

Committee:	Westbury Joint Management Committee	
Date of Meeting:	20 October 2014	
Title of Report:	Hampshire Cultural Trust update	
Author:	Janet Owen	
Purpose:	Provide an update on the Hampshire Cultural Trust	

1. Introduction

During the summer, the Executive Members for Culture, Recreation and Countryside and Property and Resources at Hampshire County Council (HCC) made their final decisions to transfer staff and services into the Hampshire Cultural Trust. Winchester City Council's Portfolio Holders made their final decisions during September.

At their September meeting, the Board of the new Trust made its final decision to accept the transfer of staff and services from Hampshire County Council and Winchester City Council.

2. Implementation phase

As referred to in the report at the previous meeting, 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.

In July, the founding Board of Trustees added two more members; Helen Jackson and Rachel Bebb. Alongside legally establishing the Trust and putting in place the necessary legal arrangements, work to establish the trading arm and implement a Gift Aid scheme is progressing to plan. Detailed work has taken place to ensure the smooth transition of staff and services into the new organisation.

Looking forward, the Board has undertaken work to begin articulating its vision, mission and agenda for change. These early thoughts will be refined and developed over the autumn in dialogue with the 'Trust team' of staff and volunteers. From early in the New Year, the Board and the team will be seeking to have conversations with its Core Partners, other key stakeholders and interested parties to inform the development of its strategic plan and long term vision.

4. Forthcoming milestones

Now that the final decision has been made, the two Local Authorities and the Trust are working with

staff and Unions to put in place the final arrangements necessary for staff to TUPE across to the Trust in November.

In the coming weeks, staff from Winchester Museum Service and Hampshire Arts and Museum Service will reside together on one site, at Chilcomb House. Also, the Board and Management Team will be championing a business change programme to help staff and volunteers achieve their potential in the new organisation.

Alongside longer term strategic planning referred to above, the new Trust team will begin drafting Venue Plans during the autumn period for discussion and consultation with Core Partners in January and February.

5. Fareham Borough Council and the Hampshire Cultural Trust

Following the consultation conversations that took place earlier in the year, below is summary of the position as we understand it:

- 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 may be a small change in service delivery locally
- Agreement to enter into a 10 year agreement, on the basis that the Council reserves the right to break this agreement after 3 years if agreement cannot be reached over funding arrangements beyond the agreed 3 year term.
- Agreement that Fareham Borough Council continues loaning the bier hand cart to Hampshire County Council from the formation date of the Trust for not less than 25 years duration so that Hampshire County Council may, in turn, loan this item to the Trust
- Hampshire Cultural Trust, Hampshire County Council and Fareham Borough Council develop a strategic vision for cultural facilities in the Borough of Fareham
- Fareham Borough Council will become a core partner to the Trust