

- Legal Ian Marriott – “Report is agreed.”
- Finance Paul Walsh, Financial Services Manager - approved
- Other Chief Officers
- District Councils
- Health Authority
- Police
- Other Bodies/Individuals

FINAL DECISION NO

SUGGESTED NEXT STEPS:

Details to be specified

- Further consideration by this Committee
- To Council
- To Cabinet
- To an O & S Committee
- To an Area Committee
- Further Consultation

Agenda No

Adult & Community Services Overview & Scrutiny Committee - 10 January 2006

Collections for the Future

Report of the Director, Libraries, Heritage & Trading Standards

Recommendation

- 1 That members endorse the approach taken by the Museum Service to the issues raised in the Museums Association Publication 'Collections for the Future', set out in the report and summarised in paragraph 6.
- 2 That members recommend to Cabinet the disposal of items from the Museums Collection in accordance with the schedule in Appendix 2 to the report.

1 Context

In June 2005 the Museums Association (the professional organisation for museums) published, 'Collections for the Future', the executive summary of which is attached as Appendix 1. The full report can be found at <http://www.museumsassociation.org/collections>, as can the Progress Report and Action Plan produced in November 2005.

In recent years increasing emphasis has been placed in the Museum world on access and learning. Collections – which are the distinguishing attribute and traditional focus of museums – have not always been at the top of the agenda. The report, which started from a belief that it is time for more energy to be channelled into collections, is the result of a wide-ranging inquiry held in 2004-5. It aims to establish a vision for the kind of museum collections the UK will need in the future, and to encourage changes in museums' practice now that will help to shape, support and reinvigorate collections.

The report's main findings cover how museums might:

- creatively engage more people with more of their collections,
- make collections more widely available
- create a new generation of staff and volunteers with the confidence, knowledge and support to get the best from collections and share them with a wider public.

2 The Power and Potential of Collections

Collections are the ‘unique selling point’ of museums, at the heart of everything we do. Consultation with the Citizens’ Panel in Warwickshire has demonstrated that the preservation of items for the benefit of present and future generations is considered one of their highest priorities for the Museum Service. The collecting areas of the Warwickshire Museum Service, as defined in the Acquisition and Disposal Policy approved by members in 2004, are the archaeology, geology, natural and social history of Warwickshire. In addition to objects, the Museum also maintains databases of information, relating both to the collections and to the wider historic, geological and natural environment of Warwickshire. The report focuses on the role of collections to inspire, to stir emotions and stimulate ideas – as well as to provide a sense of place, identity and belonging. Our museum collections offer fantastic opportunities to help everyone explore, understand value and conserve their heritage and that of others.

3 Engagement with Collections

Museums should do more to expand the opportunities open to people to engage with collections. More collections should be in active use and museums should improve the way they manage collections-related knowledge.

The Warwickshire Museum Service is committed to improving both use and management of our collections. Some progress has been made with ‘On the Road’ travelling exhibitions and with partnership web-based projects, as well as projects at our own sites which display different elements of our collections, such as the recently installed ‘Over the Counter’ display on health and hygiene at St John’s House. However, our ‘permanent’ displays at Market Hall are showing their age, and very much in need of major overhaul – for the benefit of both traditional and new audiences, as well as to improve physical access.

Roman Alcester, which opened in 2004, marks an innovative approach to the making collections accessible. This initiative has, through Heritage Lottery Funding, made it possible to display the significant Roman collections from Alcester locally.

Roman Alcester is run by a partnership of the County Council, which provides the collections and curatorial and other specialist expertise, Stratford-on-Avon District Council, which supplies the space in its building and covers the running costs and the Alcester Heritage Trust, a voluntary body which provides the staffing and events programme. All three partners were involved in the development and implementation of the project.

We also carry out projects to encourage new audiences to engage with collections in innovative ways – examples include our Youth Fashion, Asian Textiles and Talking Stones projects, and work with the Pupil Reintegration Unit. All of these had objectives including engaging with non-traditional audiences, and addressed the social inclusion agenda.

The report makes clear that display is only one method of engagement, and not always the most appropriate – others include digitisation, loans, open storage (of which there has been a recent proliferation, the impact of which has yet to be evaluated) – and research into the effectiveness of these is promoted. Museum staff

are currently investigating the feasibility of regional partnership working and funding to promote mobility of collections.

Crucial to effective management of collections-related knowledge, and expansion of collections use, is an effective computerised Collections Management System. Many of our basic records are still paper-based and not fully indexed. Preliminary work on scoping this has been funded through e-government, but funding for implementation has not been identified – a revenue bid relating to this has been submitted. Such a system is also a necessary pre-cursor to effective digitisation projects.

