

**JOINT ARCHIVES COMMITTEE REPORT**

**PERFORMANCE REPORT FOR  
April – June 2009**

**23 July 2009**

**Kevin Parkes - INTERIM DIRECTOR, REGENERATION**

**PURPOSE OF THE REPORT**

- 1 To provide:
  - a. Performance report update April – June 2009

**BACKGROUND**

- 2 The last inspection of Teesside Archives by the National Archives (TNA) was in 2008. In 2008 this inspection regime was supplemented by an annual self-assessment, scored by the TNA. As mentioned at the last meeting the service has been scored as a three-star service (out of four) and is said to be neither improving nor deteriorating.
- 3 There are currently no statutory indicators or standards relating to archives services. A C.I.P.F.A return is required on an annual basis.
- 4 The range of work undertaken by Teesside Archives is varied, and includes conservation and outreach work. This report provides a summary of this work

**Budget**

- 5 Budget issues are addressed in another report – Review of Teesside Archives Service.

**Visitors**

- 6 The number of visitors to Teesside Archives during this period was 1404. A breakdown is included in Appendix 1. The 12.3% who were from outside the area, included searchers from Canada, Australia and the Orkneys.

## **Acquisitions**

- 7 There were a total of 53 accessions of archive material during this period. They included: a copy of Captain Scott's Polar Expedition menu.

## **Outreach**

- 8 There have been a total of 43 events/talks/visits/displays over this period.
- 9 Events  
A WW2 event was attended at Hartlepool Central Library. As well as attending a regional dissemination day for Initial Teacher Training Providers to promote the use of Archives as a valuable teaching resource.
- 10 Talks and Group Visits  
Dr Ashok Kumar MP visited the Archives to find out about the British Steel Archives Project and Teesside Archives in general.
- 11 Learning and Access  
The Learning and Access staff are currently working with 2 primary schools and a church investigating the history of their local community. All the work will be put into a book and showcased at community events. An opportunity also arose to take part in a 2 hour slot on James Cook University Hospital radio.
- 12 Displays  
Recent displays have included one on family history for a Redcar & Cleveland Adult Education Group as well as one for Staithes Local History Group.

## **Conservation**

- 13 Conservation has been carried out on a variety of archives in the last three months in order to make them available to the public for research. In total 217 items were, repaired, cleaned and repackaged. Work included full conservation of two panoramic photographs of St. Mary's College, Middlesbrough and repairing several Stockton Rate books.
- 14 Some 1850 records were treated in preservation projects. This involved cleaning, repackaging, labelling and reboxing into acid free enclosures. The condition of these collections was noted so that any future conservation required could be prioritised. They include records from the Co-op which covered all four Boroughs.
- 15 Other duties and events have included: Carrying out paid conservation work for various institutions and members of the public; 7 talks/demonstrations to various groups; Up to 10 hours a month were taken environmentally monitoring and checking the condition of the whole archive building; Collecting records for deposit at the Archives and helping to move and rebox collections

## **OPTION APPRAISAL/RISK ASSESSMENT**

16 The basic archives service is provided free at the point of delivery.

## **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

17 There are no financial implications.

## **RECOMMENDATIONS**

18 That members:

a) note the performance report for April – June 2009

## **REASONS**

19 These recommendations are made as they recognise the work currently being undertaken by Teesside Archives.

## **BACKGROUND PAPERS**

20 The following have informed this paper:

a) Statistical report on actual usage shown in Appendix 1.

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