

## **Scotland Excel**

**To: Executive Sub Committee**

**On: 31st January 2020**

**Report  
by  
Director Scotland Excel**

### **Request for Associate Membership of Scotland Excel by National Museums Scotland**

#### **1. Summary**

- 1.1 In addition to the 32 local authorities which are full members of Scotland Excel, applications can be made for Associate Membership by organisations such as council arm's length organisations, community groups, charities, housing associations and voluntary organisations which are a public body or a body that engages in activities of a public nature.

Organisations apply to Scotland Excel for Associate Membership to allow them to access the frameworks for goods and services which we have in place for our full members. Associates do not have the opportunity to influence the future contract delivery schedule which is reserved for the full local authority members.

#### **2. Background**

- 2.1 National Museums Scotland is a Scottish Charity and a Non-Departmental Public Body (NDPB) sponsored and supported through Grant-in-Aid by the Scottish Government, governed by an independent Board of Trustees and set up as a result of the National Heritage (Scotland Act) 1985.

- 2.2 National Museums Scotland core function is to:

- (a) Care for, preserve and add to the objects in their collections
- (b) Secure that the objects are exhibited to and interpreted for the public

(c) Secure that the objects are available to persons seeking to inspect them in connection with study or research

(d) Generally, promote the public's awareness, appreciation and understanding of matters agricultural, archaeological, architectural, artistic, cultural, environmental, historical, industrial, military, scientific and social both by means of the Board's collections and by such other means, including collaboration with other institutions, as they consider appropriate

(e) Provide education, instruction and advice and carry out research

2.3 National Museums Scotland pays the Real Living Wage but are not accredited.

2.4 To ensure the efficient and cost-effective delivery of these services it has approached Scotland Excel and requested approval to become an associate member with access to our contracts.

2.5 Before any application is submitted for approval, a number of validation checks on the organisation are carried out. These include a review of the Memorandum & Articles of Association, the financial position and the type of contracts that the organisation is likely to access.

### **3. Recommendations**

3.1 It is recommended to committee that National Museums Scotland application to join Scotland Excel as an associate member be approved, with no annual fee, subject to the agreement document. NDPBs are covered by the reciprocal no fee agreement.

3.2 Scotland Excel monitors all requests from arm's length and other organisations to become associate members to ensure that any legal requirements are met. In this case, National Museums Scotland qualifies for membership in accordance with the Local Authorities (Goods and Services) Act 1970 section 1 (1B)(b) namely as a public authority or body.