.1 The funding will enable the continuation of the award-winning programmes that Barnsley Museums delivers in support of the Barnsley 2030 Strategy and Council Plan.

7. GLOSSARY

ACE – Arts Council England
NPO – National Portfolio Organisation

8. LIST OF APPENDICES

NONE

9. BACKGROUND PAPERS

NPO Application
NPO Decision Letter
NPO Business Plan

If you would like to inspect background papers for this report, please email governance@barnsley.gov.uk so that appropriate arrangements can be made

10. REPORT SIGN OFF

Financial consultation & sign off	Senior Financial Services officer consulted and date <i>Maq Ahmed</i> 22/11/2022
Legal consultation & sign off	Legal Services officer consulted and date <i>28/11/22 Jason Field</i>

Report Author: Lynn Dunning
Post: Group Leader – Arts & Heritage
Date: 1 December 2022