

North Tyneside Council
Report to John Sparkes, Director of
Regeneration and Economic Development
Date: 18 February 2022

Title of Report: Museum and Estate Development Fund Grant Offer – Refurbishment works to Segedunum Roman Fort & Museum

Report from Service Area:	Regeneration and Transport	
Responsible Officer:	Paul Dowling, Service Manager – Regeneration and Transport	(Tel: (0191) 643 1441
Wards affected:	Wallsend	

PART 1

1.1 Executive Summary:

The purpose of this report is to seek approval of the Director of Regeneration and Economic Development in consultation with the Director of Resources to the Authority accepting, in principle, an offer of £0.499m Museum and Estate Development (MEND) Grant funding from Arts Council England for refurbishment works at Segedunum Roman Fort & Museum, namely:

- roof repairs,
- replacement of air handling plant,
- a new lift; and
- new emergency lighting.

The grant funded works are matched by £0.150m from the Authority's Asset programme and £0.106m from the Authority's Our Ambition programme.

Delegated authority is also sought to subsequently enter into a funding agreement with Arts Council England.

The grant will be used as match funding towards a potential National Lottery Heritage Fund (NLHF) bid for the wider transformation of Segedunum, a response from NLHF to an Expression of Interest submitted by the Authority is due by 25 February.

1.2 Recommendation(s):

It is recommended that the Director of Regeneration and Economic Development in consultation with the Director of Law and Governance and the Director of Resources exercises specific delegation RED3 included in the Authority's Officer Delegation scheme to:

- (1) Authorise the Authority's acceptance in principle of the offer of Museum and Estate Development Grant Fund from Arts Council England so as to obtain: -
 - a. £499,000 towards refurbishment works at Segedunum Roman Fort and Museum
- (2) Request the Director of Law and Governance in consultation with the Director of Regeneration and Economic Development and the Director of Resources to take all necessary steps to complete the Museum and Estate Development Grant Fund Agreement.

1.3 Forward Plan:

- 1.3.1 Given the need to accept, in principle, the grant funding offer by 5pm on 25 February it has not been possible to give twenty-eight days' notice of this report, it did however first appear in the Forward Plan that was published on 18th February 2022.

1.4 Council Plan and Policy Framework

- 1.4.1 This report relates to the following themes in the 2021-25 Our North Tyneside Plan:
 - A thriving North Tyneside
 - A family-friendly North Tyneside
- 1.4.2 The transformation of Segedunum also contributes to Our North Tyneside – Past, Present and Future: A Heritage Strategy for North Tyneside 2014-21.

1.5 Information:

1.5.1 Background

- 1.5.2 In June 2021 Arts Council England launched the Museum and Estate Development (MEND) grants fund for capital expenditure from £50,000 to £5 million to undertake vital infrastructure and urgent maintenance backlog work to non-national Accredited museums.
- 1.5.3 Match funding of a minimum 5% must be provided for grants up to £499,000 and 10% for grants over £500,000. Grants close to the maximum are likely to be made only as an exception.
- 1.5.4 Segedunum is eligible for the fund and discussions with Tyne and Wear Archives and Museums (TWAM) and colleagues in Commissioning and Asset Management and in Housing and Property Services identified roof repairs, a new lift and renewal of building services as priorities.
- 1.5.5 Following consideration of an Expression of Interest (EOI) Arts Council England invited a full application, this was submitted in October 2021 seeking MEND grant of £0.499m, this was matched with £0.256m from the Authority's budget.
- 1.5.6 The application was submitted for roof repairs, replacement of air handling plant, a new lift and new emergency lighting. These works will help to protect the museum from water

ingress, enable artefacts for exhibitions to continue to be loaned by other museums (by controlling the indoor atmosphere) and guard against the risk of building services failure and some areas therefore having to be closed off to visitors.

- 1.5.7 Notification that the grant has been approved for a sum up to £0.499m was received on 15 February 2022. Arts Council England has asked that the award is not publicised until the official award announcement has been made. The Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS) is planning to announce the awards in late February or early March 2022.
- 1.5.8 Grant eligible activity (e.g., preparation of tender documents) must start no earlier than 7 March 2022 (and no later than 25 April 2022) with completion of works and final claim by 31st March 2025.
- 1.5.9 Programming in the MEND funded grant works will be dependent upon the outcome of the potential future bid for National Lottery Heritage Fund (NLHF) grant for the wider transformation of the offer at Segedunum. A response from NLHF to the recently submitted EOI is due by the end of February.

1.6 Decision options:

The following decision options are available for consideration:

Option 1

To approve the recommendation set out at paragraph 1.2 of this report.

Option 2

To approve and/or reject some or all of the recommendations set out at Paragraphs 1.2 (1) (2) of this report.

Option 1 is the recommended option.

