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**KING'S LYNN & WEST NORFOLK
AREA MUSEUMS COMMITTEE**

13 January 2025 Item No.

KING'S LYNN MUSEUMS REPORT

Report by the Assistant Head of Museums

This report provides information on King's Lynn Museum activities in the period from September 2024 – November 2024

1 Exhibitions and events at Lynn Museum

1.1 Previous Exhibition: *The Moon: Meet our Nearest Neighbour*

2 February – 15 September 2024

The Moon exhibition finished its run during the reporting period. The displays, together with an associated programme of events and activities were supported by a grant of £10,000 from the UK Shared Prosperity Funding for West Norfolk for arts cultural heritage and creative activities through the Borough Council of King's Lynn & West Norfolk. The exhibition was well received by visitors and helped support the strong performance of visitor numbers at Lynn Museum.

1.2 Current Exhibition *Woof: A Celebration of Dogs*

Tuesday 1 October 2024 – Sunday 29 June 2025



Woof: A Celebration of Dogs opened at Lynn Museum on Tuesday 1 October. This show has been curated in-house, drawing upon natural history, archaeology, art and social history collections. The majority of the items exhibited are from the Lynn Museum reserve collection, supplemented with internal Norfolk Museums Service (NMS) loans from Gressenhall, Norwich Castle and the Norfolk Costume and Textile collections, alongside loans from national collections and from private individuals. The Tate Gallery has loaned three artworks for the exhibition including pieces by David Hockney and Sir Edwin Landseer. The Kennel Club has lent *England Expects*, a painting by Maud Earl of two Toy Bulldogs, an extinct breed.



Oil on canvas *The White Dog* by Vivian Crome, 1883
from the NMS Norwich collections



Roman coin showing the legend of
Romulus and Remus, founders of Rome

The exhibition is aimed at a family audience with themes including:

- *Origins of the dog* - a natural history focus, featuring a taxidermy wolf and a dog skull.
- *Early dogs* - archaeological collections including a Roman gold ring with blue glass intaglio and an Egyptian painted panel.
- *Working like a dog* - dogs as working and competing animals.
- *Canine companions* - domesticated dogs.



oil on canvas *Arthur Young and Mrs John Tomlinson* about 1650 by an unknown artist loaned from the NMS Thetford collections

The exhibition has generated some positive publicity. Below are links to features about *Woof*:

[Woof: A Celebration of Dogs - Lynn Museum - Norfolk Museums Service](#)

[Woof! Norfolk exhibition celebrates dogs in art and history - BBC News](#)

[Woof in King's Lynn - Art History News - by Bendor Grosvenor](#)

[BBC Radio Norfolk - BBC Radio Norfolk, Woof: Celebrating dogs through the ages](#)

1.3 Family events

The museum continues to offer events and regular family trails during holiday periods.

The 31 October half-term event on a dogs theme attracted 65 children and a total of 182 participants.

1.4 Family Trails

Trails are provided at the museum for children and families to enjoy an exploration of the museum. Trails offered at the Lynn Museum in the reporting period have included:

8/9/24 - For Heritage Open Day in September, the trail was space themed with a total of 116 participants

25/10/24-2/11/24 - during October Half Term the trail was dogs themed and there were 173 participants.

1.5 Mini Museum

Lynn Museum continues to provide regular activities for our youngest visitors through the monthly mini museum programme. Activities are delivered by the museum's learning team. These have included:

19/9/24 *Cave Baby* with a total of 29 participants and 13 children.

17/10/24 *Dogs* with a total of 32 participants and 16 children

21/11/24 *Fairytales* with a total of 24 participants and 11 children.

1.6 Coffee Mornings

The monthly themed coffee mornings continue to be offered at Lynn Museum. These offer a chance for people to enjoy the museum with an informal activity. The coffee mornings take place on the last Friday of the month. In this reporting period there were sessions using the themes of Autumn, Dogs and Christmas:

27/09/24 The September coffee morning was autumn- themed with a corn dolly making activity. There were 23 participants.

25/10/24 In October, 9 people made dog-themed cross stitch keyrings.

