

# Report

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Report to:	<b>Enterprise Services Committee</b>
Date of Meeting:	<b>19 March 2013</b>
Report by:	<b>Executive Director (Community and Enterprise Resources)</b>

Subject:	<b>New Lanark World Heritage Site (Consultative) Draft Management Plan</b>
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## 1. Purpose of Report

1.1. The purpose of the report is to:-

- ♦ advise on the process and outcome of public consultation on the New Lanark World Heritage Site (Consultative) Draft Management Plan; and
- ♦ endorse the contents of the proposed New Lanark World Heritage Site (Consultative) Draft Management Plan.

## 2. Recommendation(s)

2.1. The Committee is asked to approve the following recommendation(s):-

- (1) that the process and outcome of public consultation on the New Lanark World Heritage Site (Consultative) Draft Management Plan be noted; and
- (2) that the contents of the New Lanark World Heritage Site (Consultative) Draft Management Plan be approved.

## 3. Background

- 3.1. At the Enterprise Resources Committee on 17 March 2010 it was agreed that the New Lanark World Heritage Site (Consultative) Draft Management Plan be approved for public consultation.
- 3.2. This report reflects the outcome of the consultation process held in the intervening period and summarises the Plan's contents.
- 3.3. The key purpose of the Management Plan is to provide for the overall management of the World Heritage Site (WHS) in a manner specific to its character and needs, to ensure maintenance of its Outstanding Universal Value (OUV). This plan will be the broad framework for long-term, detailed decision making on the conservation and enhancement of the WHS.
- 3.4. The Plan sets out a shared vision, aims and objectives to guide those that are involved in making decisions affecting the management of the site. It is not intended to be prescriptive or binding but does rely on all stakeholders including the Council working in partnership to achieve the management aims and objectives.

- 3.5 The UK has obligations under the World Heritage Convention (WHC) in relation to the effective management of WHS's which require that every site has an appropriate management structure in place. Although Management Plans are not a statutory requirement in the UK, national policy encourages their use as best practice.
- 3.6. A Management Plan is a means by which a site can demonstrate to the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) that it has adequate management mechanisms in place to ensure its conservation for future generations.
- 3.7. The New Lanark Management Plan covers a five year period from 2013 to 2018 after which it will be further reviewed in line with the International Council on Monument and Sites guidance.
- 3.8. The Draft Management Plan was prepared by an officer secondment from Historic Scotland and reviewed by the Partners on the New Lanark Partnership Group (comprising New Lanark Trust, Historic Scotland and South Lanarkshire Council). The draft plan will be made available through Members' Services.

#### **4. New Lanark WHS Management Plan Summary Contents**

- 4.1. **Chapter 1** details the consultation process. In short, the consultative draft sought the views of Partners, the local and wider community including residents, businesses, organisations with an interest in the site and any other parties. The consultation process was publicised widely and a series of public exhibitions and focused workshops took place to gather a range of comments from stakeholders and other interested parties. All comments provided on the draft were analysed to inform the development of the final Plan in particular the vision, aims and objectives. The preparation of the Plan has been guided at every stage by the Partnership Group and has been informed by discussions with key stakeholders including the Scottish Wildlife Trust, Scottish Natural Heritage and major landowners at Braxfield Farm and Corehouse Estates.
- 4.2. The Management Plan has a five year lifespan, from 2013 to 2018, but many of its aims and objectives will be relevant for a longer period and will guide the future management of the site.
- 4.3. A 'Strategic Environmental Assessment' (SEA) of this draft was undertaken in accordance with the requirements of the Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005. The SEA informed the development of the Management Plan, providing a mechanism to identify and propose measures to help mitigate against potentially negative environmental issues relating to the Plan's implementation. The SEA highlighted the following:
- the Plan would have a generally positive effect on the localised environment and the setting of the site as a whole;
  - the conservation and restoration of historic buildings and the physical access to the site could have detrimental effects for species and habitats. Steps should be introduced to encourage partnership working towards enhancing biodiversity;
  - many of the objectives were found to have a positive benefit to human health and wellbeing, with enhancement achieved through promoting active travel to the site and further recreational activities within the area;

- promoting visitors to the site could have detrimental effects on local air quality whilst other objectives will consider measures to encourage alternative forms of site access; and
- consideration of the long-term effects of climate change on the management of the site were considered through promoting opportunities for greater carbon efficiency through the natural features of the WHS.

