

REPORT TO: POLICY & RESOURCES COMMITTEE - 8 MARCH 2004
REPORT ON: NORTH CARR LIGHTSHIP - APPLICATION FOR GRANT FUNDING
REPORT BY: CHIEF EXECUTIVE
REPORT NO: 220-2004

1 PURPOSE OF REPORT

To recommend a grant to assist with the restoration of the North Carr Lightship.

2 RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that members agree to make a grant of £3,000 to the Maritime Volunteer Service towards the cost of a project to restore the appearance and structural integrity of the North Carr Lightship above the waterline.

3 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

It is recommended that the £3,000 expenditure be met from the Common Good Fund in 2003/04.

4 LOCAL AGENDA 21 IMPLICATIONS

This report impacts on the following key local agenda 21 themes:

- opportunities for culture, leisure and recreation are available to all
- places, spaces and objects combine meaning and beauty with utility

5 EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES IMPLICATIONS

None.

6 BACKGROUND

- 6.1 The Maritime Volunteer Service has requested a contribution from the Council towards the cost of a project to restore the appearance and structural integrity of the North Carr Lightship above the waterline. This will include making good or replacing corrosion damage, then priming and finishing surfaces to an authentic standard.
- 6.2 The project is costed at £44,000, and a contribution of £3,000 from the Council will ensure that the match funding requirements are met for a bid to the Heritage Lottery Fund. A contribution of £3,000 has been agreed by the Apex Hotel, and other match funding will come from contributions 'in kind' by volunteers.
- 6.3 The work is planned to commence in Spring 2004, subject to grant award, and will consolidate the treated areas while an appeal is launched to raise funds towards a planned major refit in 2009, which will include conservation of the hull below the waterline.
- 6.4 The North Carr Lightship is a ship of historic interest, as recognised by its place on the National Historic Ships Register compiled by the National Maritime Museum at Greenwich. A contribution to the costs of restoring the ship would help the Maritime Volunteer Service restore a prominent attraction, contributing to the regeneration of the

Central Waterfront. Volunteers will also ensure an enhanced level of access to the vessel by members of the public, community groups and the education sector.

- 6.5 It is therefore recommended that a grant of £3,000 is made to allow the initial project to restore the appearance and integrity of the ship above the waterline to proceed. The Maritime Volunteer Service have been advised that they will require to raise the funds required for the major refit planned in 2009.

7 **CONSULTATION**

The Depute Chief Executives (Finance) and (Support Services) and the Directors of Planning and Transportation, Leisure and Arts and Economic Development have been consulted in the preparation of this report.

Alex Stephen
Chief Executive

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09/03/04