29/11/24 The coffee morning at the end of November involved 26 people who made Christmas rag wreaths.

1.7 Talks Programme

The Museum normally receive audiences of around 20-30 people for the Friday afternoon talks.

25/10/24 The October talk was *Medicine Through the Ages* by Mandy London with an audience of 28.

29/11/24 The November talk saw Ciara Farrell from the Kennel Club give a talk to 21 people. Her topic was *How Dogs Became Pets*, a history of dogs from working dogs to household companions.

1.8 Finds Identification and Recording Day on Saturday 30 November

On the 30 November the Museum worked with our colleagues from the Norfolk County Council Finds Identification and Recording Service to offer an archaeology finds day. This followed up a similar day in the summer. 39 people attended and brought in finds for identification. These partnership events are now planned to take place twice a year – March and October.

Finds Identification and Recording Day



Saturday 30 November 2024
11am-1pm and 2pm-4pm
Lynn Museum

Found an archaeological object?

Have you found something interesting like a metal object, coin, piece of pottery or flint? Bring it along to show us!

The Finds Identification and Recording Service from Norfolk County Council will be at the Museum to take a look at your material and talk to you about recording.



www.heritage.norfolk.gov.ukwww.lynnmuseum.norfolk.gov.ukwww.finds.org.uk

1.9 Heritage Open Day 8 September

This year's Heritage Open Day saw 708 visitors enjoy a free visit to Lynn Museum, where a special trail had been laid on for families.

2 Newman Legacy project

As previously reported, the Lynn Museum has benefited from a legacy given specifically for the museum's use and provided by the late Eric and Rita Newman. The Newmans were siblings who had retired to Congham near King's Lynn with interests in local history and helping children learn. The museum service is very grateful for the Newmans' generosity.

Newman Assistant Curator Jan Summerfield joined the team in February and Newman NMS Teaching Museum Trainee Alice started in April. The team has been working on the cataloguing and documenting material in the museum stores, as part of a planned programme of collections management work supported by the Newman legacy. The team has now enhanced 9,162 object records, audited art works and the contents of 719 boxes.

3 Other Museum developments

3.1 Publicity and promotion

The Lynn Museum continues to develop its social media presence, with Twitter and Facebook and now Instagram accounts being actively used and maintained by staff. The museum's X (Twitter), Facebook and Instagram accounts may be seen here:

[Lynn Museum \(@Lynn_Museum\) / X \(twitter.com\)](#)

[Facebook](#)

[King's Lynn Museum on Instagram • Photos and videos](#)

As well as digital delivery, the museum has maintained strong links with local media outlets including the *Lynn News*. Staff continue to contribute to a fortnightly *Picture This* column, with a focus on local drawings, engravings and paintings.

A variety of films linked to Lynn Museum are available on the museum's YouTube Channel, here: [Lynn Museum - YouTube](#)

A number of online exhibitions are available through the Google Arts and Culture platform: [Lynn Museum, King's Lynn, United Kingdom — Google Arts & Culture](#)

3.2 NMS Teaching Museum Trainees

One year-long paid traineeships are offered as part of the Norfolk Museums Service Teaching Museum scheme, principally funded through the NMS Arts Council England National Portfolio Organisation programme. For 2024-25 we have Newman Teaching Museum Trainee, Alice Ochocka working on the Newman collections project at the museum. We also have the Curatorial West Trainee Anna Heffron working at both Thetford and Lynn Museums. Both trainees started work in early April 2024 and have proved to be valuable members of the team.

3.3 Retail offer at Lynn Museum

The museum team continues to develop the retail offer at Lynn Museum, working with the NMS Retail Manager Harriet Johnson. Stock is sourced to complement temporary exhibition themes e.g. current dog-themed stock, as well as to support the permanent collections.



Shop display at Lynn Museum including Christmas gifts

4 Borough Council partnership working

The delivery of NMS services in King's Lynn & West Norfolk continues to operate under the terms of the current Service Level Agreement (SLA) with the Borough Council. Under an extension to this agreement, NMS continues to provide curatorial and conservation advice, support and an enquiry service for those Borough collections currently held in the Town Hall including fine art and Civic Regalia.

