

RUSSELL COTES ART GALLERY AND MUSEUM MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE



Report subject	Russell-Cotes Art Gallery & Museum Acquisitions, Loans and Disposals
Meeting date	1 June 2026
Status	Public Report
Executive summary	To note the new acquisitions to the Collection (material owned and held in trust by the Russell-Cotes Art Gallery & Museum charity in accordance with its charitable objectives) and the loan of material to other institutions (ie public art galleries and museums) and to approve the disposal of items in the Collection which do not meet the Museum's Core Offer in accordance with the Museums Association Code of Ethics.
Recommendations	<p>It is RECOMMENDED that:</p> <p>The Management Committee notes and approves</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) acquisitions b) loans c) disposals <p>As outlined in the Acquisitions, Loans and Disposals Report</p>
Reason for recommendations	The recommendations are in line with the Museum's agreed policies and procedures, including its Collections Development Strategy, which outlines the areas of the collection for development and those areas which do not meet the Core Offer and are therefore subject to disposal in order to achieve a more usable, well managed collection. The process and procedures used conform to the Museums Association Code of Ethics.

Portfolio Holder(s):	Councillor Andy Martin, Portfolio Holder for Communications, Customers and Culture
Corporate Director	Glynn Barton, Chief Operations Officer
Report Authors	Duncan Walker, Curator Sarah Newman, Museum Manager
Wards	Not applicable
Classification	For Decision and Update

Background

1. The Management Committee is required to note the acquisitions and loans made by the museum and to formally approve disposals from the Collection in line with the Collections Development Strategy and subject to the Museums Association Code of Ethics.

Acquisitions and Loans

2. The latest acquisitions to the Collections and loans are listed in Appendix 1 for the agreement of the Committee.

Disposals

3. The disposals are listed in Appendix 1 with further information and justification in Appendix 2 (Disposals Report).
4. The Museum is prioritizing the disposal of taxidermy which is irrelevant to the Collections Strategy and raises health and safety issues. It also raises storage issues as do the pieces of furniture

Update on Previous Disposals

5. One painting from the last meeting has been transferred to Bournemouth Natural Science Society and the remainder have been dispatched to auctioneers for sale.

Options Appraisal

6. Each action is decided on a case-by-case basis in line with the Collections Development Strategy as outlined in the report and appendices.

Summary of financial implications

7. There are minimal financial costs from most acquisitions and any financial implication (storage, conservation cost) is taken into consideration when deciding on the acquisition of material.
8. The costs of loans are borne by the borrowers and it is anticipated that the institutions which acquire disposed objects will cover costs of removal and transport.
9. Any income generated by the sale of items from the Collection is held in a restricted fund and used solely for the purposes of acquiring items for the Collection (according to the Collections Development Strategy) or conserving objects already

in the Collection in compliance with the Museums Association Code of Ethics and item 16.11 of the Collections Development Strategy.

Summary of legal implications

10. All activities are carried out in line with the Museums Association Code of Ethics and the Museum's Collection Development Strategy.

Summary of human resources implications

11. n/a

Summary of sustainability impact

12. N/a

Summary of public health implications

13. n/A

Summary of equality implications

14. N/A

Summary of risk assessment

15. N/a

Background papers

Russell-Cotes Art Gallery and Museum Collections Development Strategy.
See <https://russellcotes.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/11/5-Collections-Development-Policy.pdf>

Appendices

Appendix 1 Acquisitions Loans and Disposals

Appendix 2 Disposals Report