

	<b>REPORT TO CABINET TO BE HELD ON</b>	
	<b>Key Decision</b>	<b>YES</b>
<b>Corporate Priority</b> Inclusive and Vibrant Encouraging Prosperity	<b>Cabinet Portfolio Holder</b>	Cllr Andrew Jenkinson Cabinet Member for Tourism and Culture

**REPORT OF: Director (TW) – Report reference 17/111**

**WARDS AFFECTED: All**

**SUBJECT: SCARBOROUGH MUSEUMS TRUST – COLLECTIONS DEVELOPMENT POLICY**

**RECOMMENDATION (S):**

That Cabinet recommend that Council approve the revised Scarborough Museums Trust Collections Development Policy.

**REASON FOR RECOMMENDATION (S):**

To ensure the continuing prudent governance of the Borough’s Collection by the Museums Trust and adherence with Arts Council England’s (ACE) guidance on Collections Development (formally the Acquisition and Disposal) Policy.

**HIGHLIGHTED RISKS:**

Failure to comply with the Arts Council England’s policies on Collections Development will risk the loss of accreditation and formal status as a museum service.

**1. INTRODUCTION**

1.1 Scarborough Museums Trust is currently revising all of its policies and plans as part of its application for re-accreditation. Museum accreditation is now administered by the Arts Council England who developed a new accreditation scheme in 2011. The Museums Trust is therefore looking to ensure that all of

its policies adhere to the scheme to ensure it meets the accreditation standards.

- 1.2 Whilst the changes are minimal, it is a requirement that the revised policy receives formal approval from the Council.

## **2. CORPORATE AIMS**

- 2.1 This report relates to the Council's Corporate Plan key aims:-

People – To ensure people are healthy, with high level of participation sports, leisure and cultural activities contributing to both mental and physical wellbeing.

Prosperity – To develop Sustainable Tourism which is of a high quality, varied and is all year round.

## **3. BACKGROUND AND ISSUES**

- 3.1 In 2013 Cabinet approved the Scarborough Museums Trust Collections Development Policy.
- 3.2 In early 2011 Museum accreditation was moved to be administered by the Arts Council England and a revised accreditation scheme was published in the latter part of 2011.
- 3.3 The new proposed Museums Trust Policy attached as Appendix A follows the guidelines and template provided by the Arts Council.
- 3.4 As the collections looked after by Scarborough Museums Trust are owned by Scarborough Borough Council the Museums Trust are required to obtain authorisation from Scarborough Borough Council for any changes to the approved Collections Development Policy.
- 3.5 The Museums Trust Collections Development Policy is a working document. In 2010 a report to the Council's Portfolio Holder for Tourism and Culture (10/482) approved the permanent removal of some objects from the Council's Museum Collection.
- 3.6 Changes from the previous version include
  - Section 6.0 – Updated and improved information regarding the Scarborough Collections reflecting the development of knowledge concerning the materials held and associated parties, and to take into account further acquisitions over the past three years
  - Section 7.0 – Themes and priorities for future collecting – the art and archaeology small finds collections will be expanded where appropriate,

active collecting of social and local history material relating to Scarborough's history as a seaside resort to fill gaps in the collection.

- Section 8.0 – Themes for future disposal and rationalisation – ongoing retrospective documentation projects may reveal material suitable for disposal/rationalisation – the policy explains how both processes will be used correctly as a collections management tool.

#### **4. CONSULTATION**

- 4.1 Consultation on the new national ACE accreditation policies took place over a number of years (2008-2011). A number of museums services across the country were consulted and various workshops held during its development. The revised Collections Development Policy has been to the SMT board (2 February 2017) who have given it their approval.

#### **5. ASSESSMENT**

- 5.1 The request to align the Collections Development Policy in line with the ACE accreditation is motivated by the desire to demonstrate the highest standards of collections care and management and to ensure that the museum is recognised as a quality product within the Arts environment.
- 5.2 The changes in the policy do not materially affect the Council's liability or the ongoing ability of the Council and the Trust to manage the collections in the future.

#### **6. IMPLICATIONS**

- 6.1 The adoption of the revised Collections Development Policy will update the existing policy in accordance with ACE accreditation requirements.
- 6.2 Staffing implications, planning implications, crime and disorder implications, health and safety implications, and environmental implications have all been considered and do not apply.



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IF YOU HAVE ANY QUERIES ABOUT THIS REPORT OR WISH TO INSPECT ANY  
OF THE BACKGROUND PAPERS, PLEASE CONTACT JANET DEACON  
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Risk Issue	Consequences if allowed to happen	Likelihood	Impact	Mitigation	Mitigated Likelihood	Mitigated Impact
<p>Failure of the Trust to comply with ACE accreditation criteria.</p>	<p>Failure to achieve accreditation would have a significant negative impact on the Council's reputation and standing.</p> <p>The Museums Trust would be unable to hold items from other collections for display or other purposes and may not be able to receive donations which may be valuable to the collection as a whole.</p>	<p>Very low</p>	<p>Medium</p>	<p>The Trust would continue to function with the existing collections and exhibitions until such time as accreditation was achieved.</p>	<p>Very Low</p>	<p>Low</p>