



Report of the Swansea Museum Manager

External Funding Panel – 7 March 2018

Swansea Museum - Welsh Government Transformation Fund 18/19

Purpose: The report presents the information in regard to an application for Transformation Funding for Swansea Museum

Report Author: Barry Hughes, Museum Manager

Finance Officer: Gaynor Windsor

Legal Officer: N/A

Access to Services Officer: Catherine Window

For Information

1. Background

- 1.1 Transformation Funding is a capital funding programme administered by Museums, Archives and Libraries division of Welsh Government. Culture & Tourism Section submitted an Expression of Interest which was approved to allow a full application. The total bid is for £194,836 from WAG and £21,648 match fund from Culture & Tourism section
- 1.2 The project aims to make Swansea Museum more sustainable in the long term through improving access to the reception and thoroughfare and in a strategic partnership with Swansea University return the former library and reading rooms back to a permanent gallery dedicated to science and the natural world.
- 1.3 The project will return the old library and reading rooms, now a temporary exhibition space, into a permanent gallery. This will enable the museum to be more sustainable under the new reduced staff structure by running 1 rather than 2 large temporary exhibition spaces. The museum will also be able to use more of the reserve collection in storage freeing up space ready for the potential Penderyn Whisky display as part of the overall Hafod Copperworks HLF project.

The refurbishment will:

- Engage new audiences and diverse community groups
- Improve access and the overall visitor experience
- Increase access to the collections
- Create new challenging and engaging displays
- Link the new displays and interpretation within the museum to displays and planting in the museum garden
- Purchase new conservation grade secure cases
- Create new learning opportunities for both families and core users
- Develop family friendly activity spaces within the gallery and garden
- Develop a new programme for schools
- Integrate new technology into the gallery including a dedicated computer terminal with access to websites such as the People's Collection

2. Equality and Engagement Implications

- 2.1 EIA Screening was undertaken and a full EIA was not considered relevant.

3. Legal Implications

- 3.1 There are no legal implications.

4. Financial Implications

- 4.1 There are no financial implications

Background papers:

None

Appendices:

None