
MEETING	YORK MUSEUMS TRUST TASK GROUP
DATE	9 NOVEMBER 2012
PRESENT	COUNCILLORS FITZPATRICK, TAYLOR AND WATSON

1. CHAIR

RESOLVED: That Councillor Taylor be elected as Chair of the meeting.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

At this point in the meeting Members were asked to declare any personal, prejudicial or pecuniary interests they may have in the business on the agenda. None were declared.

3. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

It was reported that there had been no registrations to speak under the Council's public participation scheme.

4. YORK MUSEUMS TRUST SCRUTINY REVIEW DRAFT FINAL REPORT

Members considered the draft final report arising from the York Museums Trust (YMT) scrutiny review and asked the Task Group to identify any changes required ahead of the report being presented to the Learning and Culture Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

Following discussions and input from the Assistant Director for Communities, Culture and Public Realm, members requested that the outcomes and recommendations surrounding the training of volunteers and the disposal process for artefacts be amended.

Members agreed that two review conclusions be amended to the following:

- The Acquisition and Disposal policy needs updating as a matter of urgency, given that it was supposed to have been rewritten in 2006. And, it should be presented to the appropriate Cabinet Member for approval.
- It is important that knowledge of the collections is passed on from staff leaving the employ of the Trust to ensure the customer experience remains at a high standard.

In light of the amended review conclusion relating to the training of volunteers, an additional recommendation was suggested, as follows:

- As a means of enhancing their training, a mechanism should be put in place for disseminating information to new guides and volunteers from experienced employees leaving the Trust.

The Scrutiny Officer noted that throughout the report the Yorkshire Museums Trust should be referred to as 'YMT' or 'The Trust' and would amend accordingly.

RESOLVED: (i) That the following amended conclusions be included in the draft final report:

The Acquisition and Disposal policy needs updating as a matter of urgency, given that it was supposed to have been rewritten in 2006. And, it should be presented to the appropriate Cabinet Member for approval.

It is important that knowledge of the collections is passed on from staff leaving the employ of the Trust to ensure the customer experience remains at a high standard.

(ii) That the following additional recommendation be added to the draft final report:

As a means of enhancing their training, a mechanism should be put in place for disseminating information to new guides and volunteers from experienced employees leaving the Trust.

REASON:

In order to conclude the work on this scrutiny review in line with Overview and Scrutiny procedures and protocols.

Councillor Taylor, Chair

[The meeting started at 3.00 pm and finished at 4.00 pm].