

## DECISION ITEM

REPORT OF	MEETING	DATE	ITEM NO
DEVELOPMENT SERVICES DIRECTORATE	TOURISM AND LEISURE COMMITTEE	12 MARCH 2020	6
<b>ARTS SERVICE REVIEW WORKING GROUP</b>			

### PUBLIC ITEM

This item is for consideration in the public part of the meeting.

#### SUMMARY

This report proposes six recommendations that are the outcome of work undertaken at the latest meeting of the Arts Service Review Member Working Group held in February 2020, that has been nominated by the Tourism and Leisure Committee, to review progress of the Lytham St Anne's Art Collection.

#### RECOMMENDATIONS

The Tourism and Leisure Committee are requested to support:

1. That Officers continue to work towards achieving accreditation for the art collection under the Arts Council England (ACE) scheme.
2. That Fylde Council should not be responsible for the administration of the Fylde Gallery at Booth's, Lytham.
3. That Officers in line with ACE Accreditation standards, make the collection accessible for a minimum of 20 days per annum for tours / presentations.
4. That Officers work towards continued improvement of the storage of the art collection.
5. That Officers meet with the Arts Service Review member working group to review progress of the governance of the art collection as appropriate.
6. That Officers seek to investigate the options for a feasibility study into gallery space for the Collection.

#### SUMMARY OF PREVIOUS DECISIONS

Community Focus Scrutiny Committee, 24 July 2014

Review of Fylde Arts Collection

After full consideration of this matter IT WAS RESOLVED to recommend to Cabinet:

1. The endorsement of the Blackpool Fylde and Wyre Cultural Partnership Framework.
2. An interim report being presented to the next Cabinet detailing the work of the Task and Finish Group thus far.
3. Acknowledgement of the excellent work undertaken by the Arts Working Group involving the Friends of the Lytham St Anne's Art Collection, Booths, Lancashire County Council Museum Service Fylde Decorative and Fine Arts Society and the Civic Society and the associated future collaboration/ partnership working with these groups.
4. The feasibility of establishing an appropriate mechanism/ legal framework to enable a management policy for the Arts Collection to be developed.
5. The feasibility of exploring options available to appoint a part time dedicated Arts Development Officer who would be responsible for management of the Arts Collection as part of a wider arts development role and to secure external funding for projects at a level which exceeds the cost of the post.

6. An updated report being presented to December meeting of committee which includes the outcomes of 4 and 5 above.

Cabinet, 24 September 2014

Arts Service Review

In reaching its decision, Cabinet considered the details set out in the report before it and at the meeting and RESOLVED to:

1. Consider and agree the recommendations detailed below of the Community Focus Scrutiny Committee on the interim conclusions and recommendations of the arts collection task and finish group –

1.1 That the Blackpool Fylde and Wyre Cultural Partnership Framework is recommended for endorsement by Cabinet.

1.2 To present an interim report to the next Cabinet detailing the work of the Task and Finish group thus far.

1.3 To acknowledge the excellent work undertaken by the Arts Working Group involving the Friends of the Lytham St Anne's Art Collection, Booths, Lancashire County Council Museum Service Fylde Decorative and Fine Arts Society and the Civic Society. Also, the Group wish to support future collaboration and partnership working with these groups.

1.4 To investigate the feasibility of establishing an appropriate mechanism/ legal framework to enable a management policy for the Arts Collection to be developed.

1.5 To explore the feasibility/options available to appoint a part time dedicated Arts Development Officer who would be responsible for management of the Arts Collection as part of a wider arts development role and to secure external funding for projects at a level which exceeds the cost of the post.

1.6 Officers bring a further report to Community Focus Scrutiny Committee on the outcomes of 4 and 5 above.

2. Request that a further report is prepared and presented to Cabinet setting out the outcomes of the detailed feasibility studies in respect of an arts collection management framework and arts officer post as recommended by Community Focus Scrutiny Committee on the 24th July 2014 at points 4 and 5.

Community Focus Scrutiny Committee, 04 December 2014

Arts Service Review

Following consideration of the matter it was RESOLVED:

1. To note the progress made with the recommendations

2. To involve the appointed Arts Service Task and Finish group at key stages in the process.

Tourism and Leisure Committee, 07 June 2018

Following consideration of the matter it was RESOLVED:

1. The Member Working Group unanimously agreed that Fylde Council should take a more proactive management approach to the management of the art collection. The donation of the artwork is appreciated and Members felt that the Council has a responsibility to manage the collection competently and are recommending that Officers work towards achieving museum accreditation for the collection.

2. The complexities of ownership and potential sale of the collection was discussed in detail as part of this review. Members recommend that all external funding opportunities are explored before any consideration is given to the sale of any artwork, upon which any capital receipt would be solely used for the future management of the collection.

3. The appointed working group are Councillors Little, Akeroyd, Brickles, Chew, Fazackerley, Lloyd, Pitman, Settle, Thomas.