4 The Dynamic Collection

Museums should actively develop their collections, with a renewed commitment to acquisition as a key part of their role, and new strategic and funding approaches. Disposal should be seen as an integral part of collections development. Collections should be more mobile, seen in more venues both within the UK and internationally.

The report emphasises both active collecting and also disposal. Warwickshire Museum actively collects in all its subject areas mainly through fieldwork and projects, in accordance with the member-approved Acquisition and Disposals policy, although resources do restrict what can be achieved. Many acquisitions are made through donation; in other cases – for example material acquired through the Treasure Act – we are dependent upon securing grant from external bodies such as the National Art Collections Fund, with whom we have a good record of success.

The policy was the subject of consultation with neighbouring museums, with whom we have reciprocal arrangements to avoid competition, duplication or overlap. This policy also ensures that arrangements for disposal meet the national procedures and criteria to comply with Museum Accreditation (the national quality standard for museums - formerly known as Registration).

We carry out systematic review of our collections for retention/disposal. This is a time-consuming process, which has to compete with other demands for the time of expert staff. It is also dependent upon the knowledge of the relevant curatorial staff of their collections as a whole (which in turn links to collections management). The outcome of a recent phase of review in costume forms the second part of this report. We have also recently carried out some rationalisation through exchange of Natural History material with the Herbert Art Gallery and Museum, Coventry. Areas already identified for future consideration include archaeological animal bone and social history large objects (which present particular issues in relation to use, conservation and storage).

Disposal of items from museum collections needs to be handled with care – we need to be mindful of the views of donors (on whom we rely heavily for acquisitions) past, present and future, and also to realise that we cannot always predict what future users will value, as investigative technologies improve, and society's interests change. We will await the suggested guidelines on streamlining disposal with interest.

5 Strengthening the Museum Sector

The museum sector needs to be strengthened. Increased collaboration and more investment in training, development and succession planning will be needed. In particular, museums need to renew their sources of expertise, both internally and externally.

The report addresses specialist expertise and knowledge, training, and collaboration. Several of our museum staff are experts in particular subject areas, and all curatorial staff are committed to continuing professional development, but it is not possible for a museum service at county level to maintain a full range of expertise. We therefore rely heavily on reciprocal arrangements with other museums locally, regionally and nationally – and draw upon expertise outside the museum sector. For example, museums run by District/Borough Councils refer rock and fossil queries to our Keeper of Geology; a catalogue of part of the museum's coin collection, compiled by Dr Stanley Ireland of the University of Warwick, will shortly be published by the Royal Numismatical Society; our biological records centre depends on data from expert volunteer recorders and feeds some of this to national datasets. In order to maximise the benefit we can provide to users of our collections, it is important that the capacity for staff to develop and use their knowledge and expertise – which often acts as a catalyst - is maintained, and that we also encourage the continuing use of our collections by external researchers.

Joint working across the West Midlands, enabled by Regional 'Renaissance in the Regions' funding, has improved support and access to expertise: through our Community Museums Officer, we provide support and advice to small independent and voluntary museums across the county. Additionally, staff and volunteers working in the county service and in other museums in Warwickshire (whether local authority, independent or voluntary) now have access to free specialist training in issues such as collections care and pest control.

Staff play active roles in existing regional and national networks, such as the West Midlands Archaeological Collections Research Unit, which has successfully co-manage the Portable Antiquities project regionally – providing a Finds Liaison Officer in each county, and the West Midlands Natural Sciences Collections Group, which provides mutual support and shares expertise and best practice, and encourages use of under-exploited collections.

6 Conclusion

As outlined in this report, the Warwickshire Museum Service is responding to the issues raised in Collections for the Future by:

- Monitoring, and where appropriate contributing to, the ongoing national debate
- Exploring, and seeking funds internally and externally, for engaging new audiences with collections in a range of different ways
- Actively seeking to improve management of collections-related knowledge, subject to available funding

- Taking a proactive and planned approach to acquisition and collections development
- Adopting a strategic and policy-driven approach towards disposal and rationalisation
- Participating in relevant regional and national networks to share resources, encouraging staff development and training including secondments, and supporting relevant internal and external research.

7 Recommendations for Disposal

Following thorough review (and repacking) of part of the costume collection, disposal of the items listed in Appendix 2 is recommended. For each item, a reason for disposal is listed. Disposal will be carried out in accordance with the policy; suitable items will be transferred to Heritage Education for use in handling sessions; other items will be offered to other museums through the Museums Journal in accordance with national recommendations. The relevant section of the Acquisition and Disposal Policy approved by members in 2004 reads as follows:

9.8 A decision to dispose of a specimen or object, whether by exchange, sale, gift or destruction (in the case of an item too badly damaged or deteriorated to be of any use for the purposes of the collections), will be the responsibility of the governing body of the museum acting on the advice of professional curatorial staff, if any, and not of the curator of the collection standing alone.