NMS staff continue to support Borough Council colleagues with the development and delivery of relevant cultural and heritage project across the Borough, including ongoing support for Towns Fund projects including the Guildhall project. A number of NMS staff support the ongoing work of the Guildhall project team and NMS is also represented on the Guildhall Project Board.

Newman Curator, Dayna Woolbright, has contributed to the work on the St George's Guildhall project Interpretation Strategy and to various events and exhibitions, working with Jane Hamilton Learning and Engagement Officer at the Guildhall Team.

Other work by NMS staff at the Guildhall has included the arrangement of *The Magic of Middle Earth* exhibition (which received 2,458 visitors) and an accompanying events programme. Other exhibitions within the reporting period have included *Lay of the Land* by Paul Barrett and Paul Vater; and *Odyssey*, the work of GCSE and A Level students from West Norfolk

Academy Trust. NMS staff also helped organise and deliver the Dragon Festival at Guildhall. This received over 300 visitors, with activities including axe throwing, live animals and theatre performances.

Norfolk Museums Service continues to support the Borough Council with the delivery of the NLHF-funded *Stories of Lynn* project focussed on King's Lynn Town Hall. NMS manages the Stories of Lynn Learning & Engagement Officer post, which is co-funded by the Borough Council and the NLHF Kick the Dust: Norfolk project. Elizabeth Joice, the postholder is currently on maternity leave and Holly Spidy has started as her maternity cover.

Local museum staff are liaising with Kate Thaxton, Curator, Royal Norfolk Regimental Museum and Sam Wiggin, NMS Teaching Museum Trainee on a forthcoming exhibition at Stories from March to September 2025 to mark the 80th anniversary of VJ Day.

NMS Newman Curator, Dayna Woolbright leads on supporting the Borough Council and Festival Office on collections management advice and support. For Heritage Open Day in September, the museum team worked with Luke Shackell from the Norfolk Record Office arranging a display at the Town Hall: *Vancouver's Legacy: Connections to the American north-west*. Visitors were able to view a selection of paintings by John Horton showing scenes from George Vancouver's exploration and surveying of the American north-west during the early 1790s. They were also able to see the route he took from a copy of one of the charts made and read descriptions of the voyage in his own words through letters to the Admiralty.

The Lynn Museum's free admission period started again in October and will run until the end of March 2025. This free admission period is provided under the terms of the Service Level Agreement between the Borough Council and NMS.

5 Learning & Outreach

School visits

Lynn Museum continues to offer a broad range of school workshops run flexibly to accommodate teachers' needs. Typical sessions include the Anglo-Saxons, Vikings, Romans and Iceni, Bronze Age and Seahenge, Stone Age, the Second World War, Ancient Egyptians and Homes Long Ago.

School sessions normally follow a pattern of a carousel of different activities with children learning in a variety of styles. Delivery of sessions is normally undertaken by a mix of museum staff and freelance costumed interpreters.

The following link for teachers explains what is on offer at Lynn Museum for pupils at Key Stage 2.

[Key stage 2 education at Lynn Museum - Norfolk Museums](#)

Lynn Museum learning staff continue to work closely with Borough Council and NMS colleagues at Stories of Lynn in the running of joint school workshops on topics such as Maritime Life, Lord Nelson, Captain Vancouver, Crime and Punishment, Frederick Savage and the Lynn Mart, the Great Fire of London and Floods and Flooding.



Museum Learning Assistant Hayley Simmons at Lynn Museum with a stoneware Bellarmine jar, used in learning session with a visiting school group

6. Kick the Dust – countywide project update

Following the successful conclusion of the National Lottery Heritage Fund funded Kick the Dust project, Norfolk Museums Service (NMS) has continued to deliver Kick the Dust activity for young people using funding secured through an Arts Council England NPO Uplift award for the period 2023-27. This funding enables NMS to continue to support young people aged 13-25 in the three Levelling up for Culture places of Great Yarmouth, King's Lynn and Thetford. The programme enables young people to participate in high quality cultural and heritage activities that develop their creative and digital skills and potential, as well as preparing them for the workplace.

