



Report to

# Council

Meeting Date: 1<sup>st</sup> March 2022

Public/Private\*: Public

Title: **Culture, Heritage & Leisure Portfolio Holder's Report –  
Councillor Stephen Higgs**

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## **2022 EVENTS PROGRAMME**

Extra funding has been made available for community events in 2022. The programme will see the return of the Fireshow and Christmas Lights Switch-On as well as other popular events including the City of Lights and open-air markets.

The City Council has met with various organisations (18 in all) who had expressed interest in being involved in the Bitts Park Queen's Platinum Jubilee celebrations on 5<sup>th</sup> June 2022. More organisations are welcome to take part. Those who attended were:

- Multi-cultural Carlisle
- Carlisle College
- Cumbria Wildlife Trust
- University of Cumbria
- Eden Project Communities
- Carlisle Healthcare
- Carlisle Vineyard Church
- Tribe Carlisle
- The Lanes Shopping Centre
- Urban Village Community Theatre
- Carlisle Matters
- Carlisle Culture
- Cumbria County Council – Community Development Team / Carlisle Libraries & Cultural Services
- Hallbankgate Hub
- Lover's Lane Community Garden
- Sustainable Brampton
- Sustainable Carlisle
- Friends of Chances Park

The City Council attended the launch event for the Hadrian's Wall 1900<sup>th</sup> Anniversary at the Great North Museum, Newcastle. Our City of Lights event will have a Roman theme and will be a part of the year-long celebrations. City of Lights will be held on 21<sup>st</sup> - 23<sup>rd</sup> October. Tickets will go on sale in the Spring. The Fireshow will return in 2022 after an absence of two years on Saturday, 5<sup>th</sup> November. More details on all the events will be announced and we recommend keeping a close eye on our Discover Carlisle website for updates.

### **SANDS CENTRE REDEVELOPMENT**

The redevelopment project continues to progress well as the project moves into the final third of delivery (1<sup>st</sup> April 2022 is week 67 out of 98). The external cladding of timber, metal and brickwork is progressing well. The Events Centre will re-open again in March after works on the buildings systems were completed to allow the two buildings to operate together when the Leisure Centre work is completed. The next phase will see the continuation of fitting out the Leisure Centre.

### **GREENING THE GREEN MARKET**

Work has started on a new project, financed by the European Regional Development Fund, to provide a temporary pop-up park in Carlisle City Centre. The new feature, located in the Greenmarket adjacent to the Old Town Hall, will provide opportunities for individuals and families to relax, eat, drink and socialise whilst in the City Centre with additional seating, artificial grass and planting.

### **CITY CENTRE FOOTFALL**

Analysis of the new city centre footfall counter has shown the positive impact of events on the numbers of people visiting. Notable increases were recorded during the Summer International Market, City of Lights and Festive Get Together events.

### **PROMOTIONS**

The Destination Management Team has been working with Avanti to promote Carlisle as City of the Month for February. This includes a competition for a 1-night stay and dinner.

### **CUMBRIA'S MUSEUM OF MILITARY LIFE – [www.CumbriasMuseumofMilitaryLife.org](http://www.CumbriasMuseumofMilitaryLife.org)**

- Museum will be open six days a week from 12<sup>th</sup> February and seven days a week from 1<sup>st</sup> April
- Carlisle's first Military History Festival scheduled for Friday, 3<sup>rd</sup> & Saturday, 4<sup>th</sup> June. Tickets for Saturday talks programme now available
- Monthly veterans' lunches scheduled for third Monday of every month - available to all veterans – must be booked beforehand
- Summer holiday plans include three family workshops for the Hadrian 1900<sup>th</sup> festival
- The Museum celebrates its 90<sup>th</sup> birthday this December

## **TULLIE HOUSE**

**To the Edges of Empire** – this exhibition explores the deeper history of the Roman Empire through stunning spotlight loans from major institutions including the British Museum, National Museums Scotland and the Fitzwilliam Museum in Cambridge. The exhibition will explore the power, vastness and geographical reach of the Roman Empire, and investigate how this has helped shape our world. Objects on display will include the spectacular Newstead Helmet and the Ilam Pan.

**Uncovering Roman Carlisle** – in 2017 archaeological investigators discovered the remains of a 3<sup>rd</sup> century Roman Bathhouse at Carlisle Cricket Club, Stanwix. This new exhibition tells the story of the 2021 community excavation of the site, with the exciting discoveries explored through the stories of the people that found them. The exhibition is part of Uncovering Roman Carlisle, an 18-month community archaeology programme delivered in partnership by Carlisle City Council, Carlisle Cricket Club, Wardell Armstrong LLP [project archaeologists] and Tullie House, and is funded by the National Lottery Heritage Fund. There is a major talks and events programme for adults, families and schools linked to the exhibition – more detail to be announced soon. In addition, we will be showing a photography exhibition in the Gardens – ‘Our Hadrian’s Wall’ celebrates how HW is a much-loved feature of our landscape through photos taken by our community.

As part of the Thriving Communities project delivered in partnership with Carlisle City Council, Cumbria Wildlife Trust, Prism Arts, Susie Tate Projects and Carlisle Healthcare, the Inside Out programme aimed at adults experiencing loneliness and isolation as a result of Covid-19 is coming to Currock and Longtown Community Centres with more venues being recruited.