

MIDDLESBROUGH COUNCIL

EXECUTIVE REPORT

Joint Archives Committee Report –Performance update
Executive Member for Regeneration and Economic Development
Kevin Parkes, Director, Regeneration
27th October 2011

PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

1. The purpose of this report is to update Members on the performance of Teesside Archives July-September 2011.

SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS

2. That members note the performance of the Teesside Archives Service.

IF THIS IS A KEY DECISION WHICH KEY DECISION TEST APPLIES?

3. It is over the financial threshold (£150,000)
It has a significant impact on 2 or more wards
Non Key

DECISION IMPLEMENTATION DEADLINE

4. For the purposes of the scrutiny call in procedure this report is

Non-urgent
Urgent report

If urgent please give full reasons

SUMMARY INFORMATION MUST BE RESTRICTED TO THIS PAGE ONLY

BACKGROUND AND EXTERNAL CONSULTATION

5. The range of work undertaken by Teesside Archives is varied, and includes conservation and outreach work. This report provides a summary of this work.
6. **Visitors and document issues**
The number of visitors to Teesside Archives during this period was 2142. A breakdown is provided (see appendix 1)
7. **Acquisitions**
There were a total of 14 small deposits received during this period.
8. **Outreach**
A Learning and Access officer has taken a career break leaving a 21 hour part-time member of staff to carry on the work, this will have consequences for what can be delivered in future.
9. A programme of workshops for schools to mark the centenary of the Transporter Bridge had been arranged in conjunction with staff at the Dorman Museum and these have been taking place throughout September. Dave Allen, author of the publication on the Transporter Bridge came to give a talk on the subject and is returning in November to repeat this.
10. A film show arranged in July was fully booked. Events were also arranged as part of the Discover Middlesbrough campaign including behind the scenes tours, a tour of Ayresome Gardens and a display including a model showing the layout of the cemetery that was in the gardens. A member of staff spent the day at an event in St. Mary's Church in Acklam. These events were all oversubscribed and additional dates have been arranged to meet demand. Other talks and group visits have also been arranged.
11. The service supports community groups and projects within Teesside and has supported successful bids to the HLF. The first was placed by Humanah to work with young immigrants in the region and the other is Middlesbrough 86 (football). Support has also been given to a bid by the Society for the Promotion and Advancement of Romany Culture. These projects help the service to engage with hard to reach groups within the community and promote the value of heritage.
12. Some progress has been made in developing activities in other areas; however, there have been difficulties in communicating with partner authorities. This has been disappointing but has been considered by the review team and recommendations for future development have been made in the accompanying review report.
13. **Conservation**
In total 130 items were repaired, cleaned and repackaged (see appendix 1). Work was carried out on a recently discovered hand drawn coloured sketch of the Transporter Bridge that was found in a large Board of Trade deposit. 820 records were treated in preservation projects. This work involved cleaning, repackaging, labelling and re-boxing into acid free enclosures. The condition of these collections was noted so that any future conservation required could be prioritised.

14. The conservator has also been involved with the North East Disaster Planning Network, group visits and working with volunteers.
15. **Volunteers**
Work done by volunteers is progressing well and a report has been provided by the Volunteer Co-ordinator (see appendix 2).

IMPACT ASSESSMENT (IA)

16. Not applicable.

OPTION APPRAISAL/RISK ASSESSMENT

17. Not applicable

FINANCIAL, LEGAL AND WARD IMPLICATIONS

18. **Financial** – No financial implications.
19. **Ward Implications** – The report does not have direct ward implications because this service covers the whole of Teesside
20. **Legal Implications** – There are no legal implications

RECOMENDATIONS

21. For members to note the report

REASONS

22. To acknowledge quarter 2 performance

BACKGROUND PAPERS

13. No background papers were used in the preparation of this report.

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