The SEA process has been integrated into future reviews of the Management Plan, ensuring that the SEA process continues to inform the management of the WHS.

4.4. **Chapter 2**, Managing the WHS, sets out the roles and responsibilities of those involved in the management of the New Lanark WHS, the partners who take an active role in day-to-day management, and the diverse range of stakeholders who have an interest in the site. The role of each key partner, New Lanark, Historic Scotland and the Council are set out in detail.

4.5. The role relating to the Council is as follows:

“South Lanarkshire Council is the local authority area within which the WHS is located. As such they are responsible for a wide range of services which are relevant to the management of the site. These include planning, economic development, tourism, housing, roads and education. The Council are also partial landowners of the site with responsibility for the management of King George’s field at Braxfield Terrace and two public parks within the buffer zone - Delves Park and Castlebank Park. The Council is responsible for the upkeep of all adopted roads and the Clydesholm and Kirkfieldbank Bridges at the north end of the buffer zone, as well as New Lanark Primary School within the WHS.”

4.6. **Chapter 3** explains the statement of OUV and explains why New Lanark is significant in WHS terms and why it was inscribed.

4.7. **Chapter 4** outlines the key issues affecting the site and on which the main aspects of the consultation exercise were focussed:

- Image and identity;
- Promotion and interpretation;
- Economic development and tourism;
- Connectivity and access;
- Planning and protection;
- Management and engagement; and
- Funding and resource availability.

4.8. **Chapter 5** outlines and explains the vision, aims and objectives for the WHS. It expresses the longer term aspiration for the WHS, based on the need to conserve, enhance and interpret the significance of New Lanark and the key stakeholder issues identified.

4.9. The vision states that “New Lanark is one of the UK’s best WHS’s and a very successful visitor attraction. As an accessible, enjoyable, successful and sustainable destination, it demonstrates and encourages best practice in every relevant field. Visitors from local and global audiences come to celebrate, reflect and learn about the site, its associations with Robert Owen and its wider industrial heritage context. It is also a thriving community where local people live and work with pride. The site managers and partners work together with the community, landowners and businesses to promote and interpret the importance of the site’s OUV and to

safeguard this by managing, conserving and protecting the important built heritage and cultural and natural landscape.”

- 4.10. Also included within this Chapter are six long term aims together with 30 medium term objectives 2013 to 2018. Members are requested to note that the objectives have been intentionally developed to be strategic in nature rather than to identify specific projects or actions to be carried out. This is to ensure that the plan remains both proportionate and achievable.
- 4.11. **Chapter 6** provides information on how the plan will be implemented and success measured. The Partners have developed a 5 year Action Plan that will be reviewed annually based on the Management Plan objectives. The Action Plan details the particular projects and actions that will be undertaken in that year of the Plan’s life thus enabling partners, working with other stakeholders, to allocate time and resources with more certainty.

## **5. Next Steps**

- 5.1. New Lanark Trust approved the Draft Management Plan at its meeting on 6 December 2012. Subject to formal endorsement by Historic Scotland and South Lanarkshire Council over the coming months, the Plan will be formally launched at an event in New Lanark in late April 2013.

## **6. Employee Implications**

- 6.1. None

## **7. Financial Implications**

- 7.1. None

## **8. Other Implications**

- 8.1. The adoption of this Plan and its effective implementation will assist in minimising any potential risk to the nature and value of this WHS.

## **9. Equality Impact Assessment and Consultation Arrangements**

- 9.1 This report does not introduce a new policy, function or strategy or recommend a change to an existing policy, function or strategy and, therefore, no impact assessment is required.
- 9.2. Consultation has taken place with all partners as appropriate.

**Colin McDowall**

**Executive Director (Community and Resources)**

20 February 2013

## **Link(s) to Council Values/Objectives**

- Support the local economy by providing the right conditions for growth, improving skills and employability
- Improve the quality of the physical environment
- Increase participation in arts and culture
- Sustainable Development

## **Previous References**

- Enterprise Resources Committee 17 March 2010

**List of Background Papers**

- New Lanark World Heritage Site Management Plan, February 2009

**Contact for Further Information**

If you would like to inspect the background papers or want further information, please contact: -

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