

Recruitment Pack

MD North Directors and Advisors Group: Advisors

Introduction

MD North is recruiting advisory members to its Directors and Advisors Group (DAG). This is a voluntary position.

Role of the Director and Advisors Group

The role of the DAG is to provide both an executive, strategic direction, and an advisory and assurance function for the Museum Development programme across the North of England. It enables participation from across the full geographic footprint of operations and is supplementary to the governance role of the Lead Partner, which is York Museums Trust's Board of Trustees.

The DAG provides a specific focus on the museum development programme and its activity plan. Its function is to direct and monitor the terms of the funding agreement with Arts Council England and ensure that the partnership delivers the outcomes as outlined in the Activity Plan. It will ensure that the partnership's executive officers are held to account for progress against the targets and success measures that have been mutually agreed.

The DAG will also provide strategic support and advocacy for the Museum Development North programme in the North of England.

The DAG combines the executive, strategic function, accountability to the governance body, and independent advice and assurance. Advisory members have no governance or operational responsibility for delivery of the activity of the partnership.

Representation

The DAG benefits from the diverse views of the Arts Council England Area of the North of England with a remit to inform, check and challenge the museum development programme from the perspective of its users and stakeholders. Participation will include members with experience of different types and scale of organisations across various locations and types of location in the North of England.

Remit

Specifically, the DAG members will:

- Maintain a strategic overview of the MD North programme and its effectiveness for museums of distinct types, scale and location and their audiences
- Act as a critical friend, providing challenge, support, advice and ideas
- Advise the accountable body (York Museums Trust) and funder (Arts Council England) on effective delivery of programme
- Champion the programme through advocacy and build trust and credibility across and beyond the museum sector
- Raise awareness of and open doors to opportunities for museums beyond just the museum sector
- Ensure the views of a wide range of stakeholders are considered in the development and delivery of the programme
- Provide a forum for discussing the evaluation of the programme

Composition: Advisory Members

The DAG includes up to a maximum of seven members who are independent of the partnership, of which members are invited or recruited to bring the benefit of their experience from the breadth of the museum sector across the diversity of the North of England. This will take account of type and scale of museum, regional location and location type, and diversity of experience and perspective. The DAG will also perspectives from outside the museum sector, bringing wider, relevant experience from other art forms or sectors.

Advisory members attend the DAG in an individual rather than ex-officio capacity. It will be the responsibility of individuals and, if applicable, their employer organisation to determine whether an advisory role can be undertaken within working hours. Such an arrangement does not make the individual's advisory role an ex-officio position.

Meetings and Reporting

The DAG will be chaired in rotation by the non-lead partners of the Partnership.

The DAG will meet online four times per annum, as required by Arts Council England, or more often as required. Meetings will be set up by the programme manager.

The regional lead officers of the Museum Development North programme will present financial and programme progress reports to the DAG, using the Arts Council England monitoring template. The DAG will receive and review a risk register and take oversight of the budget.

Minutes and actions will be recorded for each meeting, circulated to all group members and submitted to YMT Board of Trustees. The DAG Minutes will be submitted to Arts Council England via the submission of YMT Board papers in Grantium. Minutes will be made publicly available.

Arts Council England will be invited to send a representative with observer status to meetings of the DAG.

A conflict-of-interest policy will be in place which members will be required to adhere to.

In respect of other essential and desirable policies and procedures, the DAG will follow those of York Museums Trust.

Specification for DAG Advisory Members

We are looking for DAG Advisory Members who:

- Have knowledge of the context in which museums and galleries operate and a desire to enable strong, agile museums to contribute to the distinctive life, cultures, and identity of the north of England and be widely valued for their transformational impact
- Understand the current political, economic, environmental, and social trends that have an impact on the North
- Have skills in one or more of the following:
 - Fundraising – earned and contributed income including fundraising communications
 - Organisational development and change, particularly:
 - Strategic Human Resource Management with a focus on skills for the future of work
 - Financial planning and strategy including risk management
 - Equity, diversity and inclusion within the context of OD
 - Environmental responsibility within the context of public policy and organisational development
 - Using data to make decisions within an infrastructure organisation
 - Marketing and communications within a B2B arena
 - Public sector policy development and delivery particularly around working with traditionally excluded communities
 - Entrepreneurial approaches to business model generation and management at an area level
 - Digital leadership – awareness of technological opportunities and digital working methodologies
- Can help us be a more inclusive programme through understanding inclusion from organisational, workforce and community diversity perspectives
- Are well networked and can help to develop new and existing partnerships and collaborations across the North
- Will challenge the MD North Management Team and Directors, encouraging them to find dynamic and innovative solutions, supporting them to make good decisions.
- Will support the MD North Management Team and Directors to establish and develop a presence in the North by acting as an ambassador for the Programme and making introductions with key contacts and stakeholders.
- Aligned with our values
 - Trusted
 - Supportive
 - Collaborative
 - Inclusive
 - Informed

What is in it for you?

- You will gain or develop your experience of playing an advisory role in an area wide programme delivering public benefit through the development of cultural organisations
- You will be contributing to the work of one of England's largest cultural sector development and training providers
- You will be playing a part in developing the distinctive life, cultures, and identity of the North of England
- You will be thinking about how to ensure that museums and galleries have a transformational impact on their communities
- You will enjoy debating issues and problem solving with an executive and management group

To help Panel members perform their role, MD North offer:

- Induction for new members
- Dates for meetings identified in advance
- Reimbursement of reasonable expenses incurred on MD North business

How to apply

To apply for this role, we ask you to please complete the online Expression of Interest Form which includes space for you to provide:

- An up-to-date CV or equivalent professional profile e.g. LinkedIn or ResearchGate
- A supporting statement (maximum two pages) or link to a 2-minute video that outlines your interest in joining our DAG, and how you meet the criteria set out in the role description.

Please submit your expression of interest online via this Expression of Interest Form by 23:59 on 30th June 2024. Please also contact michael.turnpenny@museumdevelopmentnorth.org.uk if you want to know more about the role.

<https://online1.snapsurveys.com/o7us8i>

All applicants will be informed of the outcome of their application by 31st July.