During 2024-25 NMS is also receiving funding from Norfolk County Council (NCC) Public Health to support Kick the Dust activities that focus on the mental health and wellbeing of Norfolk young people.

NMS is partnering with Norfolk Library & Information Service (NLIS) to deliver this exciting programme of activity strengthening partnership working between museum and library staff, increasing levels of cultural engagement by young people in a sustained way, through the successful Kick the Dust approach to youth engagement that uses the three-stage progression model of 'Player-

Shaper-Leader'. The programme is aimed at those in the three priority places aged 16-25 years, with opportunities for 13–16-year-olds to engage as part of the progression framework.

The key aims of the new Kick the Dust project continue to be to:

- develop transferable work-related skills with the aim of supporting more working age young people into employment, training or further learning;
- develop digital skills linked to creative industries to address the digital skills gap in heritage and cultural sectors;
- increase young people's creative skills and for young people to gain a range of new cultural experiences;
- encourage an appreciation of the history and culture of their local communities.

Young people work alongside professionals to develop their transferable work-related and creative skills, through the co-production of activity and events, volunteering and work experience operating at a level that meets their needs. Feedback from young people shows that they value the skills they develop as part of the project with the top five skills being cited as: problem solving, digital, communication, team working and creativity.

The following data is based on the start of the project covering the period 1/5/23 to 30/11/24.

Number of interventions with young people:

In this time period there has been **3,440** interventions involving **1,356** individual young people taking part in **2,361** hours of quality activity. 97% of the activities were face to face, the other sessions being offered online with young people in the principal target areas.

This blended approach offers a wider range of opportunities for young people to engage in heritage:

- 21% of activity was at Player level (to introduce new young people to the project)
- 56% at Shaper level (longer term project with young people determining the content)
- 23% at Leader level (long term engagement – young people leading projects, acting at governance level, mentoring staff)
- 71% of all activity involves young people in leading and designing projects

Breakdown of activity taking place in each area:

- 30% (174 opportunities) in Kings Lynn, (inc Gressenhall),
- 26% (154 opportunities) in Thetford
- 21% (127 opportunities) in the East (covering Great Yarmouth, Cromer)
- 21% (128 opportunities) in Norwich
- 2% (11 opportunities) outside of area and 3 other opportunities for our online work experience programme targeted at Thetford and Kings Lynn young people.

- 68 volunteering opportunities have been provided, with 3 young people taking on the role of Project Assistant and 12 as a Young Ambassador.
- Of all delivery, 82% involves young people being part of a long-term group, providing them with a deeper understanding of heritage and allowing them to explore their identity, develop their skills and confidence and embed themselves more in their local communities, a key aim of ACE.

The young people have access to all of NMS sites and can visit with a friend or family member for free during their engagement for that year, using the free pass which forms part of the Kick the Dust offer.

We continue to deliver a blended training offer for all staff and volunteers who support youth engagement in NMS. Staff input to the training programme will be formulated as the project progresses and needs are identified. 9 staff and volunteers took part in the Mental Health First Aid training with the YMCA Norfolk team in September and October as an accredited course, 6 members of staff and volunteers completed the Mentoring and Coaching course in November 2024. Three of the team have undertaken Arts Award training to add additional value to the programme enabling young people who have limited experience of gaining a qualification in arts to achieve.

The team are developing a new Masterclass programme to support our young people who wish to apply for external funding to deliver activity in NMS as part of the Kick the Dust offer. This will be rolled out in February/March 2025 following the piloting with some of the Young Ambassadors.

Our offer to support young people around the important theme of mental health and wellbeing is on-going and is now measured through the evaluation framework using data from the young people's feedback forms as well as narrative evaluation the results of which form part of this report. Working with colleagues in NCC Public Health and NCC Performance and Governance teams we have been able to interrogate the data around impact on mental wellbeing and match this to the interviews with the young people engaged in the narrative evaluation programme. Up to 30/11/24 data shows that 31% of individual young people who have taken part in Kick the Dust identify as having a mental health issue showing the need for this programme, although this has dropped from 43% in the last quarter and is consistent with findings from last month. Through a systematic approach to evaluation, in partnership with Norfolk Library and Information Service, the team can demonstrate the impact on mental health on those taking part and the young people can monitor their progress through the programme in relation to skills, confidence and mental health.

