

Appendix C – Approach to addressing the recommendations

General Recommendations:

1. *'Where changes to the management or presentation of a heritage asset are being considered a programme of public consultation or engagement should be undertaken. This process should be transparent and inclusive.'*

This would vary depending on the scale and significance of the changes proposed. For small changes officer time may be sufficient to undertake a consultation - for example an online survey. Where more substantial changes are proposed a programme of inclusive public participation should be undertaken **which will need its own project specific budget.**

2. *'The council should consider undertaking a broader review of Gloucester's colonial or imperial legacies and links.'*

The monuments review just completed was undertaken using a large amount of volunteer time and partner support – the City Council Archaeologist has accrued a notable backlog in core duties in order to bring this project to completion and needs time to address that backlog. Likewise volunteer and partner support cannot be taken for granted. The City Council is therefore not in a position to undertake such a project in-house in 2022. There are two approaches that may be considered.

- a) Undertake a review of the City's colonial or imperial legacies in 2023/24 (resources permitting); or
- b) Commission external consultations to undertake the work in accordance with a brief - this could be undertaken in mid to late 2022 and **would require a budget.**

3. *'The council should pursue education or interpretation projects at a city-wide level to improve public understanding of this topic. The council should work in partnership with appropriate stakeholders to develop specific educational resources that can be used locally. This will require a budget for implementation.'*

Officers could produce a brief in partnership with teachers and stakeholders which could be used to seek tenders from specialists. **This would require a budget.**

4. *'The Museum of Gloucester should create a permanent display sharing the history of the City and of the objects connected to the Transatlantic Slave Trade from 2023, with a temporary display undertaken sooner.'*

The staff at the museum will seek external funding to cover half the cost of this project, the remainder will require a budget.

5. *'The council should seek imaginative options to address the City's contested history in a way that both challenges and educates. This could include interpretation panels, new monuments or public art. Opportunities should also be sought to celebrate the city's multicultural community.'*

This would need to be considered and acted upon on a case by case basis.

6. *'The council should in future consider the background of new street names and monuments to avoid inadvertently commemorating or memorialising a link to the slavery economy. When considering new street names, the council should look for opportunities to celebrate Gloucester's multicultural history.'*

This issue could be addressed using officer time – members of the heritage team could review potential names, **no additional costs.**

7. *'The council should encourage the Cathedral authorities to proactively identify contested heritage assets (especially celebratory monuments) within the Cathedral, and having done so, to explain, acknowledge or interpret those assets in accordance with the new national framework.'*

The city council can pass on information gathered as part of this review. **No additional costs to the council.**

8. *'The council should welcome and support the plans of the Soldiers of Gloucestershire Museum to both better discuss and educate with regard to historic slavery, and to promote the historic role of Black and ethnic minority soldiers in the Gloucestershire regiments.'*

This may require officer time, no costs to the council.

9. *'The council should welcome and support the ongoing work of the Civic Trust to promote and protect the city's heritage. The council should engage with the trust to help develop a more balanced presentation of the city's history (for example online, on blue plaques and in guided tours etc) which includes consideration of any links to the slavery economy when appropriate.'*

This will require officer time, no additional costs.

Specific Recommendations:

Baker's Quay: *The council should engage with the owners of Baker's Quay to discuss options for the 'repurposing' of that public space in a way that educates, commemorates and acknowledges Gloucester's historic links to the Transatlantic Slave Trade.*

There will certainly be a need for officer time to engage with the current owners of Bakers Quay, and there then needs to be some kind of public discussion or engagement. Funding for any project could be potentially secured via the planning system - for example the existing 2015 planning permission on the site includes a requirement for historic interpretation (condition 30 15/01144/FUL). This could potentially be combined with a grant application. **No additional costs.**

Phillpotts Warehouse: *The council should seek to contextualise the history of Phillpotts warehouse using interpretation.*

A budget would be needed to fund the production of a new blue plaque and a single interpretation board. **Officer time would also be needed.**

United Reformed Church: *The council should consult with the owners and/or users of this building to consider realistic options for interpretation and contextualization of the George Whitefield memorial.*

In the first instance officer time would be needed to engage with the owners or users of the building to discuss options. **Following this a budget would be needed to contextualise the monument.**

Blue Plaque on St Mary De Crypt School Room: *The council should encourage the Civic Trust to contextualise this plaque to reflect George Whitefield's connections with the transatlantic slavery economy.*

Officer time will be needed to agree new wording with the Civic Trust. A budget would also be needed.

Memorial in St Mary De Crypt: *The council should engage with Discover de Crypt to produce educational resources and on-site displays that provide a full context to George Whitefield's life and works.*

Officer time will be needed to engage with Discover De Crypt and potentially to assist with a funding application to undertake this work. **There would be no additional costs to the City Council.**

Whitefield Street names: *The council should consult with residents on the renaming of the two identified Whitefield Street names.*

The Public Health Act 1925 allows the city council to alter the name of a street with certain caveats – although any change is open to appeal. That said, the City Council's own City Street Naming and Property Numbering Policy requires a two thirds majority of occupiers to support the change of a street name, so without contradicting our own policy we'd need to get public support for any change.

There are obviously financial and practical considerations associated with the changing of a street name – new streets signs and the costs

associated with changes of address for residents. **A budget would therefore be required.**

Whitefield House: The council should approach the owners to discuss renaming this building.

Officer time will be needed to discuss this with the owners. **There should be no other costs to the city council.**