

# Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council

**To: Leisure & Development Committee**

**Garvagh Museum**

**13<sup>th</sup> October 2015**

**For Information**

**Report to Committee**

<b>Linkage to Interim Corporate Plan</b>	
<b>Strategic Themes</b>	Prosperity Health & Wellbeing Cohesive Community
<b>Lead Officer</b>	Julie Welsh – Head of Community and Culture
<b>Cost: (If applicable)</b>	

**The purpose of this report is to provide Members with background information relating to Garvagh Museum.**

## **Background**

Garvagh Museum and Heritage Centre, as a community run facility, has been in receipt of an annual contribution from Coleraine Borough Council to assist with running costs since 2002. Prior to this arrangement the Centre had been in receipt of some annual funding from Council, and Council's Finance Department had prepared the annual receipts and reports for the Trustees.

In June 2002 Council agreed to provide £5000 per year for 3 years.

In 2008 Council agreed to provide £5000 per year annual financial assistance for three years from 2008/ 2009.

In February 2011 Coleraine Borough Council noted that the Trustees were currently involved in preparing an application for funding which required a five year projection from Council. It was agreed that Council would provide the following financial assistance:

- 2011- 2012 Year 1 £5000
- 2012- 2013 Year 2 £7500
- 2013- 2014 Year 3 £7500
- 2014- 2015 Year 4 £7500
- 2015-2016 Year 5 £7500

The financial assistance that Coleraine Borough Council agreed to for 2015/2016, £7,500, is the last year of the five year commitment Council made in 2011. This sum was identified as a legacy agreement and was included in the current budget for 2015/2016.

The Centre has also received assistance from the Council's Economic Development Services since late 1990s to secure external grant aid from appropriate funds eg LEADER, Rural Development Fund and from Council's Causeway Museum Service for advice, as well as support to progress with their Museum Registration later Museum Accreditation. More recently the local community network have provided advice and support to the new Board and assisted with identifying funding options.

Garvagh Museum and Heritage Centre is one of a number of community led museum or heritage centres/projects across the new Council, although it is currently the only one to have achieved Museum Accreditation outside of Council's own accredited museums. These community led museums and heritage centres/projects are focussed on local distinctive stories relevant to their immediate surrounds.

The Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council is currently preparing an Integrated Strategy for Culture Arts and Heritage. Part of the strategy is to prepare recommendations as to how the Council will support these community led museums and the other heritage, arts and cultural groups across the Borough in the context of diminishing public funds.