9.9 Full records will be kept of all decisions on disposals and the items involved and proper arrangements made for the preservation and/or transfer, as appropriate, of the documentation relating to the items concerned, including photographic records where practicable in accordance with SPECTRUM Procedure 19: Deaccession & disposal.

Members are therefore asked to recommend to Cabinet the disposal of the items listed in Appendix 2

NOEL HUNTER
Director, Libraries, Heritage & Trading Standards

Shire Hall
Warwick

06 December 2005

Executive summary

Museum and gallery collections transform and inspire people. Collections can be exotic, intriguing, affirming, pleasurable and challenging. They stir emotions and stimulate ideas.

Collections for the Future makes proposals that will ensure that more people have more opportunities to engage with museum collections, and that those collections are as rich, diverse and inspiring as they can possibly be.

Museums have already taken significant steps forward in realising the power of their collections. But more could be done. Too many museum collections are underused – not displayed, published, used for research or even understood by the institutions that care for them.

Museums must reassert the place of their collections at the heart of the public realm, and find new ways to ensure that they really are for everyone.

If people are entitled to access to museums, then they have to be entitled to engage fully with collections. A stronger emphasis on collections is not just

compatible with increasing access and learning in museums: it is vital to it.

Collections for the Future is the conclusion of an inquiry led by the Museums Association (MA) that lasted for 18 months, with many people contributing their views. The inquiry was overseen by a steering group, chaired by Jane Glaister, president of the MA from 2002 to 2004. Two working groups looked at particular issues in more detail and, based on the discussions of these two groups, the MA published a consultation paper in summer 2004, which was widely debated across the sector. International representation on the steering group gave the inquiry a broader perspective, and an appendix also looks at the systems for supporting collections in other European countries.

The report begins with an essay on the power and potential of collections, and the challenges facing museums and their funders. The main body of the report explores this in more detail and reflects the range of views expressed during the inquiry. It also begins to plot a course for the way ahead.

Key findings

The report groups the inquiry's findings under three headings: Engagement, The dynamic collection and Strengthening the museum sector.

