

**Agenda Item No:** 6

**Report to:** Museums Committee

**Date of Meeting:** 12 January 2015

**Report Title:** Museum Accreditation

**Report By:** Cathy Walling  
Museum Curator

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### **Purpose of Report**

To provide an update on the Accreditation application

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### **Recommendation(s)**

- 1. that the Committee accepts the report and are satisfied with the report, and recommends approval of the policies**

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### **Reasons for Recommendations**

Approval of the policies is a requirement of the Accreditation application

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## Introduction

1. The Accreditation Scheme for Museums and Galleries in the United Kingdom is administered by the Arts Council. Hastings Museum and Art Gallery and the Old Town Hall Museum were fully accredited in 2009-10 under the scheme. Both Museums were invited to reapply in August 2014 with a returns completion date of 28 February 2015.

2. Accreditation is the UK standard for museums and galleries. It defines good practice and identifies agreed standards, thereby encouraging development. It is a baseline quality standard that helps guide museums to be the best they can be, for current and future users.

### 3. Aims of the Accreditation Scheme

a. To encourage all museums and galleries to achieve agreed standards in:

- how they are run
- how they manage their collections
- the experiences of users

b. To encourage confidence in museums as organisations that manage collections for the benefit of society and manage public funds appropriately.

c. To reinforce a shared ethical and professional basis for all museums.

4. The following documents must be formally accepted by the Museums Committee. They are written to Arts Council approved templates.

- Environmental Sustainability Statement
- Collections Development Policy (previously Acquisitions and Disposals)
- Collections Management Policy - combining Documentation and Care and Conservation.
- Access Statement

5. The Museum Forward Plan was approved in September 2014 and the Museum Access and Learning Policy was approved in June 2013.

6. The Museum Emergency plan had its annual review at an all-staff meeting at the Museum on 12 December 2014.

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## Wards Affected

Castle, Old Hastings

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**Area(s) Affected**

Central Hastings, East Hastings

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**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	Yes
Environmental Issues	No
Economic/Financial Implications	No
Human Rights Act	No
Organisational Consequences	No
Local People's Views	No

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**Background Information**

1. Environmental Sustainability Statement
2. Collections Development Policy
3. Collections Management Policy
4. Access Policy Statement

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**Officer to Contact**

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