

Appendix 3

Benefits and Disadvantages of each of the options

	OPTION 1 Closure apart from special events	OPTION 2 Opening 2 days a week with fewer staff at reduced hours	OPTION 3 Annualised hours equivalent to opening 3 days a week	OPTION 4 Annualised hours equivalent to opening 4 days week
Pro	Achieves significant savings	Achieves significant savings	Achieves significant savings	Achieves sufficient savings such that in conjunction with a new admission charge, the reduction in museum cost is significant
	Maintains some access to collections	Maintains regular access to collections	Maintains regular access to collections	Maintains regular access to collections
	Accreditation loss would be reversable	Accreditation loss would be reversable	Accreditation loss would be reversable	Accreditation would be retained
		A level of staff expertise and skills retained	A level of staff expertise and skills retained	A greater level of staff expertise and skills retained
			Ability to provide some events for children and adults	Ability to provide a comprehensive events programme for children and adults
			Ability to offer a scaled-back schools service	Ability to offer a schools service broadly similar to that offered currently
			Ability to offer Temporary Exhibitions Programme	Ability to offer Temporary Exhibitions Programme
	Clear message for residents			
Con	Loss of service in almost its entirety	Skeleton service providing access to building for visitors and limited back of house functions	Much reduced service providing access for visitors and some activities/events	Some reduction in service providing access and some activities and events
	Loss of staff skills and expertise in not only collections care and exhibitions but in providing a service for residents and communities	Loss of skills and expertise through likely departure of existing staff.	Loss of skills and expertise through likely departure of existing staff.	Loss of skills and expertise through likely departure of existing staff less likely than option 3
	Risk to collections from incomplete research and	Work on museum collections, the service's	Work on museum collections, the service's	

	cataloguing (e.g. inability to prove ownership of items which were received up to 170 years ago or failure to discover information which makes item especially relevant to residents)	Unique Selling Point would be reduced to minimal caretaking and recording	Unique Selling Point would be reduced to minimal caretaking and recording.	
	Loss of all income generating ability	Income generating capacity in shop, room hire and parties etc greatly reduced	Income generating capacity in shop, room hire and parties etc greatly reduced	Income generating capacity in shop, room hire and parties etc reduced
	Loss of schools' service	Loss of schools' service except for pre-recorded video	Loss of schools' service except for pre-recorded video and current collection of loan boxes	Slight reduction in schools' service
	Need to renegotiate licence of room by Kent Archaeological Society	Need to renegotiate licence of room by Kent Archaeological Society	Need to renegotiate licence of room by Kent Archaeological Society	N/A
	Impossible to deliver 20 Year Plan agreed by members in 2018	Impossible to deliver 20 Year Plan agreed by members in 2018	Impossible to deliver 20 Year Plan agreed by members in 2018	Impossible to deliver 20 Year Plan agreed by members in 2018
	Severe reputational damage among residents, press and wider museum sector after positioning the museum as the de facto County Museum for many years	N/A	N/A	N/A
	Potential reclaim of grants totalling £2.07m from the then Heritage Lottery Fund	N/A	N/A	N/A
	Loss of volunteer programme	Loss of volunteer programme	There would be little or no capacity for remaining staff to manage volunteers	There would be reduced capacity for remaining staff to manage volunteers
	Loss of Health and Wellbeing programmes with residents which have generally been delivered as projects on top of regular operations	Loss of Health and Wellbeing programmes with residents	Loss of Health and Wellbeing programmes with residents	Loss of Health and Wellbeing programmes with residents