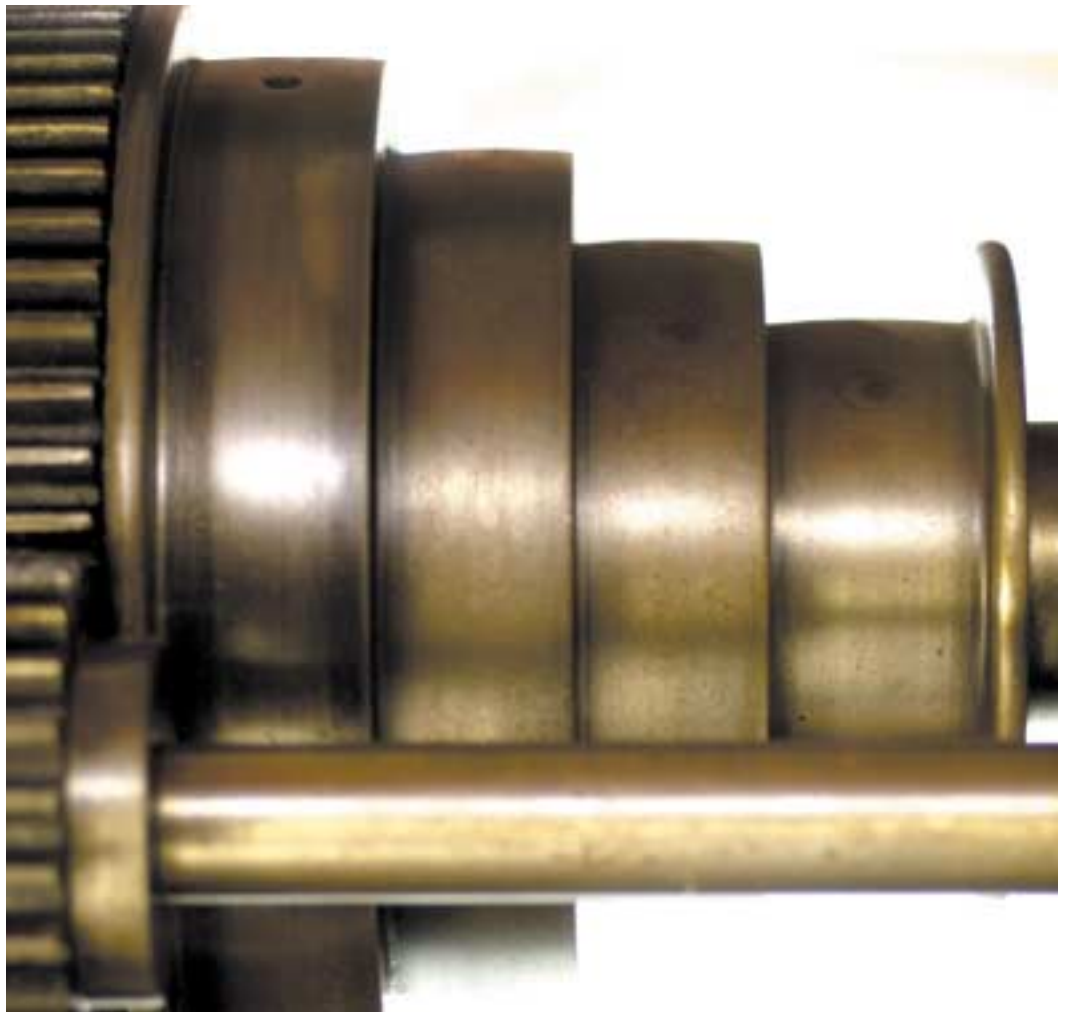
A Engagement

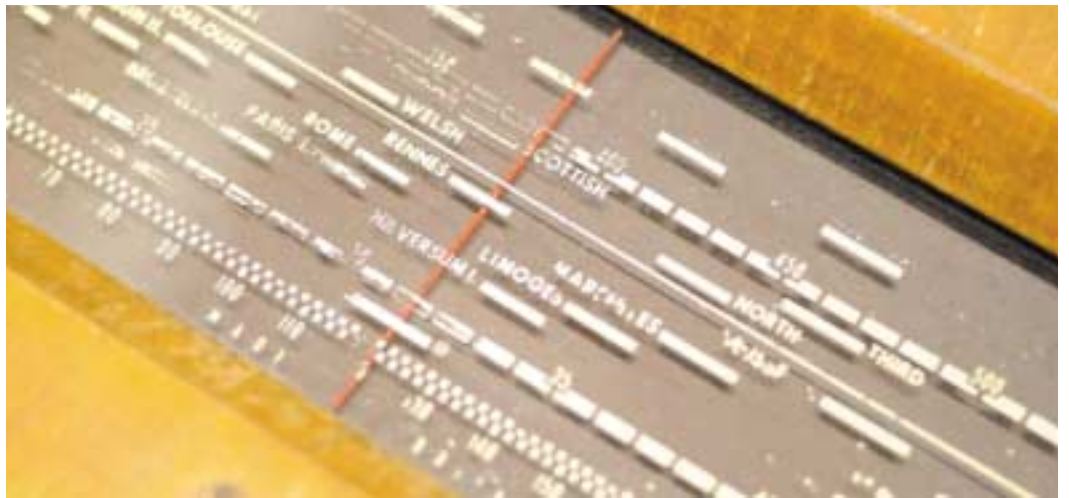
Museums should do more to expand the opportunities open to people to engage with collections. More collections should be in active use and museums should improve the way they manage collections-related knowledge.

While preservation is an essential part of the role of museums, it is not on its own sufficient: museums must take steps to ensure that more of their collections are used (paragraph 9)

By getting more collections out of store, museums can extend the possibility of people encountering objects. It is the responsibility of museums to open up collections in this way if they are to be properly available as part of the public realm. (17)

Many museums feel that they lack adequate information about their collections. This is one of the most





significant barriers preventing them from achieving their potential (21)

Museums need better information resources, including better documentation. But they also need to be realistic about the availability of resources and to take a new, more targeted approach to documentation and knowledge management. (23)

The extent to which museums can or should share control over the meaning of objects with others remains a highly contentious issue. Museums need to engage more actively with this debate and work out its implications for the way that their collections are presented. (30-33)

Continued investment in digitisation is vital. There will be uses of digitised collections that cannot be imagined yet. (35)

Actions

The MA will continue to encourage debate about how wider engagement can be encouraged. The MA will encourage relevant bodies to undertake research to assess the impact of initiatives designed to make collections more available, such as open storage, loan schemes and displays on non-museum premises. (14)

The MA will work with the mda (formerly the Museum Documentation Association), the Museums, Libraries and Archives Council (MLA) and others to develop clear and realistic recommendations about the future direction of documentation and knowledge management. (25)

The MA considers the hidden histories approach to be an important way forward, and will look for ways to support and encourage it. (29)

The MA will encourage the MLA and others to find ways of encouraging and supporting more digitisation of collections, and adding value to existing digital resources. (36)

B The dynamic collection

Museums should actively develop their collections, with a renewed commitment to acquisition as a key part of their role, and new strategic and funding approaches. Disposal should be seen as an integral part of collections development. Collections should be more mobile, seen in more venues both within the UK and internationally.

