

Guildford Museum Development Project



5th September 2019

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Summary of work to date

2016: Executive consideration of SDA report and it became a corporate priority to develop Guildford Museum as a vibrant visitor attraction

2017-18:

- Examination of the site and development of architectural options
- Liaison with Historic England
- Community engagement exercise
- Decision to develop on existing site
- Council sets aside 6.5 million in capital programme

2018-19: Development of the vision, content, interpretation, activity programme, business plan and indicative cost of £18 million



Vision

- Celebrate the story of Guildford and its regional, national and global impact on site, offsite and online
- Be a centre for community engagement and outreach into the Borough and County
- Be a place for learning and creativity
- Be a cultural hub for Guildford and the Borough



Executive Decisions

19th March 2019

- Agrees to progress the project to RIBA stage 4
- Agrees that officers explore external funding options, including the National Lottery Heritage Fund
- Agrees to the appointment of a fundraising officer
- Agrees that £1,200,000 is transferred from the provisional budget to the approved budget to fund the required work
- Agrees that the existing contracts for external consultants are reviewed and either re-negotiated or re-procured them in order to ensure best value for money

Work since March

- Refine the scope
- Commission a fundraising strategy
- Commission a digital strategy
- Two public consultation events
- Discussions with potential hub partners





Proposed Site Plan, scale: 1:500

Fundraising strategy

- £4 million from NLHF
- Fundraising target of £2.5 - £3m
- Three phases of fundraising
- Establishing a fundraising charity

Public consultation

- 1st June Castle Grounds, 2nd July Farmers' Market
- Conversations with 111 people, plus 52 browsers
- Voting on proposed storylines and activities
- Commenting on the architectural proposals

An exciting opportunity to give Guildford the Museum it deserves. A well-designed building

This is great news! The Museum is in desperate need of being brought up to date. The proposal looks marvellous



Timeline

Events/Activities	Date start	Date Completed	Duration
EOI - NLHF	August 2019 (submission)	September 2019 (response from NLHF)	20 days
NLHF Round 1 Bid	November 19 2019 (submission)	March 2020 (response from NLHF)	3 months
Round 1 Development work (Architectural services and service updates)	March 2020	March 2021	12 months
Fundraising	March 2020	March 2021	12 months
Planning and other permissions/consents	August 2020	March 2021	4 months
NLHF Round 2	March 2021 (submission)	June 2021 (response from NLHF)	3 months
Permission to start	June 2021	August 2021	3 months
Procure main contractor	September 2021	February 2022	6 months
Museum construction and fit out	March 2022	October 2023	20 months
Display and recant	November 2023	April 2024	6 months
Opening	April 2024		

Risks to the project

- Cost of the project
- Match funding
- Historic England
- Planning



Recommendations to Executive on 24th September 2019

- Approves the revised scope of the project
- Approves the Funding Strategy and appointment of fundraisers to implement the strategy
- Delegates authority to adopt policies required for the Museum Accreditation.
- Confirms its support for the applications to National Lottery Heritage Fund (NLHF) and other funding bodies as they arise.

Recommendations to Executive on 24th September 2019 (Cont)

- Authorises officers to prepare an asset disposal strategy for Castle Cottage and 39 Castle street (Victorian School Room) and to ringfence the capital receipts from the disposal to pay for the museum redevelopment.
- Approves the establishment of a registered charity to facilitate fundraising

Recommendations to Executive on 24th September 2019 (Cont)

That the Executive recommends to Council:

- Approval of a capital supplementary estimate of £11.8million to be funded by external grants and contributions from NHLF and other private trusts and donors as per the funding strategy
- Agreement to underwrite the non-NHLF fundraising target of £7.8million and notes the risks associated with doing this as set out in paragraph 8.18 of the report

