

DUNDEE CITY COUNCIL

REPORT TO: Leisure and Arts Services Committee 17 February 2003

REPORT ON: McManus Galleries

REPORT BY: Director of Leisure and Arts

REPORT NO: 102-2003

1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To provide updated information on the current position regarding McManus Galleries and the potential for development.

2.0 RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Committee:

- 2.1 Note the current position outlined in this report.
- 2.2 Remits the Director of Leisure and Arts to proceed with a Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) application for a Project Planning Grant as outlined in this report.

3.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 3.1 The total cost of fees required to proceed towards full stage 1 HLF approval is £93,500. HLF have indicated that a grant of up to £50,000 is available towards these costs. The balance of £43,500 can be met from the existing Leisure and Arts Departments Capital Plan in 2002/03 and 2003/04
- 3.2 HLF have indicated that up to £4.9M towards the cost of the improvement project could be available, allowing a total project cost of £7.1M. Funding of £500,000 has already been approved by Historic Scotland and an application will be made for ERDF funding of £300,000. Taking the Council's current contribution of £590,000 into account, an additional allocation of £810,000 will require to be made in the Capital Plan 2004/5 and 2005/6.

4.0 LOCAL AGENDA 21 IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 The proposals in this report would make a substantial contribution to ensuring that opportunities for culture, leisure and recreation are readily available to all.

5.0 EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 A major element of development proposals would be to address equal opportunities implications. The development would be accessible for all sections of the community including visitors with disabilities, the elderly and those with young children.

6.0 MCMANUS GALLERIES CURRENT POSITION

- 6.1 Background

Reference is made to Article II of the minutes of the meeting of the Arts & Heritage Committee of 19 March 2001 which approved Report No 561-2000 which states the need to improve the visitor experience at McManus Galleries and address the physical

improvements required to the structure. Following approval in March 2001 an application was made to the Heritage Lottery Fund for £3.75M towards an estimated project budget of £5.4M. Subsequent discussions with the Heritage Lottery Fund indicate that they are, in principle, supportive of the project but require further detail on a number of elements prior to giving a Stage I approval. The Heritage Lottery Fund have indicated that they believe that the quality of project desired cannot be delivered at the current budget of £5.4m and that the department should bid for additional HLF resources. The Heritage Lottery Fund have encouraged the department to be more ambitious in trying to achieve a major transformation of McManus Galleries into a 21st Century museum. This now provides a positive opportunity to secure significant investment to ensure the long term future of this key regional facility and visitor attraction.

6.2 HLF Requirements

The HLF require the project to be developed with a clear vision and outcomes supported by the Council. They advise that an external conservation architect should be in charge of the building repair and redevelopment of the internal spaces. The conservation needs of the collection should be investigated in greater detail including housing the collection both in the short term during the project and in the long term when the project is completed. They also require a greater level of curatorial input and detail on the design and display solutions than is currently developed along with detailed financial information.

6.3 External Consultants

To satisfy these requirements the Council will be required to contract a number of specialist consultants and contractors.

To advise on architecture a Conservation Architect will be required.

To develop the curatorial aspects of the project a head Curatorial Consultant will be required.

To develop the Design and Display elements of the project a Design Consultant will be required.

These consultants would work closely with the department's Technical Team.

The estimated cost of contracting in these and other essential Support Services is £93,500 of which £50,000 will be grant eligible for a Project Planning Grant from the Heritage Lottery Fund. The balance of £43,500 can be met from the existing Leisure and Arts Department Capital Plan in 2002/3 and 2003/4.

6.4 Discussions with HLF indicate that the result of this work may be a larger project addressing collection needs. This will be dependent upon a larger grant from HLF and consideration will be given for a grant up to £4.9m. However the grant is on a percentage basis (currently 69%). Therefore a sum of £2,200,000 would need to be found from DCC and other sources. Historic Scotland has agreed a sum of £500,000 towards the project and an application for £300,000 will be made for ERDF. Taking the Council's current contribution of £590,000 into account an additional allocation of £810,000 will require to be made in the Capital Plan 2004/5 and 2005/6.

7.0 CONCLUSION

7.1 In order for the project to proceed the requirements of the Heritage Lottery Fund must be met. This will require an investment of £93,500 in development work at this stage and a revision of the Capital Plan to accommodate the new indicative timescale and fund allocation.

8.0 CONSULTATION

8.1 The Chief Executive, Director of Support Services, Director of Finance and Director of Corporate Planning have been consulted on this report.

9.0 BACKGROUND PAPERS

9.1 Report No 561-2000 Article II of the Arts & Heritage Committee, 19 March 2001

**STEVE GRIMMOND
DIRECTOR OF LEISURE AND ARTS
16 JANUARY 2003**