Museums are no longer developing their collections with the vibrancy and rigour needed to ensure that they serve the needs of current and future audiences. (40)

The inquiry uncovered a great deal of resistance among museums to an over-centralised approach to collecting. A judicious approach is needed that leaves room for personal vision, is discriminating and selective, and encourages museums to work together when appropriate, without imposing a rigid centralised approach. But above all, all museums must enter into the debate about how collections can best be developed for the future, and reinstate active collecting as a crucial part of their activities. (47-48)

The idea of defining a comprehensive 'distributed national collection', covering all disciplines, is unrealistic. Nevertheless, it is in the public interest that museum collections are treated as a single resource, on which all museums should be able to draw. All users would benefit if museums shared their collections more widely, as well as collaborating on collections management and collecting. (56)

There are too few significant loans, and too few opportunities to see important temporary exhibitions in the UK outside the capital cities. (58)

Private collections have a public value and it is museums' responsibility to help realise that value in appropriate ways. (69)

There is an ethical imperative for museums to increase the use of their collections as well as to maximise their care. Museums have a responsibility to consider the appropriate transfer of collections to another institution as part of this. (71)

Museums cannot keep spending public resources caring for objects that will never be enjoyed or used. Making decisions about disposal is part of a museum's professional and ethical responsibility. Disposal is not risk free, but neither is unthinking retention. (74-80)

Actions

The MA will work with the Art Fund and other appropriate bodies, to explore the potential for strengthening museums' capacity to make acquisitions and for developing more strategic approaches to acquisition. (44)



The MA will encourage the Heritage Lottery Fund, and other funders, to fund the long-term development of collections in addition to single acquisitions. (50)

The MA will continue to advocate the need for more funding for temporary exhibitions and investment in facilities that can host major temporary exhibitions. (62)

The MA will explore the potential for securing funding for a project to encourage loans, based on the Museum Loan Network model. (64)

The MA will work with the International Council of Museums to encourage bodies such as the Department for Culture Media and Sport (DCMS) and the MLA to support more UK museums in building mutually beneficial international links. (68)

The MA will investigate ways of supporting museums in transferring collections to more appropriate institutions, including the provision of better information and training. (71)

The MA will seek ways to work in partnership with the Local Government Association, to find ways to increase confidence that all local authorities can be responsible stewards of their collections. (78)

The MA will work with MLA to find ways to streamline museums' disposal procedures, while improving the safeguards offered. (79)



C Strengthening the museum sector

The museum sector needs to be strengthened. Increased collaboration and more investment in training, development and succession planning will be needed. In particular, museums need to renew their sources of expertise, both internally and externally.

There are not enough staff in museums with a focus on developing collections' potential and many museums do not have access to the expertise they need. (83)

Museums need excellent communicators as well as access to excellent scholarship. (84)

It is not desirable – let alone practical – for a museum to have all the expertise it requires in house. Individual museums can work together to share expertise across the sector. It will be equally if not more important to build closer links with external sources of knowledge and expertise. (88)

Links between museums and higher education are far less well developed than they might be. (91)

There are no structured pathways through a museum career and there is a lack of succession planning. There are too few training posts which offer the chance for junior staff to work alongside more experienced staff to build their expertise. (100)

Many museum staff are trapped in roles that do not draw on their skills and potential. Much talent is wasted and energetic and committed people leave the sector. Low pay remains a serious issue. (100)

Museums will need to work together to make an entitlement to collections a reality for everyone. It makes sense for them to pool their resources by working across institutional



boundaries, to begin to address the shortfall of expertise and to find ways of making better use of under-exploited collections. They would then also be well placed to draw in external expertise. (103-104)

Brokers are often needed to build relationships and encourage joint working. With one individual able to act as a catalyst, it becomes possible to bring in external funding and achieve results far in excess of what the partners might achieve individually. (106)

Actions

The MA will seek ways to promote and take forward the debate and research into expertise. (86)

The MA will work with the Arts and Humanities Research Council, the University Museums Group and other relevant bodies to explore how links between museums and the higher education sector might be strengthened. (92)

The MA will explore the possibility of raising funding for a pilot programme of providing additional curatorial support for underused collections. (95)



The MA will work with its recognised museum studies course to review the way that the courses prepare people for museum careers. The MA will also consider whether a review of the AMA is needed. (98)

The MA will work with the sector skills council and with MLA, DCMS and other relevant bodies on issues associated with workforce development as a matter of priority. (102)

The MA will look for ways to encourage continued investment in subject-based networks, as well as exploring other possible models of collaboration. (106)

Moving forward

It is important to stress that most of the ideas explored in this report are not entirely novel or especially radical. Indeed some of them have been debated many times over many years. The report seeks to help museums move from discussion to action. The MA hopes that the report will begin to make a real difference to museums' practice and to the approaches taken by funders and policy makers.

