

Decision Record – Disposal of Firearms by Warwickshire Museum

Cabinet Portfolio Holder taking the decision	Cllr Alan Cockburn Deputy Leader
Date of Decision	5 Jan 2015

Decision Taken

That the Deputy Leader:

- 1) approves the disposal of the firearms in Warwickshire Museum's collections listed in the appendix to this report,
- 2) requires that to maximise income for the authority full consideration be given to disposal via specialist dealers where appropriate.
- 3) gives permission to write to the Secretary of State to request permission to dispose of those firearms listed that fall under Section 5 of the Firearms Act 1968.
- 4) agrees that following the receipt of permission of the Secretary of State the Section 5 firearms be transferred to the Police Service for destruction.

Reasons for Decisions

The removal of the listed firearms from Warwickshire Museum's collections will leave it with a small and well-defined group of historical firearms, which have a cohesive story to tell and which can be confidently used for telling some engaging stories from the county.

Background Information

Warwickshire Museum holds a number of historically and locally important firearms, including the guns made by Nicholas Paris in the late 17th to early 18th century.

The Museum also holds 141 firearms which came into the collections under the auspices of three amnesties during the 1960s and 1980s. These firearms fall outside the Museum's collecting remit and are not objects that it would wish to include in displays or other interpretative activities or retain in the museum. In line with Warwickshire Museum's Collections Development policy it wishes to start the process of de-accessioning this latter group of guns (as listed in the appendix to the published report) from the museum collection and disposing of them in accordance with Home Office legislation where applicable and with the Museums Association Code of Ethics.

Financial Implications

None

Report Author	Michelle Alexander
Head of Service	Phil Evans
Strategic Director	David Carter
Portfolio Holder	Councillor Alan Cockburn

Checklist

Urgent matter?	No
Confidential or Exempt?	No
Is the decision contrary to the budget and policy framework?	No

List of Reports considered

Link to published proposed decision report:

<https://democratic.warwickshire.gov.uk/cm5/CalendarofMeetings/tabid/128/ctl/ViewMeetingPublic/mid/645/Meeting/3030/Committee/551/SelectedTab/Documents/Default.aspx>

List of Background Papers - please include a contact for access to background papers

None

Members and officers consulted or informed

Portfolio Holder – Councillor Alan Cockburn
 All Strategic Directors
 Legal – Ian Marriott
 Finance – Liz Firmstone
 Equality – Minakshee Patel
 Democratic Services – Paul Williams

Corporate Services OSC – party spokes:

Councillors John Appleton, June Tandy, Alan Webb and Nicola Davies