NMS and NCC continue to work together through the 'Making Creative Futures' group, chaired by the Kick the Dust Project Coordinator, where members from across NCC Children's Services and Norfolk Public Health identify ways to engage the hardest to reach and most vulnerable children and young people. The focus is on mental health and wellbeing and accessibility for young people facing multiple barriers to engagement. This group acts as

the vehicle to share best practice, ideas and resources and its membership continues to grow.

Target audiences: (some young people fall into more than one category) as of 30/11/24

- FE/HE – 34%
- YMCA clients – 7%
- Secondary schools – 26%
- Young people with mental health issues – 31%
- SEND – 9%
- Outside of mainstream education – 26%
- NEET – 29%
- Looked after children and adopted living those at home - 1%
- Care Leavers – 1%
- Young Carers – 2%
- New arrivals and refugees – 5%
- Pregnant young mums and teenage parents – 0%
- Other groups – 27%

In terms of how young people find out about Kick the Dust, the Kick the Dust website is being used effectively with 30% of young people finding out about the project through the updated web pages ([Kick the Dust - Norfolk Museums](#)) and 23% through social media posts; 28% through a family member or friend, 15% coming via one of our partner organisations and 23% having already taken part in a previous Kick the Dust project. As more young people join having taken part in a previous Kick the Dust project this is impacting on questions relating to knowledge and understanding of heritage and job roles within NMS with 70% stating that they are aware of different job roles in NMS ahead of starting a new project although on reflection following their engagement this rises to 85%.

As young people move through Kick the Dust the impacts on their confidence and mental health and wellbeing increases. 16% of all young people have been part of Kick the Dust since May 2023, 7% for 6 months to a year, 27% for 3-6 months and 59% under 3 months.

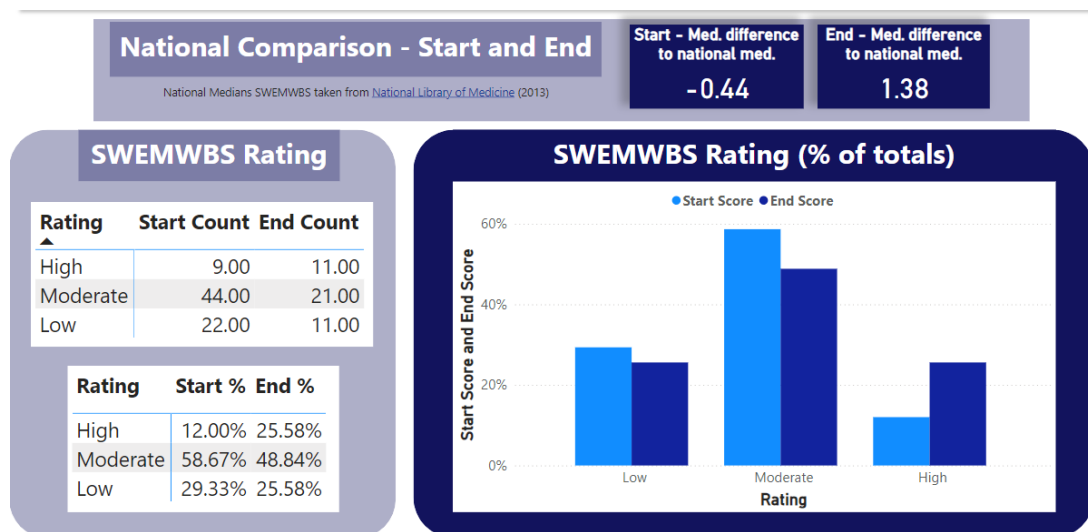
Evaluating the impacts on mental health and wellbeing

The new young people's feedback form includes the 78 positively worded items from the Warwick-Edinburgh Mental Well-being scale for assessing a populations' mental wellbeing.