**CORPORATE PRIORITIES**

Spending your money in the most efficient way to achieve excellent services ( <b>Value for Money</b> )	✓
Delivering the services that customers expect of an excellent council ( <b>Clean and Green</b> )	
Working with all partners ( <b>Vibrant Economy</b> )	✓

To make sure Fylde continues to be one of the most desirable places to live ( <b>A Great Place to Live</b> )	✓
Promoting Fylde as a great destination to visit ( <b>A Great Place to Visit</b> )	✓

## REPORT

### BACKGROUND

1. Fylde Council are responsible for artworks which are 'held upon charitable Trust' (Legal Opinion, Moffett 2017), that have been donated over the last 100 years for the benefit of local people.
2. The Corporate Plan 2016 states under A Great Place to Visit to "Offer an arts collection that is available to everyone". The art collection is included in the draft Corporate plan 2020 – 2024.
3. The Council art service collection comprises of:
  - 112 British and Continental oil paintings dating from mid-1600s onward. Mostly 1800s to early 1900s.
  - 86 watercolours and drawings
  - 74 prints and photographs
  - 12 sculptures
  - 20 ivories
  - Furniture and civic regalia
4. A Member Working Group was nominated by the Tourism and Leisure Committee at the meeting of 6 June 2019, comprising: Councillors Cheryl Little, Jayne Nixon, Peter Anthony, Sue Fazackerley, Gavin Harrison, Roger Lloyd, Vince Settle and Ray Thomas to review the management of the Art Collection.
5. The Member Working Group met on 26<sup>th</sup> February 2020 and was facilitated by the Tourism and Cultural Services Manager, the Director of Development Services and the Collections Development Officer.
6. Comprehensive information about aspects of the collection and an update on progress of Arts Council England (ACE) Accreditation were presented and discussed to ensure that Members were provided with enough information to make recommendations to the Tourism and Leisure Committee.

### CURRENT POSITION

7. The working group discussed and evaluated the options of the Fylde Gallery space at Booth's, Lytham:
8. An update on progress towards achieving Arts Council England (ACE) Accreditation was provided by the Collections Development Officer and Members were satisfied with work to date and outstanding work required in order to submit a formal full application for the Lytham St Anne's Art Collection.
9. An update was given on how the Collection could be viewed through tours, Heritage Open Days and other opportunities and that for formal accreditation, this should be for twenty days per year.
10. A tour of the recently refurbished arts storage facility at the Town Hall took place. This facility was as a result of a £50,000 capital investment by Fylde Council. Members were shown two additional adjacent rooms which will be refurbished from existing resources for additional storage of the art collection.
11. A discussion took place as to the governance of the Collection and that the Collections Development Officer should manage the relationships with the Friends Group and third-party suppliers. A Service Level Agreement would be put in place for the Friends, and a contract for services offered would be put in place for Lancashire County Council for their ongoing conservation services. Other third-party suppliers for services related to the arts service would be procured in line with existing Council standards.
12. The group highlighted an interest for an art gallery to display the Lytham St Anne's Art Collection and requested that Officers seek to investigate the options for a feasibility study into such a facility.

## CONCLUSION

13. The Member Working Group unanimously agreed that Fylde Council should continue through the Collections Development officer to progress an application to Arts Council England, for formal accreditation of the Lytham St Anne's Art Collection.
14. The Member Working Group unanimously agreed that Fylde Council should not be responsible for the administration of the Fylde Gallery at Booth's, Lytham and that contact should be made with the management of Booth's with a view to them exploring alternative bodies or uses for the space.
15. The Member Working Group unanimously agreed that the Collection should be made accessible for the minimum required 20 days per year to fulfil access requirements of the accreditation standards.
16. The Member Working Group agreed that additional storage facilities for the Collection should be improved and that two further rooms in the basement should be refurbished. These will be from existing resources.
17. The Member Working Group agreed that the Collections Development Officer should manage an Officer led Collections Working Group for ongoing support, plus also the manage relationships with the Friends Group and third-party suppliers. The Member Working Group would meet as appropriate to make recommendations to the Tourism and Leisure Committee.
18. The Member Working Group requested that Officers seek to investigate the options for a feasibility study into a gallery space for the Collection.

IMPLICATIONS	
Finance	There are no financial implications arising directly from this report
Legal	None arising from this report
Community Safety	None arising from this report
Human Rights and Equalities	None arising from this report
Sustainability and Environmental Impact	None arising from this report
Health & Safety and Risk Management	None arising from this report

LEAD AUTHOR	CONTACT DETAILS	DATE
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BACKGROUND PAPERS		
Presentation to working group	26 February 2020	<a href="https://fylde.cmis.uk.com/fylde/MeetingsCalendar/tabid/70/ctl/ViewMeetingPublic/mid/397/Meeting/1119/Committee/18/Default.aspx">https://fylde.cmis.uk.com/fylde/MeetingsCalendar/tabid/70/ctl/ViewMeetingPublic/mid/397/Meeting/1119/Committee/18/Default.aspx</a>
Community Focus Scrutiny Committee	24 July 2014	<a href="http://www.fylde.gov.uk/meetings/details/1177">http://www.fylde.gov.uk/meetings/details/1177</a>
Cabinet	24 September 2014	<a href="http://www.fylde.gov.uk/meetings/details/1188">http://www.fylde.gov.uk/meetings/details/1188</a>
Community Focus Scrutiny Committee	04 December 2014	<a href="http://www.fylde.gov.uk/meetings/details/1180">http://www.fylde.gov.uk/meetings/details/1180</a>
Tourism and Leisure Committee	07 June 2018	<a href="https://fylde.cmis.uk.com/fylde/MeetingsCalendar/tabid/70/ctl/ViewMeetingPublic/mid/397/Meeting/1044/Committee/18/Default.aspx">https://fylde.cmis.uk.com/fylde/MeetingsCalendar/tabid/70/ctl/ViewMeetingPublic/mid/397/Meeting/1044/Committee/18/Default.aspx</a>