1.7 Reasons for recommended option:

Option 1 is recommended for the following reasons:

Accepting this funding will enable the Authority to progress with the refurbishment works and it will also strengthen any future NLHF grant bid (subject to the response from NLHF to the EOI) for the wider transformation of Segedunum.

1.8 Appendices:

None

1.9 Contact officers:

Iain Betham, Senior Manager, Strategic Investment & Property tel. (0191) 643 8092
Steve Bishop, Head of Cultural Development, tel. (0191) 643 7410
Graham Sword, Senior Manager - Regeneration, tel. (0191) 643 6421
Paul Graves, Regeneration Project Manager, tel. (0191) 643 6013

1.10 Background information:

The following background papers/information have been used in the compilation of this report and are available at the office of the author:

- (1) The application for MEND grant

PART 2 – COMPLIANCE WITH PRINCIPLES OF DECISION MAKING

2.1 Finance and other resources

- 2.1.1 The full application for MEND grant of £499,000 was submitted in October 2021. The application was matched by £150,000 from the Authority's asset programme budget (for the lift and emergency lighting) plus £105,990.10 from the Our Ambition allocation of £1million for Segedunum.
- 2.1.2 As the scheme is developed and the position with the wider ambitions for a potential NLHF funded transformation becomes clear the design and capital works will be planned to ensure that the MEND funded works are coordinated with the wider transformation works, that procurement ensures value for money and that the disruption to the operation of the museum is minimised.

2.2 Legal

- 2.2.1 The Authority's Officer Delegation Scheme gives specific authority to the Director of Regeneration and Economic Development at RED3 to enter into agreements "*with other funding organisations where the purpose of the agreement is to enable that organisation to provide funding support for projects within any of the programmes delivered or managed by the Authority.*" This specific authority enables the Director to authorise entry into the MEND Grant Fund Agreement.

2.3 Consultation/community engagement

2.3.1 Internal Consultation

- 2.3.2 The relevant Lead Cabinet Members have been briefed and finance, legal and procurement senior officers have provided advice on this project and the background to this report.

2.3.2 External Consultation/Engagement

- 2.3.3 Tyne and Wear Archives and Museums (TWAM), as operators of Segedunum, have been advised about the MEND grant approval.
- 2.3.3 In developing the vision for the transformation of Segedunum consultation with residents, schools, visitors and businesses took place in the summer and autumn of 2021. This included face to face consultation during the Wallsend Festival and via TWAM's social media channels. 283 surveys were returned from residents, visitors, schools and local businesses. Workshops were also held with the Youth Council and community groups including those representing older people and health and care professionals. These groups are keen to help TWAM and the Authority develop the plans as we move forward and will help inform the activity programme if the Authority is

asked to develop a full NLHF bid.

2.4 Human rights

2.4.1 There are no Human Rights issues arising from this report.

2.5 Equalities and diversity

2.5.1 The refurbishment works include the replacement of the tower passenger lift which is necessary to reduce the risk of it failing. An access audit of the lift and the rest of the museum buildings and site was carried out in 2021, the advice includes a checklist of issues to be considered in specifying the replacement lift. The lift will need to comply with Approved Document M of the Building Regulations, its design will also take into account BS8300-2 which is the British Standard setting out best practice when designing accessible and inclusive buildings in terms of internal layout and facilities.

2.5.2 The access consultant will also advise on the development of the Masterplan for the wider transformation of the museum buildings and site. Discussions with members of the SEND Youth Forum will also continue as the wider scheme is developed.

2.5.3 The NLHF EOI targeted the priority outcome for involving a wider range of people in heritage stating that families in socio-economic groups C2/D/E, older people and SEND audiences will be attracted through a transformed offer, a vibrant, relevant activity programme and outreach work.

2.6 Risk management

2.6.1 A risk register will be developed for the project and will be reviewed monthly by the project delivery team.

2.7 Crime and disorder

2.7.1 There are no crime and disorder issues arising from this report. As the master plan and feasibility work progresses for the transformation of the museum and wider site (including the excavated bath house on the site of the former Ship in the Hole and the stretch of wall on the north side of Buddle Street), consideration of crime, fear of crime and anti-social behaviour will be central to the development of the proposals.

2.8 Environment and sustainability

2.8.1 The refurbishment work provides the opportunity for significant improvements to the museum's energy efficiency. Current lift models are very energy efficient typically having an A rating. The latest regenerative drives typically reduce energy consumption by 20% and LED lighting is up to 80% more efficient than halogen lighting.

2.8.2 All plant and equipment is selected based on the highest-grade materials and components to ensure a long-life cycle. The new air handling plant will incorporate EC motors, variable air volume based on sensors and heat exchangers, achieving up to 80% energy recovery. Replacement comfort cooling heat-pump systems will be energy efficiency class A++ rated. In early 2021 new boiler plant was installed at Segedunum which has a seasonal efficiency of up to 95.8%, some 15% higher than previous. The new boiler plant is futureproofed and suitable for use with a blended hydrogen/natural gas mix.

