

Nottingham City Council Delegated Decision



Nottingham
City Council

Reference Number:	3235
Author:	Rachael Evans
Department:	Commercial and Operations
Contact:	Rachael Evans (Job Title: Museums Development Manager, Email: rachael.evans@nottinghamcity.gov.uk, Phone: 01158762197)
Subject:	Newstead Abbey West Front restoration project
Total Value:	£30,000.00 (Type: Revenue)
Decision Being Taken:	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1) To accept funding of £30,000.00 from the Newstead Abbey Partnership friends group;2) To approve the fees for a Conservation Accredited Lead Advisor (which will be approximately £30,000 across the whole of the project);3) To go out to tender for three quotes for the appointment of the Conservation Accredited Lead Advisor;4) To accept the winning tender.
Reasons for the Decision(s)	<p>Following on from previous work delivered over the last decade the museum service has been working for over two years to secure funding to remove Newstead Abbey from the Heritage at Risk Register. The service has succeeded and recently been awarded grants of £123,000 from Historic England and £57,000 from World Monument Fund to undertake a development phase to include both the 12th Century West Front and 15th Century Cannon Fort as well as complete the essential repair work to the West Front. Historic England have a further reserve fund ring-fenced in the event of additional costs being incurred by the repairs to the West Front. This will be clarified in the development stage. Historic England have stipulated in their grant offer that due to previous condition and structural reports being completed on the West Front and in order that the repair work can commence spring 2019 the development phase has been shortened from 12 months to 6 months commencing summer 2018. Therefore in order to meet this tight deadline the first step is to appoint a Conservation Accredited Lead Advisor to scope out the project in full as soon as possible. Match funding is from the service donations and therefore project delivery is at no cost to the Council.</p>

Other Options Considered: Do Nothing. Newstead Abbey West Front and Cannon Fort are both on the Heritage at Risk Register. This option would result in further erosion of the two areas of the site to a point where it will become irreparable and a hazard to the general public. For this reason, this option was rejected.

Phase the project. This is not possible due to the sensitive nature of the repair work. It is also unnecessary as the service has secured sufficient funds to deliver the whole project, making it more cost effective. For these reasons, this option was rejected.

Background Papers: None.

Published Works: Newstead Abbey Condition Surveys by Ingram Consultants 2002 and Purcell in 2014, further structural surveys (including high level surveys) completed in 2016 by Morton Partnership and Purcell.

Historic England's Report 28th June 2018

Affected Wards: Citywide

Colleague / Councillor Interests: None

Use of Consultants

Number of Days: 0
Rate per Day: 0
Total value: 30000
Start date: 18/07/2018
End date: 18/07/2018

Reason for using a consultant: The Council does not currently employ Conservation

Accredited Architects/ Building Surveyors and therefore it is a role that cannot be appointed from existing colleagues. To recruit an employee into the role would not be possible within the time frame and would not be able to be done within the budget.

Other options considered:

Do Nothing. Newstead Abbey West Front and Cannon Fort are both on the Heritage at Risk Register. This option would result in further erosion of the two areas of the site to a point where it will become irreparable and a hazard to the general public. For this reason, this option was rejected.

Phase the project. This is not possible due to the sensitive nature of the repair work. It is also unnecessary as the service has secured sufficient funds to deliver the whole project, making it more cost effective. For these reasons, this option was rejected.

Name of consultant:

TBC

Reason for selection?

TBC

Has the consultant previously completed work for the City Council?

TBC

Specific activities to be undertaken by the consultant are:

Manage the appointment of professional advisors and contractors whose appointment is necessary for the satisfactory completion of the work; to include a CARE registered Structural Engineer, an independent scaffold designer, a Protected Species Surveyor and an ICON registered Stone Conservator. Key liaison between contractors and the Council.Coordinate a high-level access report on the West Front and assessment of the Cannon Fort.Collate and assess C21 reports and identify conservative options for repair. Prepare Maintenance Plans. Manage the repair work phase including scaffolding contractors, stonework repairs and all other contractors.Test the cost of repairs to the Cannon Fort and manage repairs.

Period of engagement:

TBC

By what process was the consultant selected?

TBC

Consultations:

Date: 15/01/2015

Other:The Newstead Abbey Partnership (NAP), World Monument Fund, Arts Council England

NAP, a friends group, formalised to fund raise specifically for the West Front.

Nottingham City Council are delivering ongoing consultation with this group and attend the regular committee meetings as an advisory role. NAP have achieved raising over £57,000 for the West Front project from a grant awarded by the World Monument Fund.

Arts Council England have been consulted with during the development of the Service's National Portfolio Organisation Business Plan 2018-2022.

Crime and Disorder Implications:

Both the West Front and Cannon Fort repair work will include working directly with volunteers.

We currently run a programme of volunteering that engages over 280 volunteers from a wide range of backgrounds. Previous evaluation of similar museum projects highlights that a key outcome for those more vulnerable volunteers is for them to feel less isolated and more socially confident.

Equality:

EIA not required. Reasons: The project does not relate to changing policies, services and functions.

Relates to staffing:

Yes

Relates to Council Property Assets:

Yes

Relates to Building Services:

Yes

Decision Type:

Officer

Executive Decision?

Yes

Scheme of Delegation Reference Number or Other Source of Delegation:

7 - sub-delegation for Hugh White to sign for Andy Vaughan, Corporate Director Commercial and Operations

Subject to Call In:

No

The call-in procedure does not apply to the decision because the value of the decision is below the call in threshold.

Advice Sought: Human Resources, Property, Building Services

HR Advice: The Council does not directly employ any Conservation Accredited Architects that would have the specialist skills to lead this project. The time to create, evaluate and recruit to a post would directly impact upon the tight timescales of the project and therefore this is not a practical solution. The proposal to engage a Consultant due to the specialist nature of the work is therefore supported.

Advice provided by Josie Guynan (Resource & Reward Consultant) on 18/07/2018.

Property Advice: This report raises no significant issues for Property

Advice provided by Jeremy Bryce (Surveyor) on 12/07/2018.

Building Services Advice: There are no significant concerns with the decision being sought and Building Services support this decision.

It should be noted that the Council are seeking to balance the accountability for buildings sitting with building managers alongside the technical and professional input of the Building Services team and all Building Managers (and Budget Holders) are asked to ensure that the Building Services teams are fully engaged in the design and construction process, in particular where these may involve external consultants/contractors.

This will help ensure that the service and project information from providers is robustly challenged against design, cost and technical content as necessary, and will help offer the Council greater value for money in the services and performance received.

Advice provided by Asaad Raouf (Design Services Manager) on 05/07/2018.

Signatures: Jon Collins (Leader of the Council)
SIGNED and Dated: 14/08/2018

Hugh White (Director of Sports and Culture)
SIGNED and Dated: 02/08/2018