

# **The Sustainability of Lincolnshire County Council Heritage and Archive Services**

## **The Framework for the Decision**

**Presentation to the Community & Public  
Safety Scrutiny Committee  
01 June 2016**

# What we have to do..

- Collect, care and preserve key council records and documents (Local Govt. Act 1972)
- Care for and preserve Diocese of Lincoln records and documents (incl. Magna Carta)
- We are an accredited “Place of Deposit” appointed by The National Archives that defines us as guardians of family “treasures” (e.g. Tennyson letters & first drafts)
- There are few National Standards or guidelines that govern levels of access to the public. We provide:
  - Online access ([lincstothePast.com](http://lincstothePast.com))
  - On-site
  - Research access and expertise.

# What we should do..

- Explore ways to reduce reliance on the public purse.
- Replace or refurbish the existing Archive Building
  - Exploring the most effective storage solutions
  - Utilising our own assets to provide multi-functional facilities and income streams
- Break down the traditional separation between records and artefacts to tell a unified storey of Lincolnshire.

# What we should do..

- Develop stronger partnerships with academic institutions.
- Become inspirational leaders and facilitators of innovation, providing previously untapped material for research and interpretation, telling new stories of the history of Lincolnshire.
- Pursue business opportunities to support investment and sustainability.

# The Cost of Doing 'Nothing'..

- Friar's Lane is at end of life & no longer fit for our needs (refurbishing the existing Archive building, before it fails. c £3.5m)
- Our Heritage offer stagnates, and we lose the ground gained from investment in Lincoln Castle.
- Long-term decision about our future purpose and location: “cultural quarter”, regeneration & shaping places, capital receipts
- Lose the opportunity to develop multi-purpose facilities designed for the future (e.g. Research Centre of Excellence).

# What members can expect next..

- Options proposed for the provision of a refurbished or different building for the Archive.
- The proposal of a new operating model for the Council's Heritage Service.
- Programme of engagement with staff, public and stakeholders
- 2 year programme of structural transition 2017-19.

# Maximising the Assets We Manage...

- Lincoln Castle
- Lincolnshire Archives
- The Collection & Usher Art Gallery
- Museum of Lincolnshire Life
- Gainsborough Old Hall
- Ellis, Alford, Burgh le Marsh & Heckington Windmills
- Battle of Britain Memorial Flight Visitors Centre

# The Options We Are Exploring..

- Enhanced and extended programme of activity with both the Castle & The Collection.
- Better balance between permanent and temporary exhibitions.
- Consideration of 21<sup>st</sup> C collections.
- Develop a commercially viable learning and education programme relevant to Lincolnshire, including outreach.
- Licensing premises for weddings & celebrations
- Creative Lincolnshire – film & T.V



# The Options We Are Exploring..

- Development or remodelling of existing sites through restructure of the space.
- Development of joint facilities with University of Lincoln
- Remodelling or repurposing of existing facilities (Friar's Lane) to maintain existing service levels.
- Helping to shape regeneration in a neglected location

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