

**MAIDSTONE BOROUGH COUNCIL**

**AUDIT COMMITTEE**

**18<sup>th</sup> July 2011**

**REPORT OF THE ASSISTANT DIRECTOR  
OF REGENERATION & CULTURAL SERVICES**

**Report prepared by Simon Lace**

**1. MAIDSTONE MUSEUM EAST WING EXTENSION**

1.1 Issue for Consideration

1.1.1 To note the current position regarding the development of the East Wing extension to Maidstone Museum.

1.1 Recommendation of the Assistant Director of Regeneration & Cultural Services

1.1.1 That the current position relating to the East Wing extension is noted.

1.2 Reasons for Recommendation

1.3.1 The Museum's East Wing extension is still on target to deliver all of the stated outcomes. It provides excellent value for money and demonstrates the economic regeneration potential of the built heritage.

1.3.2 The anticipated completion date for the Museum is now in early September. The reason for the additional delay is related to design issues concerning the ducting, the completion of the lift shaft and the laying of the wooden floor at ground level. The completion of the work is dependent on overcoming an unforeseen problem related to the connection of the electrical supply and we are currently awaiting an amended programme. The contractor has issued a further extension of time notice related to these issues.

- 1.3.3 A phased opening will allow the ground floor to be opened in mid-September with the displays in the upper floor galleries and meeting rooms being completed by the museum's staff in the following weeks.
- 1.3.4 As the Committee is aware the Council has appointed external Solicitors in relation to the original survey and they have written to the Surveyors. A response is awaited.
- 1.3.5 To date £2,576,000 has been secured either in cash donations or in pledges of financial support. This includes £400,000 from the Council's capital programme. A list of the major donations is given in the table below. There have been no major donations since the last report to Audit Committee in March 2011.

	<b>Pledged</b>	<b>Received</b>
Heritage Lottery Fund	£1,648,000	£351,000
Kent County Council	£50,000	£50,000
Kent Police		£500
Astor of Hever Trust		£500
Betteshanger Trust		£500
D'Oly Carte Trust		£4,200
Godington Trust		£2,500
Rothermere Foundation		£1,000
Thriplow Trust		£5,000
HR Pratt Boorman Foundation		£5,000
Cobtree Trust		£10,000
EDF	£30,000	
Rochester Bridge Trust	£7,000	
SGR Charitable Trust		£1,000
Kent Executive Club		£1,000
Coutts Trust		£700
Others		£8,100
Sub-total	<b>£1,735,000</b>	<b>£441,100</b>
		<b>£2,176,000</b>
MBC Capital contribution		£400,000
		<b>£2,576,000</b>

- 1.3.6 The HR Pratt Boorman Family Foundation has made a donation of £6,000 to the Maidstone Trust. These funds are to be used for additional staff resources to assist in fundraising. A self-employed

part-time Fundraising Assistant has been appointed to help develop the fundraising programme. In the meantime, the grant making Trusts have been approached again, and other routes in relation to local Japanese companies and Kent's notable people are being pursued.

1.3.7 On 4th July a dinner was held at the Carlton Club in London to promote the Museum's Japanese collections. Representatives of grant-making trusts and City institutions were present as well as members of organizations with an interest in the promotion of Japanese culture in the UK. It is hoped that this valuable networking event will help develop useful links with the Japanese business and cultural community which will help finance the new gallery for Japanese art and promote its use.

1.4 Impact on Corporate Objectives

1.4.1 The work to redevelop the Museum's East Wing supports the corporate objective that Maidstone is a decent place to live.

1.5 Risk Management

Risk	Likelihood	Impact	Mitigation Measures
Failure to secure full match-funding from external sources	A	2	Ensure fundraising programme continues and is adequately resourced.
Programme delays increase cost	C	2	Ensure proper scrutiny of programme and ensure deadlines are realistic.

Likelihood: A=very high; B=high; C=significant; D=Low; E=very low.

Impact: 1 = catastrophic; 2 = critical; 3 = marginal; 4 = negligible.

1.6 Other Implications

1. Financial
2. Staffing
3. Legal

x
x

4. Equality Impact Needs Assessment
5. Environmental/Sustainable Development
6. Community Safety
7. Human Rights Act
8. Procurement
9. Asset Management


1.6.1 Financial

Failure to achieve the match-funding target has implications for the Council in terms of funding the remaining cost of the project and for funding of the rest of the current capital programme.

1.6.2 Legal

The legal implications are covered in the report.

1.7 Relevant Documents

None.