

STOCKTON-ON-TEES BOROUGH COUNCIL

CABINET RECOMMENDATIONS

PROFORMA

Cabinet Meeting3rd December 2015

1. Title of Item/Report

Preston Park Museum & Grounds update

2. Record of the Decision

Consideration was given to a report that provided an update on the development and delivery of Preston Park Museum and Grounds following the completion of the main refurbishment project. It also presented opportunities for future development of both the museum and the wider park as a visitor attraction through potential improvements in infrastructure and the restoration of the heritage landscape.

In the four years since re-opening, Preston Hall had become a popular and well supported visitor attraction drawing in customers from well beyond the boundaries of the Borough. The completion of the Carriage Sheds in 2015 would see the final part of the project to refurbish and re-engineer the Museum, providing new displays, improved access and improvements to the Victorian Street. There were still challenges to face and the continued success of the site depended on maintaining customer numbers as well as achieving income targets.

It was important for both the Museum and the Park to continue to develop and to offer an integrated, complementary experience. Resilience was a challenge and new funding strategies and the potential to enhance the physical landscape and the facilities within it were important considerations for the future.

RESOLVED that:-

1. The continued development of Preston Hall following the refurbishment project be noted.
2. Further exploration of potential improvements to Preston Park through an updated Master Plan and the delivery of the museum through continued development of the visitor offer be supported.
3. Further exploration of the potential for a bid to the Heritage Lottery "Parks for People" Fund, giving consideration to the potential need for

match funding be supported.

3. Reasons for the Decision

To ensure the continued development of the Park and Hall is coherent and to maximise funding opportunities and partnerships with commercial and voluntary sector organisations.

4. Alternative Options Considered and Rejected

None.

5. Declared (Cabinet Member) Conflicts of Interest

None.

6. Details of any Dispensations

N/A

7. Date and Time by which Call In must be executed

Midnight on 11th December 2015

Proper Officer
07 August 2015