Some findings and action points have specific relevance to particular parts of the sector. But the report is for the whole of the UK museum sector. Many of the ideas require further development or testing, and the MA hopes to secure funding to run a number of pilot projects.

The MA has already begun discussions with colleagues in organisations across the sector, and with policy makers and funders, about how the report can be taken forward. Close liaison with the government departments and the agencies responsible for museums across the UK will be essential to ensure that the report's thinking is reflected in future policy development.



Appendix 2

Blouses/Bodices

Object Number	Object	Reasons for Disposal
-	Bodice, 19 th century	Poor condition – incomplete (no skirt); discolouration of fabric. Duplication – better similar examples.
H9663 163/1985	Blouse, late 19 th century	Poor condition – fabric torn in places; discolouration of fabric
170/1955/F	Blouse, late 19 th century	Poor condition – fabric split in places
H7357 36/1952/A	Bodice, 19 th century	Poor condition – incomplete (no skirt); discolouration of fabric. Duplication – better similar examples.
H12483 65/1990	Bodice, 19 th century	Poor condition – incomplete (no skirt); bodice has been altered – probably for dressing-up.
H11308	Bodice, 19 th century	Poor condition – incomplete (no skirt). Duplication – better similar examples.
132/1953/C	Bodice, 19 th century	Poor condition – incomplete (no skirt)
H9449 190/1984	Bodice (part), 19 th century	Incomplete – fragment of bodice only
104/1963/L	Bodice, 19 th century	Poor condition – incomplete (no skirt) Non-Warwickshire provenance
H4654 65/1980	Bodice, 19 th century	Poor condition – incomplete (no skirt)
H7242 40/1963/B	Bodice, 19 th century	Poor condition – incomplete (no skirt); fabric torn in places
-	Bodice, 19 th century	Poor condition – incomplete (no skirt) Duplication – better similar examples
77/1951	Bodice, 19 th century	Poor condition – incomplete (no skirt). Duplication – better similar examples

Blouses/Bodices

Object Number	Object	Reasons for Disposal
-	Bodice/blouse, late 19 th century	Poor condition – silk is beginning to shatter. Non-Warwickshire provenance
-	Bodice, 19 th century	Poor condition – incomplete (no skirt); discolouration of fabric. Duplication – better similar examples
-	Bodice, 19 th century	Poor condition – incomplete (no skirt). Duplication – better similar examples
-	Bodice, 19 th century	Poor condition – incomplete (no skirt); discolouration of fabric. Duplication – better similar examples
-	Bodice, 19 th century	Poor condition – incomplete (no skirt). Non-Warwickshire provenance
-	Bodice, 19 th century	Poor condition – incomplete (no skirt); fabric is stained in places.
-	Bodice, 19 th century	Poor condition – incomplete (no skirt)
31/1976/230	Blouse, late 19 th century	Poor condition – fabric torn in places. Duplication – better similar examples
-	Blouse/bodice, 19 th century	Poor condition – fabric torn in places; discolouration of fabric
107/1955/A	Bodice, 19 th century	Poor condition – stains on lining. Non-Warwickshire provenance
-	Blouse, early 20 th century	Poor condition – discolouration to fabric
70/1962/G	Blouse, early 20 th century	Poor condition – discolouration to fabric; fabric wearing thin in places

Blouses/Bodices

Object Number	Object	Reasons for Disposal
45/1951	Blouse, early 20 th century	Poor condition – fabric torn in places
36/1952	Blouse/bodice, late 19 th century	Duplication – better similar examples. Non-Warwickshire provenance
170/1955/D	Blouse, early 20 th century	Poor condition – insect damage; bodice incomplete – cuffs missing.
-	Dress front, early 20 th century	Poor condition – discolouration of fabric
-	Blouse, early 20 th century	Duplication – better similar examples. Non-Warwickshire provenance
222/1977/A	Blouse, early 20 th century	Poor condition – discolouration of fabric Duplication – better similar examples
170/1955/E	Blouse, late 19 th century	Poor condition – discolouration of fabric
99/1965	Blouse, early 20 th century	Poor condition – discolouration of fabric
-	Blouse, late 19 th century	Poor condition – discolouration of fabric
121/1957/L	Blouse, late 19 th century	Poor condition – discolouration of fabric
-	Blouse, early 20 th century	Non-Warwickshire provenance
123/1962	Dress front, early 20 th century	Poor condition – discolouration of fabric. Duplication – better similar examples
99/1965/L	Blouse, early 20 th century	Poor condition – tear to sleeve
-	Bodice (parts), early 20 th century	Poor condition – incomplete and in pieces
-	Blouse, early 20 th century	Poor condition – discolouration of fabric; tear under arm. Duplication – better similar examples

