

DERBYSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

MEETING WITH CABINET MEMBER, HEALTH AND COMMUNITIES

30 September 2014

Report of the Strategic Director, Health and Communities

**BUXTON MUSEUM AND ART GALLERY AWARD OF AN ART FUND
JONATHAN RUFFER CURATORIAL GRANT**

1. Purpose of the report:

To inform the Cabinet Member, Health and Communities of Buxton Museum and Art Gallery's success in being awarded an Art Fund Jonathan Ruffer Curatorial Grant and to request permission to spend the grant.

2. Information and analysis:

2.1 The Art Fund manages the Jonathan Ruffer Curatorial Grant scheme to enable curators to maintain and develop their specialist knowledge and expertise. The Assistant Collections Officer (ACO) at Buxton Museum and Art Gallery has been successful with a recent application to the fund. The award of the grant will enable the museum to:

- Develop deeper understanding of the 18th and 19th century fine art collection relating to the county and explore how these collections relate to the Derbyshire artist's tour
- Publish a research report, to be disseminated to the Derwent Valley Mills World Heritage Site, adding to previous collections' mapping work
- Raise the profile of the significance of the museum's art collection through networking and social media
- Identify new partnerships for the museum and possible loans for any future exhibition
- Develop the knowledge of the ACO, resulting in the publication of a paper or article

2.2 The ACO will undertake 12 days of research, of which 6 days will be as a volunteer. This research time will include visiting collections in London, the Bodleian Library and the National Library Wales, in all of which there

are works by artists who travelled and recorded the Derbyshire landscape.

- 2.3 The research will be written up as a report and shared with colleagues in the museum, the Derwent Valley Mills World Heritage Site and with the public via the museum's blog and social media feeds.

3. Financial considerations:

- 3.1 The grant fund totals £883. The Art Fund will pay Derbyshire County Council 90% of the grant up front (£794) and the remaining 10% (£89) on completion of the project.
- 3.2 To achieve best value the Art Fund recommends that the ACO invoices the Council for 90% of the grant upfront (£794). The ACO will be responsible for the auditing of the grant including submitting all receipts to the Art Fund. On completion of the project the ACO will invoice the museum for the final 10% of the grant (£89). The ACO will be responsible for booking travel and accommodation. Any monies not spent will be refunded to the Art Fund.

4. Human Resources considerations:

The ACO work part time for the County Council. The volunteering time will be in her own time, but will contribute to the museum's total of volunteering hours.

5. Other considerations:

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

6. Background papers:

None

7. Key Decision:

No

8. Call-in:

Is it required that call-in be waived for any decision on this report?

No

9. Strategic Director's recommendations:

That the Cabinet Member, Health and Communities:

i) notes the award of the Art Fund Jonathan Ruffer Curatorial Grant

ii) approves expenditure of the grant as outlined in the body of the report

**David Lowe
Strategic Director
Health and Communities**