

# Meeting of the Executive Member for Leisure and Culture and Social Inclusion and Advisory Panel

2 December 2008

Report of the Assistant Director (Lifelong Learning and Culture)

# YORK MUSEUMS TRUST PARTNERSHIP DELIVERY PLAN: PERFORMANCE UPDATE

# Summary

1. This report updates members on the progress of the York Museums Trust (YMT) towards meeting the targets agreed in the Partnership Delivery Plan.

# **Background**

- 2. The Partnership Delivery Plan (PDP) approved by members in December 2007 outlines the key targets and objectives which the Council requires YMT to work towards over the next five years. Members have asked for regular updates on progress. Reports are brought to EMAP at the half-year point and also in May, to report on full year performance. This report covers the period April 2008 to September 2008.
- 3. The update report is set out in Annex 1.

## **Headline Achievements**

- 4. The newly refurbished Hospitium is a great success as a venue for weddings and conferences, providing a useful revenue stream to be fed into other capital projects. The YMT Enterprise Board advises on all business activities. The Board includes retail experts and the Trust benefits from their advice.
- 5. The number of visitors is up at the Castle Museum as a result of The Sixties exhibition which has been a real success. As well as The Sixties, there have been a number of other excellent exhibitions:
  - Round the World in Eighty Pots at the Yorkshire Museum
  - Stubbs and Whistlejacket in York at the Art Gallery
  - The author Tracey Chevalier curating A Thousand Words at the Art Gallery
  - The Grand Tour in York an innovative project in with the National Gallery which sited art across the city

- 6. Work with schools has continued through the Renaissance in the Regions addressing the needs of the National Curriculum. Learning spaces have been developed offering a range of possibilities from cooking through art to science.
- 7. A new leaflet details the adult learning opportunities.
- 8. All sites have achieved the Visitor Quality Assured Standard and Mori polls show a very high rate of visitor satisfaction.

### Consultation

9. This report is for information and there is no consultation to consider.

# **Options**

10. This report is for information and there are no options to consider.

# **Corporate Objectives**

11. YMT's business plan contributes to a number of corporate objectives including developing opportunities for residents and visitors to experience York as a vibrant and eventful city, improving opportunities for learning, and in strengthening York's economy through investment in the tourism infrastructure. Reinvestment in the museums is an identified priority within the sub-regional investment plan.

# **Implications**

- 12. **Finance:** The Council makes an annual grant to YMT which in 2008/9 is £1,516,850. The grant is uplifted for inflation each year. The current financial arrangements have been agreed to 2013.
- 13. The report has no Human Resources, Equalities, Legal, Crime and Disorder, Information Technology, or other implications.

## **Risk Management**

14. This report is for information and there are no risks to consider.

#### Recommendations

15. The Executive Member is asked to note and comment upon the performance of the York Museums Trust.

Reason: To fulfil the Council's role under the Partnership Delivery Plan

## **Annex**

York Museums Trust Performance Report

## **Contact Details**

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Report
Approved

✓ Date 14.11.08.

Wards Affected: List wards or tick box to indicate all

# For further information please contact the author of the report

# **Background Papers:**

Museums Trust: Partnership Delivery Plan 12 December 2002

Establishment Of The Museums Trust: Report to the Executive of 26 July 2002

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