

**York Museums Trust Scrutiny Review Final Report – Cover Report**

**Summary**

1. This cover report presents the draft final report arising from the York Museums Trust (YMT) scrutiny review, and asks the Task Group to identify any changes required to the report ahead of its presentation to the Learning & Culture Overview & Scrutiny Committee on 21 November 2012.

**Background**

2. In November 2011, the Learning & Culture Overview & Scrutiny Committee received a topic assessment report for a scrutiny topic proposed by Councillor Watson, together with the background information on the formation of the Trust and its performance.
3. In January 2012, the Committee received a further briefing paper providing information on the Trust's relationship with the council and its structure, and the original Executive report from July 2002 setting out the purpose of the Trust.
4. Based on the information provided at both those meetings, Members agreed it would not be appropriate to scrutinise the work of the Trust and their internal processes as suggested in Cllr Watson's topic registration form. However, taking into account all of the information provided, Members agreed to form a Task Group to carry out a scrutiny review based on the following remit:

*'To determine whether YMT have achieved appropriate collections management standards in line with the Collections Loan Agreement and Collections Management Protocol agreed in 2002'.*

5. Work on this review has been ongoing since March 2012. As part of that work, the Task Group visited the Castle Museum, the Yorkshire Museum and the Art Gallery and all of the Trust's external storage sites. The draft final report attached details of their findings.

## **Consultation**

6. As part of their review, the Task Group met with YMT representatives, and Veritau. The review was also supported by the council's Assistant Director of Communities, Culture and Public Realm

## **Options**

7. Having considered the draft final report attached, the Task Group may choose to:
  - i. Identify any revisions required to the draft final report and instruct the Scrutiny Officer to make the necessary changes ahead of the meeting of the Learning & Culture Overview & Scrutiny Committee on 21 November 2012
  - ii. Identify any additional conclusions for inclusion in the draft final report at paragraph 100.
  - iii. Identify any additional recommendations for inclusion in the draft final report at paragraph 101.

## **Analysis**

8. The draft final report attached contains a full analysis of the information gathered in support of the review.

## **Council Plan**

9. The success of the Yorkshire Museum Trust and its business plan contributes to the council's priority to create jobs and grow the economy, through its investment in the tourism infrastructure. It also provides opportunities for learning, for young people across the city.

## **Implications**

10. Information on the implications associated with the recommendations arising from this scrutiny review will be sought from the relevant officers once the Scrutiny Committee have agreed the recommendations they wish to make. Information on those implications will be added to the draft final report ahead of its presentation to the Cabinet in January 2013.

## Risk Management

11. The recommendations arising from the review will help to reduce the risk of the cataloguing of the collections not being completed in line with the Partnership Delivery Plan, and will assist YMT in achieving the appropriate collections management standards (in line with the Collections Loan Agreement and Collections Management Protocol agreed in 2002).

## Recommendations

12. Taking into consideration all of the information contained within the attached draft final report and its annexes, the Task Group are recommended to:
  - i. Identify any revisions required to the draft final report
  - ii. Identify any additional conclusions and/or recommendations for inclusion in the draft final report

Reason: In order to conclude their work on this review in line with Overview & Scrutiny procedures and protocols.

## Contact Details

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**Report Approved****Date**

18 Oct 2012

**Wards Affected:****All**

For further information please contact the author of the report

**Background Papers:** See information contained within the draft final report attached

## Annexes

**Annex 1** – Draft Final Report & Associated Annexes