

Record of operational decision

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| Decision title: | Decision to appoint Mather & Co Ltd. Exhibition design consultant for the delivery phase (RIBA 4-6) of the Hereford Museum and Art Gallery redevelopment project |
| Date of decision: | 09/04/2024 |
| Decision maker: | Corporate Director Community Wellbeing |
| Authority for delegated decision: | <p>Powers under the Chief Executive scheme of delegation CW-18 Chief Executive Scheme of Delegation.pdf (herefordshire.gov.uk)</p> <p>And delegated authority given to the Corporate Director Community Wellbeing through the Decision - Approval to spend the National Lottery Heritage Fund Delivery Grant for the Hereford Museum and Art Gallery redevelopment project Cabinet Member decision approved in April 2024.</p> |
| Ward: | Central |
| Consultation: | <p>Project Management Office, Legal, Finance, Procurement and SROs for the museum development have been consulted on the decision.</p> <p>The contract has been procured in accordance with the council's contracts procedure rules.</p> |
| Decision made: | <p>Following a full open tender process Mather & Co. have been appointed as the design consultant for the delivery phase (RIBA 4-6) of the Hereford Museum and Art Gallery redevelopment project:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To work with the council's project team, museum service and architectural design team to review the existing RIBA stage 3 Interpretation Plan. • To work with the council's project team, museum service, architectural design team, consultants and contractors to develop and deliver the technical 2D and 3D exhibition and interpretation design for the galleries, display areas, retail space, Woolhope Room, events and education space and ancillary spaces from RIBA stages 4-6. • To work alongside the museum service to reach communities and partners to include their views in the development and draw from co-creation activities being delivered as part of the engagement activity plan. • To work with the appointed fit-out contractors and sub-contractors to monitor, art direct, quality check and snag the production and installation of all exhibition and interpretation design elements to completion. <p>The contract value is £200,000. It is funded by the National Lottery Heritage Fund delivery grant.</p> |
| Reasons for decision: | Mather & Co Ltd is a multidisciplinary design consultancy based in Wilmslow, Cheshire, with over 25 years of experience in creating world-class exhibitions, museums, and visitor attractions. They specialise in museum, visitor attraction, and exhibition design, as well as creating innovative retail, restaurant, bar, and corporate interiors. |

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| | <p>Mather and Co. have a proven track record in museum exhibition and interpretation design both nationally and internationally. Some of their notable projects include Silverstone Interactive Museum, The Olympic Museum, Coronation Street: The Tour, Belgium Beer World, National Football Museum, Nation Horse Racing Museum and the R&A World Golf Museum.</p> <p>They have a strong focus on user experience and accessibility in their designs, and understand the important the council places on creating an audience-focused and accessible museum and art gallery which has the highest environmental and sustainability standards.</p> <p>Overall, Mather and Co. possess the necessary qualifications, experience, and capabilities to successfully deliver on the requirements outlined in the procurement process for the Hereford Museum and Gallery redevelopment project.</p> |
| Equality Considerations | <p>The redevelopment is based on the principles of inclusive design and has put people at the heart of the design process. We recognise that access is not only physical but also cultural, intellectual and sensory. The building and activities that take place in it are being designed so that everyone can enjoy them confidently and independently with choice and dignity –regardless of disability, age, gender, sexual orientation, race or faith.</p> |
| Highlight any associated risks/finance/legal/equality considerations: | <p>Risks:</p> <p>Cost Overruns: There's a risk that the project may exceed the allocated budget due to unforeseen expenses or changes in project. Contract is to be delivered within fixed budget, a contingency budget has been allocated within the wider redevelopment project.</p> <p>Programme impact on wider project: design changes may occur leading to delays in the construction. The initial design brief is comprehensive and well-defined outlining the project objectives, scope, budget, and stakeholder requirements to minimise the need for significant design revisions later on.</p> <p>Risks are being managed through the project management structure and processes.</p> |
| Details of any alternative options considered and rejected: | <p>Do not appoint – this option was not recommended. The project would not be progressed and funding withdrawn.</p> |
| Details of any declarations of interest made: | <p>None</p> |