

EXETER CITY COUNCIL

EXECUTIVE
18 SEPTEMBER 2007

DEVON COUNTY COUNCIL PROPOSAL TO FUND ROYAL ALBERT MEMORIAL MUSEUM DEVELOPMENT

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To inform Members of the changed circumstances relating to Devon County Council's libraries policy, and its offer to make a financial contribution to the Royal Albert Memorial Museum (RAMM) Development Project.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 Members will recall that at its meeting on 13 March 2007 Executive decided not to accept a contribution of £50,000 towards the redevelopment of the Royal Albert Memorial Museum and Art Gallery from Devon County Council. Executive felt that it would be inappropriate for the Council to accept the offer, in view of the opposition that the City Council had previously expressed to the cuts in the library service and stated their preference for the funding to be directed for use in the library service.
- 2.2 On 31 July however the County's Executive Committee approved a plan which will see Pinhoe Library remain open. This was clearly welcome to the City Council. Shortly beforehand the County Council had written to repeat its offer of funding, and in the circumstances, the Chief Executive and Director of Community and Environment, in consultation with the Leader of the Council and the Portfolio Holder for Environment and Leisure, determined that the conditions for acceptance had been met, and duly accepted the offer, with thanks.

3. RECOMMENDED

- 1) That the decision of the Chief Executive and Director of Community and Environment be noted, the County Council be thanked for its contribution to a project of county-wide significance, and also congratulated on its decision to strengthen the library service in the city.

HEAD OF LEISURE & MUSEUMS

S:PA/LP/ Committee/907EXEC1
16.8.07

COMMUNITY & ENVIRONMENT DIRECTORATE

Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985 (as amended)
Background papers used in compiling this report:

None