



Title of Report:	Voluntary operation of Green Lane Museum
Committee Report Submitted To:	Leisure & Development Committee
Date of Meeting:	17 December 2024
For Decision or For Information	For Decision
To be discussed In Committee	NO

Linkage to Council Strategy (2021-25)	
Strategic Theme	Resilient, Healthy and Engaged Communities
Outcome	Council will work to develop and promote stable and cohesive communities across the Borough
Lead Officer	Head of Community & Culture Museum Services Development Manager

Estimated Timescale for Completion	
Date to be Completed	March 2025

Budgetary Considerations	
Cost of Proposal	
Included in Current Year Estimates	YES/NO
Capital/Revenue	
Code	
Staffing Costs	

Legal Considerations	
Input of Legal Services Required	YES/NO
Legal Opinion Obtained	YES/NO

Screening Requirements	Required for new or revised Policies, Plans, Strategies or Service Delivery Proposals.		
Section 75 Screening	Screening Completed:	Yes/No	Date:
	EQIA Required and Completed:	Yes/No	Date:
Rural Needs Assessment (RNA)	Screening Completed	Yes/No	Date:
	RNA Required and Completed:	Yes/No	Date:
Data Protection Impact Assessment (DPIA)	Screening Completed:	Yes/No	Date:
	DPIA Required and Completed:	Yes/No	Date:

1.0 Purpose of Report

The purpose of this report is to request approval to seek a community group to voluntarily operate Green Lane Museum through a Keyholder Agreement with support from Council for overheads and lease.

2.0 Background

- 2.1 Green Lane Museum's collection first came into being in the early/mid 1980s when the Environment and Heritage Service (now known as DAERA) opened Green Lane Museum in Roe Valley Country Park.
- 2.2 In 1997, Green Lane Museum's collection came under the ownership of Limavady Borough Council.
- 2.3 A lease was agreed in 2008 between NIEA (now known as DAERA) and Limavady Borough Council which runs until 2032. The lease stipulated that the building must be maintained as a museum.
- 2.4 In January 2020 Green Lane Museum closed due to lack of front of house and programme budget. The rates setting workshop for 2020-2021 reduced the Green Lane Museum budget by removing agency costs to achieve required savings.
- 2.5 In 2021 several community groups in the local area displayed an interest in opening Green Lane Museum with curatorial support from Museum Services.
- 2.6 In January 2022, Council recommended that Museum Services seek community group assistance to operate Green Lane Museum with support from Council for overheads and lease.
- 2.7 Following an expression of interest application process, which was advertised in local newspapers, on social media and emailed out to our community mailing list as well as to all known interested parties, Roe Valley Ancestral Researchers were the only group to apply, and they met all the requirements of the application.
- 2.8 In February 2023 Council approved the voluntary operation of Green Lane Museum by Roe Valley Ancestral Researchers under the terms of the Key Holder Agreement with support from Council for overheads and lease.
- 2.9 The Roe Valley Ancestral Researchers have operated the museum on a voluntary basis for the 2023 and 2024 seasons.
- 2.10 With the key Holder Agreement being in place for two years and in the interest of due diligence, officers plan to undertake a further call for Expression of Interests for the voluntary operation of Green Lane Museum for the 2025 – 2027 seasons.

3.0 Recommendation

It is recommended to Council that Museum Services seek expression of interests from the community & voluntary sector to operate Green Lane Museum on a voluntary basis with support from Council for overheads and lease, effective from April 2025 to October 2027, subject to annual reviews.