

DECISION-MAKER:	CABINET		
SUBJECT:	ARTS AND HERITAGE COLLECTION POLICY		
DATE OF DECISION:	17 DECEMBER 2013		
REPORT OF:	CABINET MEMBER FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND LEISURE		
<u>CONTACT DETAILS</u>			
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STATEMENT OF CONFIDENTIALITY
N/A

BRIEF SUMMARY

This report requests that the Arts and Heritage Collection Development Policy 2014-17 is approved by the Cabinet Member for Economic Development and Leisure. This Policy sets out the framework and criteria for developing the maritime, archive, local history, archaeology and art collections for Arts and Heritage over the next four years. It governs what can be acquired and what can be disposed of.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

- (i) To approve the Arts and Heritage Collection Development Policy 2014-17, as set out in the appendix to the report, as the acquisition and disposals policy for the collections held by Southampton City Council.
- (ii) To approve delegated authority be given to the Arts and Heritage Manager to revise the policy if required, following consultation with the Cabinet Member for Economic Development and Leisure.

REASONS FOR REPORT RECOMMENDATIONS

1. A Council approved acquisition and disposals policy is an essential requirement of the Arts Council Accreditation Scheme for museums. A separate but similar Accreditation scheme governing archives is administered by the National Archives. Without Accreditation, eligibility for funding for Southampton from the Arts Council, Heritage Lottery Fund and other lottery, trust and foundation grant giving sources would be significantly restricted.
2. The Arts & Heritage Collection Development Policy will guide the work of the Arts and Heritage team over the next three years as it rationalises current holdings, adds new material to its collections that reflect the needs of a modern city, and provides enhanced public access to this important learning resource.

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED

- 3 To retain the existing Southampton City Council Arts and Heritage Collections Policy this is due for review in 2013. This option is rejected because the current policy expires in 2013 and up to date and a forward looking policy is needed to secure Accreditation status and to reflect the existing Arts and Heritage public venues. In order to Progress a collection review and storage relocation programme, a robust Collection Development Policy is required is required if national guidelines are to be adhered to.

DETAIL (Including consultation carried out)

- 4 The policy has been developed in consultation with the council's curatorial team. The Chipperfield Advisory Committee has also been consulted; their key request was that a separate Arts Collection Policy was provided. Given that the proposed policy sets out a distinct section for the Art Collection and follows Arts Council guidance in terms of structure, an integrated policy is proposed, to retain a sense of cohesion for the City's collections and to make efficient use of officer's time.
- 5 The policy outlines how the collections have been shaped by the vision and Stewardship of our city forefathers over the last 100 years. It describes the strategic context within which they now play an important role in including:
- Promoting Southampton and attracting investment
 - Supporting the development of Cultural Quarter projects
 - Making the City more attractive and sustainable
 - Supporting City learning and educational attainment agendas
 - Implementing better ways of working to manage reduced budgets and increasing demand.

RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

Capital/Revenue

- 6 In order to retain Accreditation – one of the most important marks of the gallery's status, Council must ensure it applies Arts Council's guidelines. The guidelines state that only in exceptional cases, may any disposal be motivated principally by financial reasons. Furthermore the guidelines state that where disposal is motivated by financial reasons, the governing body will not undertake disposal unless it can be demonstrated that all the following exceptional circumstances are met in full:
- the disposal will significantly improve the long-term public benefit derived from the remaining collection,
 - the disposal will not be undertaken to generate short-term revenue (for example to meet a budget deficit),
 - the disposal will be undertaken as a last resort after other sources of funding have been thoroughly explored.
- 7 There are no other resource implications resulting from implementation of the policy.

Property/Other

- 8 There are no property resource implications inherent in the policy itself. It will ultimately inform a collection review and storage relocation project which will have property implications in due course.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

Statutory power to undertake proposals in the report:

- 9 Pursuant to the Public Libraries and Museums Act 1964, a local authority may provide and maintain museums and art galleries within its area and may do all such things as may be necessary or expedient for or in connection with the provision of maintenance thereof.

Other Legal Implications:

- 10 An acquisitions and disposals policy is a requirement of Arts Council England which is the strategic public body tasked by the Department for Culture Media and Sport (DCMS) to develop and implement national museums policy and to distribute DCMS museums funding to non-national museums. Items owned by the Council on trust must be kept, maintained and disposed of in accordance with the terms of the relevant trust's Scheme. A failure to do so may result in legal or regulatory action being initiated by interested parties.

POLICY FRAMEWORK IMPLICATIONS

- 11 The report is in line with the Policy Framework.

KEY DECISION? Yes

WARDS/COMMUNITIES AFFECTED:	All
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SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

Appendices

1.	Collections Development Policy 2013 - 2017
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Documents In Members' Rooms

1.	None
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Equality Impact Assessment

Do the implications/subject of the report require an Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) to be carried out.	No
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Other Background Documents

Equality Impact Assessment and Other Background documents available for inspection at:

Title of Background Paper(s)

Relevant Paragraph of the Access to Information Procedure Rules / Schedule 12A allowing document to be Exempt/Confidential (if applicable)

1.	None	
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