From the Young People feedback forms, following their involvement in Kick the Dust, **89%** strongly agreed that this had had a positive impact on their mental health and wellbeing. An additional question has been added to identify young people with neurodivergent tendencies and is showing that since March **47%** of young people engaged in Kick the Dust identify as neurodivergent which is significant when designing new activity in terms of additional barriers these young people may face.

The following graphs show the impact on young people’s mental health and wellbeing using the Warwick-Edinburgh Mental Wellbeing Scale (SWEMWBS) from the responses given by the young people between June 2023 and October 2024 who completed Part 1 and Part 2 of the young people feedback forms. Part 1 is completed at the start of the programme and Part 2 at the end, following a one-to-one session with the Project Worker.

The graph shows the difference between Norfolk young people at the start and end of their engagement against the National Average (2013 research). At start our young people were **-0.44** BELOW the National Average and at end they are **+1.38** ABOVE the National average.



This graph shows more young people are in HIGH mental health bracket at end than at the start of their engagement which correlates to the data from the narrative evaluation with **89%** stating that Kick the Dust is having a positive impact on their mental health and wellbeing.

Additional data shows the impact across specific programmes and the correlation between the length of activity and the number of sessions each young person takes part in.

The following statistics are taken from the evaluation dashboard:

- 70% of all activity has made a positive difference to young people’s mental health
- Projects running weekly and over a long period of time at SHAPER level are giving most impact (+3.45% increase)
- Intense short-term projects like the Curator Camps as part of the work experience offer give similar impact to longer term projects meeting weekly where there is opportunity to shape the outcome (+3.17% increase)
- For young people operating at LEADER level (e.g. though the Youth Board) the impact is similar as young people have a real voice and can influence key decisions around youth engagement (+2.57%)

Many of our activities fall into the Player level, where young people gain experience and understanding but are not developing their own interpretation

for a project/ exhibition etc. This still contributes to the overall positive outcomes, and it is through this progression pathway that young people's confidence increases for them to take part in Shaper activities (+1.30% increase).

From the additional questions asked of the young people, the programme continues to meet their needs and is helping them see themselves in a museum or heritage setting. 96% state the programme had gone above their expectations and 100% state they felt welcomed and respected by staff and volunteers.

The following percentages are for those strongly agreeing or agreeing with each statement. Unless stated otherwise, the remaining percentage for each question answered fell into the 'neither agreed nor disagreed' response for each statement.

- 96% of all young people strongly agreed that the museum was a safe space for young people like themselves who were struggling;
- 87% strongly agreed they were given a voice that was listened to (13% said they were but only some of the time);
- 81% strongly agreed that they understood heritage better than they had done before taking part
- 76% strongly agreed that following their engagement heritage was more relevant
- 70% strongly agreed that heritage represented young people like themselves;
- 85% stated they now had a greater understanding of museums and the job roles available with 78% strongly agreeing that they felt there were jobs for them in the sector;
- 89% strongly agreed that the skills they had acquired would be useful to them in the future (3% disagreed);
- 78% strongly agreed they felt more connected to their local community than previously, which is one of the aims of the project (2% disagreed);
- 50% agreed that their involvement had helped them to explore and feel more connected to their own identity and heritage (15% disagreed);
- 90% stated they were now more likely to volunteer (2% disagreed).

Summary

The NLHF funded Kick the Dust project ended in March 2023 with evidence clearly demonstrating the impact on young people and staff engaging in activity. The programme is now coming to the end of its second year of the ACE funded project.

Kick the Dust is a three-stage journey, with young people developing transferable work-related skills including digital skills and gaining experiences that they would struggle to find elsewhere, to support them in securing employment. Whilst young people cite being involved in curation and creating exhibitions as the main areas they have enjoyed, it is through these activities that they hone their skills and understanding of the workplace, which will help them secure employment longer term.

Our aim as we move forward is to support more working age young people to progress into employment, training, or further learning and long-term volunteering.

The strong partnerships that have been developed through Kick the Dust provide a strong base on which to build, bringing new young people into museum and library spaces.

