

NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE COUNCIL

**COMMUNITY WELLBEING (URBAN – ASHBY,
BOTTFESFORD AND SCUNTHORPE)
CABINET MEMBER**

UK MUSEUM ACCREDITATION SCHEME

1. OBJECT AND KEY POINTS IN THIS REPORT

- 1.1 To seek approval to progress with renewing the certification for Normanby Hall Country Park and North Lincolnshire Museum through the Arts Council England's UK Museum Accreditation Scheme.

2. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 2.1 The UK Museum Accreditation Scheme is the UK industry standard for museums and galleries.

The scheme is managed by Arts Council England, and ensures that museums meet an agreed standard in:

- How they are run.
- How they manage their collections.
- How they engage with their users.

The nationally agreed standards are designed to ensure all museums are sustainable, focused and trusted, inspiring the confidence of the public and funding and governing bodies.

- 2.2 An Award for Full Accreditation is valid for five years.
- 2.3 Currently, two sites in North Lincolnshire have previously been accredited; North Lincolnshire Museum and Normanby Hall Country Park. Both museums accreditation are due for renewal from 1 May, 2025.
- 2.4 To achieve Accreditation each museum must demonstrate that they have:
- Appropriate governance and management.
 - A forward or business plan.
 - Financial sustainability.

- Secure premises.
- An Emergency Plan.
- A Collections Policy outlining the policy for developing the collection.
- A Documentation Policy.
- A Collections Care and Conservation Policy.
- An access Policy and Plan.
- An Audience Development Plan.
- A programme of stimulating learning and discovery activities.
- A way of communicating effectively with potential users through marketing and promotional activities.

2.5 The documentation listed above must be approved by the governing body before submission.

2.6 The Heritage Manager is leading on gathering this information and refreshing the documentation with teams across the Council, ready for submission by 1 May 2025.

2.7 All documentation is planned to be completed for March 2025 to be approved by Cabinet Member before submission.

3. **OPTIONS FOR CONSIDERATION**

3.1 To re-apply for Museum Accreditation on behalf of North Lincolnshire Museum and Normanby Hall Country Park.

3.2 To not apply for Museum Accreditation on behalf of North Lincolnshire Museum and Normanby Hall Country Park.

4. **ANALYSIS OF OPTIONS**

4.1 The Museum Accreditation scheme is the nationally recognised standards for Museums and has led the way in raising standards in the UK.

4.2 By being an accredited museum, it acknowledges that all procedures and policies pertaining to our museums are robust and of a good standard.

4.3 Museums with this accreditation can apply for specific funds, and only by having this accreditation is the Museum Service able to be an Arts Council National Portfolio Organisation and receive regular funding from the Arts Council (2023-2026).

5. **FINANCIAL AND OTHER RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS (e.g. LEGAL, HR, PROPERTY, IT, COMMUNICATIONS etc.)**

5.1 There is no direct cost/fee associated with becoming an Accredited Museum, although staff time will be required to ensure that all

documentation is up to date and of the appropriate standard by the application deadline, meaning the cost can be met from existing budgets.

6. **OTHER RELEVANT IMPLICATIONS (e.g. CRIME AND DISORDER, EQUALITIES, COUNCIL PLAN, ENVIRONMENTAL, RISK etc.)**

6.1 The policies and plans required for the Accreditation demonstrate how the museums achieve the Council's Priorities, mainly:

Priority 1: Keeping people safe and well: By providing opportunities for learning, socialising, and volunteering, and inspiring civic pride.

Priority 4: Providing value for money for local taxpayers: Through ensuring museums are well-managed and well-governed which remain financially sustainable.

7. **OUTCOMES OF INTEGRATED IMPACT ASSESSMENT (IF APPLICABLE)**

7.1 Not applicable.

8. **OUTCOMES OF CONSULTATION AND CONFLICTS OF INTERESTS DECLARED**

8.1 Not applicable.

9. **RECOMMENDATIONS**

9.1 That the Cabinet Member approve the submission for museum accreditation.

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Background Papers used in the preparation of this report – None