

Committee:	Westbury Manor Museum (Fareham) Joint Management Committee	
Date of Meeting:	9 th June 2014	
Title of Report:	Hampshire Solent Cultural Trust (working title) Update	
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Purpose:	Provide an update on the Hampshire Solent Cultural Trust (working title) and recap on the Implementation Stage 2 consultation	

1. Introduction

On 25th September, 2013, the Executive Member for Culture, Recreation and Countryside at Hampshire County Council (HCC) made a decision to establish the Trust in partnership with Winchester City Council (WCC), and in principle to transfer the operation of arts and museums services to the Trust. Winchester City Council's Portfolio Holder for Economic Development has approved the same recommendations at their Council's full meeting on 6th November 2013. Final decisions regarding the details of transfer will be made during the summer of 2014.

2. Implementation phase

The decisions by both Executive Members allowed activity to move into the implementation phase. Since November 2013, the main focus of Officers has been on:

- Consultation with district and borough council funding partners regarding detailed proposals and with partners who support the operation of venues, including volunteer teams
- Formal consultation with staff and Unions regarding TUPE arrangements, and entering into dialogue on organisational proposals
- Undertaking work to establish the Trust, including the appointment of a 'founding board'
- Preparation of legal agreements associated with the transfer of arts and museums services
- Preparation of detailed budgets and cash flow forecasts

3. Progress to-date

Work on each of the strands of activity has progressed to plan since the verbal update at the last meeting.

On 7th March 2014, the Founding Board of Trustees held their first meeting as a Shadow Board. At the time of writing, the Board is composed of four members; Alan Lovell, Yinnon Ezra, Cllr Roy Perry, Leader of Hampshire County Council and Cllr Mike Southgate from Winchester City Council. The Board is chaired by Alan Lovell. In addition to agreeing the Articles of Association and Memorandum of Understanding, the Board have now registered the Trust at Companies House and submitted an application to the Charity Commission.

One of the Board's early decisions has been to formally name the Trust, the Hampshire Cultural Trust. Work is currently underway to develop a brand identity and website for the new organisation. In addition to developing a Five Year plan, which will form part of the Management Funding Agreement with the Founding Local Authorities, the Board is also undertaking work to begin developing their long term vision for the new organisation. The Board will engage District and

Borough Councils as its Core Partners and/or key stakeholders in the coming months to develop this strategic planning.

4. Forthcoming milestones

Over the summer, the Board and Founding Local Authorities will finalise the necessary legal agreements and the Executive Member/Portfolio Holder for the Founding Local Authorities will make their final decisions to transfer staff and services into the new Trust organisation. In addition, the Trust will undertake its own decision making process to accept the transfer of staff and services.

Once the final decision has been made, the two Local Authorities and the Trust will work with staff and Unions to put in place the final arrangements necessary for staff to TUPE across to the Trust in the autumn. Alongside the formal HR processes, a programme of business change activity is underway to support staff in both organisations with impending cultural change.

In addition to the mechanics of establishment of and transfer to Trust, work will take place over the summer in key areas already identified within the Implementation Plan. These areas of work include setting up a Gift Aid scheme and training staff at venues and establishing a Trading Arm.

5. Fareham Borough and the Hampshire Cultural Trust

Formal feedback was received in February from Fareham Borough Council on the detailed proposals of the Hampshire Cultural Trust. In summary, this confirmed the position to be as set out below:

- An agreement by Fareham Borough Council to fund Westbury Manor Museum at the level of £64,530 (10% less than 2013/14) for three years starting in 2014/15, with an 18 month notice period
- An understanding that the implication of a 10% reduction in funding will be a small reduction in service delivery locally
- An agreement by Fareham Borough Council to enter into a 10 year Joint Management Agreement
- Confirmation that Fareham Borough Council will become a core partner to the Trust
- Grant Payments will be made in April of each year

In addition, the Hampshire Cultural Trust will work with Head of Leisure and Community at Fareham Borough Council during 2014/15 to develop an options appraisal for a strategic vision for the integration of cultural facilities in the Borough of Fareham.