Blouses/Bodices

Object Number	Object	Reasons for Disposal
-	Blouse, early 20 th century	Non-Warwickshire provenance
-	Blouse, mid 20 th century	Poor condition – insect damage
-	Blouse, mid 20 th century	Poor condition – insect damage Non-Warwickshire provenance
-	Blouse, mid 20 th century	Duplication – better similar examples. Non-Warwickshire provenance
-	Blouse, mid 20 th century	Duplication – better similar examples. Non-Warwickshire provenance
-	Blouse, mid 20 th century	Poor condition – discolouration of fabric Duplication – better similar examples Non-Warwickshire provenance
-	Blouse, mid 20 th century	Duplication – better similar examples Non-Warwickshire provenance
-	Blouse, mid 20 th century	Poor condition – discolouration of fabric Duplication – better similar examples Non-Warwickshire provenance
170/1955/C	Blouse, early/mid 20 th century	Poor condition – discolouration of fabric
-	Blouse, early 20 th century	Poor condition – discolouration of fabric
-	Blouse, mid 20 th century	Poor condition – discolouration of fabric
-	Blouse, mid 20 th century	Poor condition – small holes in fabric
-	Blouse, early 20 th century	Poor condition – discolouration of fabric

Blouses/Bodices

Object Number	Object	Reasons for Disposal
197/1957/D	Blouse, early 20 th century	Poor condition – fabric torn in places Non-Warwickshire provenance
-	Blouse, early 20 th century	Poor condition – discolouration of fabric Duplication – better similar examples
170/1955/A	Blouse, early 20 th century	Duplication – better similar examples
31/1976/201	Blouse, late 19 th century	Duplication – better similar examples
-	Blouse, early 20 th century	Poor condition – holes in fabric
H3808 15/1980	Blouse, early 20 th century	Poor condition – holes in fabric; discolouration - spots
99/1965/P	Blouse, 19 th century	Poor condition – lace is dirty; holes in silk; tear in fabric Duplication – we have another identical item
145/1959/B	Blouse, early 20 th century	Duplication – better similar examples Non-Warwickshire provenance
H7364 170/1955/G	Blouse, late 19 th century	Poor condition – lave torn at cuffs
-	Blouse	Poor condition – large tear near hem

Jackets/Capes

Object Number	Object	Reasons for Disposal
112/1977	Jacket, c1970's	Poor condition – discolouration of fabric
43/1963/C	Cape, early 20 th century	Poor condition – lining degrading. Non-Warwickshire provenance
H6255 234/1980	Cape, late 19 th century	Poor condition – lining torn
27/1954	Cape, early 20 th century	Poor condition – insect damage
-	Cape, 19 th century	Poor condition – silk fabric torn and degrading
56/1952	Cape, 19 th century	Poor condition – discolouration of fabric
100/1955	Cape, late 19 th century	Poor condition – trimming torn in places
29/1958	Coat/cape, early 20 th century	Non-Warwickshire provenance
-	Cape, 20 th century	Poor condition – trimming torn at neck
-	Cape, 19 th century	Poor condition – insect damage
70/1962/D	Cape, late 19 th century	Poor condition – some rust to beadwork Duplication - better similar examples
70/1962/F	Cape, late 19 th century	Poor condition – some insect damage Duplication – better similar examples
27/1962	Coat, early 20 th century	Non-Warwickshire provenance
107/1955/B	Coat, late 19 th century	Poor condition – some rust to beadwork Non-Warwickshire provenance
70/1962/E	Cape, late 19 th century	Duplication – better similar examples
42/1971	Cape, late 19 th century	Poor condition – lining has gone Non-Warwickshire provenance

