

DERBYSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

MEETING WITH CABINET MEMBER, HEALTH AND COMMUNITIES

18 February 2016

Report of the Strategic Director, Health and Communities

TRANSFER OF COLLECTIONS

1. Purpose of the report:

To request the permission of the Cabinet Member, Health and Communities, to transfer a Norton Commander motorcycle from the collection at Buxton Museum and Art Gallery to the National Motorcycle Museum in Solihull.

2. Information and analysis:

- 2.1 In 2004 Derbyshire Constabulary transferred the ownership of the Derbyshire Police Collection to the County Council and the collection was relocated to Buxton Museum and Art Gallery. At that time the majority of the larger items were transferred to other museums but a Norton Commander motorcycle was retained and exhibited in the foyer at Buxton Museum.
- 2.2 With the current redevelopment of the museum the relevance and appropriateness of some items of the collection are being evaluated. Although the motorcycle has local relevance, it is very large and difficult to exhibit in an appropriate display, nor is it in keeping with other items collected and retained by the museum.
- 2.3 It is desirable for the machine to stay on display in a suitable environment and it is therefore recommended that it should be transferred to the National Motorcycle Museum at Solihull. The National Motorcycle Museum holds the largest collection of motorcycles in the world, of which 850 are on display. It attracts over 250,000 visitors a year, to exhibitions, events and activities and offers advice and support to motorcycle enthusiasts refurbishing machines.
- 2.4 In line with other Derbyshire items that have been transferred to alternative museums the Council will request that should the National Motorcycle Museum be unable to look after the motorbike they should inform the county's museum service, and secondly should Derbyshire museums wish to borrow the motorbike for a reasonable purpose, then this will be agreed by the National Motorcycle Museum. The provenance

of the motorcycle will remain with it, and the National Motorcycle Museum will be asked to credit Derbyshire County Council appropriately alongside the object and all photographs of it.

- 2.5 It is considered best practice that transfers of material between museums do not include any financial transaction. The National Motorcycle Museum will be asked to contribute the cost of transportation to Solihull and to meet further costs such as conservation of the item. It is likely that the motorcycle will be returned to full working condition, something that Buxton Museum would be unable to fund.

3. Other considerations:

In preparing this report the relevance of the following factors has been considered: financial, legal, prevention of crime and disorder, equality of opportunity, human resources, environmental, health, property and transport considerations.

4. Background papers:

None

5. Key Decision:

No

6. Call-in:

Is it required that call-in be waived for any decision on this report? No

7. Officer's recommendation:

That the Cabinet Member, Health and Communities gives permission for the transfer of the Norton Commander motorcycle from the collection at Buxton Museum and Art Gallery to the National Motorcycle Museum in Solihull.

**David Lowe
Strategic Director
Health and Communities**