

NORWICH AREA MUSEUMS COMMITTEE

16 June 2008

Item No. 9

MANAGEMENT AND FINANCIAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE NORWICH MUSEUMS

Report by the Head of NMAS

This report provides an introduction to the Joint Museums and Archaeology Agreement for new members of the Committee, and summarises the revenue and capital support for the Norwich Museums.

1 Introduction

The Norfolk Museums Service was established in 1974 in a ground-breaking initiative when the County and District Councils in Norfolk agreed to delegate their museum powers to a Joint Committee to manage museums through a county-wide Museums Service. Since then the Service has achieved a high profile and a good reputation nationally through the excellence of its collections and services, the quality of its staff, and the Joint Agreement itself, which is widely regarded as an example of good practice (see Annex 1).

The NMAS benefits from economies of scale. The size of the county service means that it is possible to support specialisms relating to all aspects of operations, such as subject expertise, collections care, education, equalities, income generation, programming, marketing, project development and delivery, buildings management, staff development, customer care, health and safety and IT.

2 Funding arrangements

The NMAS relies on plural funding and is supported by a complex set of financial arrangements. The following summary of funding arrangements for the Norwich museums uses information supplied to Norwich City Council as part of the Local Government Review.

2.1 Norfolk County Council revenue budget

Salaries of approx 60 ftes, running costs, small improvement works. In 2007/08 this was £1,892,090.

This represents a cost per head of population for delivering museum services in Norwich of £14.82 compared to a cost of £3.15 per heard delivering museum services in the rest of the county. This is accounted for by the concentration of museums in Norwich, which fulfil a countywide as well as a local function.

- 2.2 **Norwich City Council revenue budget**
Salary of 1 fte (actually 2 p/t posts – Norwich Museums Development Officer and Project Support Assistant)
- 2.3 **Earned income**
To meet income targets agreed by JMAC:
Admissions - £473,000 in 2007/08
Shop sales - £138,000 in 2007/08
- 2.4 **Buildings maintenance funds**
County 100% responsible for County owned buildings (Shirehall, Regimental Museum, Carrow House)
County responsible for interior maintenance of City owned buildings (Castle, Strangers Hall, Bridewell)
City responsible for exterior of City owned buildings
NCC expenditure on Norwich Museums was £106,000 in 2007/08
- 2.5 **NCC Corporate Minor Works**
For H&S and DDA improvements. Expenditure on minor works in 2007/08 totalled £86,000 including:
Regimental Museum DDA works £45,000
Strangers Hall £10,000
Shirehall £10,000
Castle freezer £15,000
- Provision to carry out improvements at Carrow House of £76,000 is available for 2008/09
- 2.6 **NCC capital programme**
£355,440 in 2008/09 for improved security, fire safety and emergency egress at Norwich Castle.
£224,000 in 2009/10 for DDA improvements to the Bridewell Museum as part of a larger redevelopment project.
- 2.7 **Heritage Lottery Fund**
For major improvements.
Norwich Castle redevelopment 2000/01- £8m
Bridewell bid under consideration
- 2.8 **HEART**
Partnership projects, especially promoting the Great and the Good group of heritage buildings.
- 2.9 **Renaissance in the Regions**
Government initiative to support organisational change, increasing usage by schools and widening audiences amongst non-museum users.
Approx £400,000/yr
- 2.10 **Designation Challenge Fund**
Government fund managed by Museums, Libraries & Archives Council

For improving access to Designated collections - only Castle collections are eligible.

2000-01	Documentation	£120,000
2002-03	Anglo-Saxons & Vikings Gallery	£250,000
2004-05	Natural History documentation	£100,388

2.11 DCMS/Wolfson Fund

Government/trust benefaction to support improved interpretation of collections.

2000-01	Interpretation of the Keep	£100,000
2006-07	Strangers Hall, Mayors and Magnates project	£31,000
2008-09	Norwich Castle, Natural History galleries	£60,000

2.12 Local support for exhibitions, object purchase and events:

- Friends of Norwich Museums
- East Anglia Art Fund
- Costume & Textiles Association

Amounts vary year on year but represent a substantial contribution, which is especially useful in leveraging in match funding from other external sources.

2.13 External support for exhibitions, object purchase and events:

- Arts Council for the East of England
- MLA/V&A Purchase Grant Fund for the Regions
- Art Fund
- Heritage Lottery Fund and National Heritage Memorial Fund

3 Recommendation

That members note this report.

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