

Meeting Date: 5th March 2019

Public/Private*: Public

Title: **Culture, Leisure and Heritage Portfolio Holder's Report –
Councillor Anne Quilter**

OLD FIRE STATION

The Old Fire Station has had an excellent start to the year by hosting various popular shows. These have included:-

Prism Arts "Four Treasures"

Two classical shows, one of which was a special school performance at which 170 children attended

Several music shows include Jazz, Blues, Rock and Indie music

We were one of the four venues which internationally renowned Peter Doherty performed at on his recent tour. This was a sell-out show and Peter Doherty was joined by musician Carl Barat who is also internationally renowned, for this Carlisle show date.

We have also hosted the Cracker Packer Exhibition and an exhibition by University of Cumbria Film Students

Carlisle Contemporary Artists

The Gallery, which is within the Dormitory room is becoming more established. Alongside hosting a permanent exhibition, the artists have also started doing community workshops.

CARLISLE CULTURAL CONSORTIUM

We have been working with Prism Arts, the University of Cumbria and Tullie House Museum and Art Gallery Trust to form an interim Culture Consortium. The partnership is working to harness the rich arts, heritage and culture of the city for our future sustainability and growth.

The launch of Carlisle Culture was held on Tuesday 19 February, at the University of Cumbria. This provided the opportunity to meet the team behind this exciting development opportunity for Carlisle.

The launch event linked in with a programme of Carlisle Culture Conversations. These will provide a public platform for consultation, debate and information exchanges.

The four inter-linking culture themes are as follows:

- Arts + Culture for Health & Wellbeing
- Programme + Place
- Creative + Culture Economy
- Creative Learning

More information is available at www.carlisleculture.org.uk

TOURIST INFORMATION CENTRE

Discover Carlisle

The focus for the web site is forthcoming events in 2019. In December and January there were 12,213 users of the Discover Carlisle web site and of these there were 29,139 page views. Discover Carlisle's Facebook page currently has 2,659 likes and Discover Carlisle Twitter has 4,206 followers. We will be exploring ways to extend our reach through collaborative posting with partner organisations.

Carlisle Promotional Brochures

New promotional brochures to promote the city will be distributed at key locations around the north of England. The University of Cumbria will use the new brochures as part of their marketing strategy to promote Carlisle as a place to study. They will also be distributed at

trade and public events, including the Lakes Hospitality Show, Group Travel and Leisure Show and World Travel Market.

University of Cumbria

We are working with the University of Cumbria to support student recruitment. The aim is to promote Carlisle as a place of study and as an attractive destination for visiting friends and relatives. The new Carlisle brochures will be used at University recruitment events, interview days and graduation ceremonies.

TULLIE HOUSE MUSEUM & ART GALLERY TRUST

Designation

The museum's natural science collections have been awarded Designated status by Arts Council England. Designation is a mark of distinction awarded to the finest museum collections in England and is a significant achievement for the museum. The Designation scheme was set up in 1997 to identify exceptional cultural collections housed in non-national institutions and is a mark of Tullie House's commitment to the highest standards, and the continued recognition and promotion of this remarkable collection, for the enjoyment of generations to come.

New Light Prize Exhibition

The New Light Prize exhibition celebrated and promoted Northern art, supporting both well-known and emerging artists by offering some of the region's best awards and opportunities with the biennial New Light Prize Exhibition. Tullie House was the last of four venues on the 2018/19 tour which included five Cumbrian contemporary artists, selected from an open call in July 2017. This selling exhibition generated over £12,000 gross in sales of work whilst at Tullie House.

Hope Streets

Following on from the launch of this national Heritage Lottery Fund funded project in November, the museum brought together a group of 20 young people to work on this long-term engagement project. The group is made up of participants from a range of partner organisations including Multicultural Carlisle's Youth Loop, Cumbria Youth Services and Carlisle Young Carers. The group have chosen Fisher Street as their 'Hope Street' and are

busy researching the history of the area and using that to inform a series of artistic interventions and engagement activities throughout the city over the next year, including a Festival of Hope.

Whale Tales

In partnership with Prism Arts, Tullie House has secured c. £70k funding from the Heritage Lottery Fund for an eighteen-month engagement programme with Early Years pupils inspired by Driggsby the Whale. The project will see 150 pupils from the West Coast develop their own narrative of Driggsby's journey, resulting in an illustrated book, community celebration event and an exhibition in our Art Gallery in 2020. The project will highlight plastic poisoning as the probable cause of Driggsby's death, and link with Carlisle City Council initiatives to reduce the use of plastics in the city.

Chinese New Year 2019

On 9th February the museum, in partnership with the Lancaster University Confucius Institute and Carlisle City Council, staged another Chinese New Year Festival in the City Centre, following on from 2018's hugely popular. This year performers from the Jin Long Academy and Northern Dragons, delighted crowds with activity including juggling, acrobatics, contortion and a performance from a Shaolin Master, followed by a parade through the grounds of the Cathedral, finishing with a special performance at Tullie House.