

Report to: Museums Committee

Date of Meeting: 27 June 2016

Report Title: Curator's Report

Report By: Cathy Walling
Museum Curator

Purpose of Report

to provide an update on issues arising from previous meetings and confirmation of Curator's actions

Recommendation(s)

- 1. that the Committee accept the report and are satisfied with the comments in the report**

Reasons for Recommendations

Introduction

1. The Arts Council-funded Resilience Review has now been completed and will be presented to Cabinet in July. It will then be presented to Museums Committee in September. Following an expression of interest application for second round funding, the Museum was invited to apply and we will find out at the end of July whether we are successful or not.

We have applied for £85,000 to work on four areas for improvement outlined as medium term actions in the Part 1 Review:

Improving visibility of the Museum through marketing and promotion
Audience Development and engagement
Collections review to ensure effective working practices
Business and project development expertise

2. The relaunched Museum website is now live. There are a few changes which need to be implemented around the updating of the News page and extending the Calendar section beyond a three month span. Response has so far been very positive.

3. The requested loan of the Hawaiian feather cloak to two venues in the Netherlands next year will not now be going ahead. The Dutch museums have withdrawn their request.

4. The Grove School registers, reported as a donation at the last Committee, have been deposited at The Keep. The registers are covered by data protection legislation and will join other East Sussex CC school archives.

5. The Museum has put in an expression of interest to be a partner in Royal Holloway's 'Citizens' Project. This 2017 project aims to work with museums and archives across the South East to explore stories of the history 800 years of liberty, protest, power and rebellion. We have identified the Robert Tressell connection as relevant to the theme of democratic heritage; the Museum would benefit from training workshops, the provision of micro-documentaries and being part of a dedicated website supported by the AQA exam board.

Wards Affected

None

Policy Implications

Please identify if this report contains any implications for the following:

Equalities and Community Cohesiveness	No
Crime and Fear of Crime (Section 17)	No

Risk Management	No
Environmental Issues	No
Economic/Financial Implications	No
Human Rights Act	No
Organisational Consequences	No
Local People's Views	No
Anti-Poverty	No

Additional Information

Officer to Contact

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