Fans

Object Number	Object	Reasons for Disposal
H6947 156/1958/A	Fan	Poor condition – broken sticks Duplication – better similar examples
H6958 31/1976/109	Fan	Poor condition – broken guard; dirty/discolouration Duplication – better similar examples
H6969 188/1978/B	Fan	Poor condition – broken guard; ribbon thread is missing Duplication – better similar examples
H6999 66/1968	Fan	Duplication – better similar examples No provenance – untraced find
H6979 27/1962/Q	Fan	Duplication – better similar examples Non-Warwickshire provenance
H6998 66/1968	Fan	Poor condition – dirty; broken guard; discolouration of sticks Duplication – better similar examples
H6966 52/1962/B	Fan	Poor condition – browning of mesh leaf Duplication – better similar examples
150/1957	Fan	Poor condition – broken stick Duplication – better similar examples Non-Warwickshire provenance
H6952 31/1976	Fan	Poor condition – sticks unglued; staining to reverse Duplication – better similar examples
H7008 60/1966	Fan	Poor condition – damaged sticks; discoloured feathers

Skirts

Object Number	Object	Reasons for Disposal
132/1953	Skirt, late 19 th century	Poor condition – discolouration of fabric; fabric torn inside the hem
145/1959/F	Skirt, late 19 th century	Poor condition – net splitting; dirty Non-Warwickshire provenance
-	Skirt, late 19 th /early 20 th century	Poor condition – deterioration of fabric at hem
H4661	Skirt, late 19 th century	Poor condition – insect damage; incomplete – bodice missing
71/1966/D	Skirt, late 19 th /early 20 th century	Poor condition – silk lining is shredding Non-Warwickshire provenance
70/1962/V	Skirt, late 19 th century	Poor condition – fabric torn at hem
-	Skirt, late 19 th century	Poor condition – silk is splitting
3/1967	Skirt, late 19 th century	Poor condition – fabric very dirty
145/1959	Skirt,	Poor condition – silk lining degrading. Non-Warwickshire provenance
70/1962/W	Skirt, late 19 th century	Poor condition – silk splitting in places
73/1963/K	Skirt, late 19 th century	Poor condition – splitting at lower part of skirt
-	Skirts (2)	Poor condition – one is incomplete, with rest of dress missing; the other has large brown stains to hem. Non-Warwickshire provenance

Miscellaneous Items

Object Number	Object	Reasons for Disposal
17/1979/E	Jumper, c1970	Fair condition – discolouration of fibres Duplication – better similar examples
98/1956	Parasol cover	Incomplete – frame is missing Duplication – better examples of complete parasols
H12482 31/1976/49	Flannel shawl, late 19 th century	Poor condition – insect damage Duplication – better similar examples
18/1966/D	Hanging pockets (Staffordshire Regiment)	Non-Warwickshire provenance
H15223 145/1959	Needlework	Poor condition Non-Warwickshire provenance
H15222/H15225 145/1959	Needlework	Poor condition – stained Non-Warwickshire provenance Duplication – better similar examples
H14631 179/1993	Needlework sample	No provenance
H15218 104/1963/L	Needlework	Duplication – better similar examples
H15226 181/1958/F	Needlework	Duplication – better similar examples
H14630 120/1973	Textile	Poor condition - fraying
H15224 133/1971	Needlework	Poor condition
H13803	Comm. Handkerchief	Duplication – two identical items
29/1958	Bag, late 19 th /early 20 th century	Poor condition – lining disintegrating
H9598 152/1985	Dress parts, 19 th century	Incomplete – parts of dress only
H14460 150/1993	Handbag, 1960's	Poor condition – plastic degrading
H10958 103/1987	Book cover	Poor condition – incomplete, book is missing

Blouses/Bodices

Object Number	Object	Reasons for Disposal
107/1977	Blouse, early 20 th century	Poor condition – silk pleating splitting Duplication – better similar examples
-	Blouse, early 20 th century	Duplication – already have similar item from same donor
17/1958	Bodice, early 20 th century	Poor condition – incomplete (skirt missing); not in original condition – has been altered Duplication – better similar examples
143/1969/E	Blouse, 1960's	Duplication – we have many 1960's items, and this one isn't representative
H11311 56/1988	Blouse, late 19 th century	Poor condition – holes in back Duplication – better similar examples
H15592	Blouse, 1980's	Poor condition – synthetic fibres deteriorating
-	Blouse, mid 20 th century	Duplication – one of a number of blouses from same donor
101/1961	Blouse, early 20 th century	Duplication – better similar examples
99/1965/K	Bodice/blouse, early 20 th century	Poor condition – incomplete (skirt missing)
H3806 15/1980	Blouse, late 19 th century	Poor condition – split in sleeve Duplication – better similar examples Non-Warwickshire provenance
H7556 36/1952	Bodice, late 19 th century	Poor condition – silk disintegrating Duplication – better similar examples
-	Blouse/bolero, early 20 th century	Poor condition – silk chiffon degrading; in pieces in some areas