Success comes in many guises: one of our former YMCA young people and former Kick the Dust trainee has progressed onto an Access Course at Norwich College with a view to applying for university in 2025, others have secured employment. Another former YMCA young person and Kick the Dust trainee has secured a full-time permanent position in the Norwich Castle Visitor Services team. Both young people cite Kick the Dust for giving them the confidence to take these steps. Former participants and Young Ambassadors have since progressed into employment or onto further and higher education, having gained the confidence to move towards their goals. Another Young Ambassador secured 2 to run projects in Kings Lynn and Norwich adding more value to our offer for young people. Following on from this the team are developing a new Masterclass Development Programme to support other young people in becoming freelancers and in applying for grants to run co-delivered activity with NMS.

Quotes from our Young Ambassadors and others regarding their engagement in Kick the Dust show the impact that the programme has had on them.

'Kick the Dust gave me hands on experience of the industry I want to work for while becoming more proficient in the skills I need to get me there.' Chloe, Young Ambassador (Chloe is now on a Level 4 Apprenticeship working in London for Channel 4)

'The most important thing that Kick the Dust did for me was increase my confidence through representing the voices of other young people, inspiring me to pursue a career in the museum sector by showing me that it's a place where I'm able to make positive institutional change.' Emily, Young Ambassador (Emily is now studying for an MA and remains an active Young Ambassador)

'Kick the Dust has played such a key part in my life and helped me secure employment when most doors were closed to me, giving me the skills and confidence to move forward. It is like being part of a family.' Jazz, Young Ambassador (Jazz has worked on another KTD project and is an active Young Ambassador, presenting at the NLHF and GEM webinar in March 2024) *'I have now been offered a place on an access course to help me realise my dream of going to university next year'*

'My experience has been highly positive. It has allowed me to connect with other young people with a similar interest in the industry. It has also provided me with varied work experience that will contribute significantly to my search for employment in the sector. I have learnt so much more about the heritage sector and the abundance of roles at play, which has led me to new interests and career goals. Engaging with people currently working in the sector has been invaluable and deepens my understanding of the importance of the work

the museum services do in the local community.' Marr, Young Ambassador (Marr is studying an MA at UEA and remains an active Young Ambassador) *'I've really enjoyed being part of Kick the Dust and it's given me so many amazing opportunities that I'd never get otherwise. I loved the opportunity to go behind the scenes at museums and learn about objects and collections from experts. It felt like I was being taken really seriously as a young person and that my voice mattered. The project was really well planned and executed and there was always something new to learn. I met people who had really different skills and backgrounds to me and it was so fun to work with a new group of people. It felt like the staff really cared about me and were always trying to support me and provide me with new opportunities. Without Kick the Dust, I don't think I'd have been able to get my first job in the heritage industry and feel confident in my own knowledge and skills.'* (Rosa – Young Ambassador and participant in Knights of the Sound Table)

'I just wanted to send a quick email to thank yourself, Leona and the Youth Board for all their help as I got offered a job a couple days ago! The job starts at the end of the month ...I have had multiple one to one sessions .. to help me with the job search process, looking over my CV and in general boosting my confidence! Being a part of this programme and having such a strong support network has given me hope that I will be able to work in heritage soon. Whilst this current job will pay the bills, I would love to continue this contact to help find a heritage engagement job next summer/ autumn when I am able to move wherever I like!' (Imogen, Young Ambassador)

'I have very much enjoyed my time as part of the Kick the Dust work experience program. I feel a bit more confident in social situations than I did before, and I have a much firmer idea of what jobs are available in the museum service.' (Amy – work experience)

'Being part of this organisation, have given me a boarder view of where I see myself in the future and the career I want to go into. It has given me confidence and developed me as a team player when working together. It has given a boost of independence which I keep on achieving.' (Emily – online work experience and Young Ambassador)

Responses to the Curator Camp in Thetford held in summer 2024 included statements such as 'this project made me feel happy', 'this project has increased my confidence', 'I now work better with other people'.

7. Visitor figures

Visitor figures for the period will be circulated at the meeting

8. Recommendations:

That the Area Museums Committee notes the report

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