

**AGENDA ITEM NO: 7** 

Report To: Education and Communities Date: 31 October 2017

Committee

Report By: Corporate Director Education, Report No: EDUCOM/86/17/AW

**Communities and Organisational** 

Development

Contact Officer: Alana Ward, Libraries Museums Contact No: 01475 712330

and Archives Manager

Subject: Loan of a painting from the McLean Museum and Art Gallery

### 1.0 PURPOSE

1.1 The purpose of this report is to inform the Committee that there has been a request for the loan of a painting from the McLean Museum and Art Gallery (the James Watt Trust).

## 2.0 SUMMARY

- 2.1 The request comes from Art UK in London which is planning an exhibition on the subject of 'Art of the Nation: Five Artists Choose'. It will be held at The London Art Fair from 17 until 21 January 2018.
- 2.2 The painting requested is An Old Woman Reading by Harry Clifford Pilsbury (1870-1925).
- 2.3 Art UK will be responsible for the collection and return of the work and will arrange all transport, insurance and handling. A facilities report of the venue detailing security arrangements and climatic controls will be provided.

### 3.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

3.1 It is recommended that the Committee approves the request outlined above for the loan of the painting to Art UK for exhibition at the London Art Fair, from 17 until 21 January 2018 subject to matters of transport, security and insurance being arranged to the satisfaction of the Libraries, Museum and Archives Manager.

Wilma Bain
Corporate Director
Education, Communities & Organisational Development

#### 4.0 BACKGROUND

- 4.1 The exhibition 'Art of the Nation: Five Artists Choose' is based on work with five contemporary artists (Sonia Boyce, Mat Collishaw, Haroon Mirza, Oscar Murillo and Rose Wylie) who have chosen themes personal to them and have each selected five 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> century works from collections featured on the Art UK website. The themes speak of personal interests and individual passions that highlight the range of work in public collections across the country. The painting from the McLean Museum collection has been chosen by award-winning artist Haroon Mirza.
- 4.2 The loan of this work to the exhibition by the McLean Museum will promote the quality and extent of the holdings of paintings in the collection and promote visits to the online collections during the museum's closure for refurbishment.
- 4.3 The McLean Museum has been working with Art UK for several years and this partnership has enabled the Museum to make copyrighted works from the collection available online and to enable the purchase by the public of images from the collections through a licensing agreement via the recently inaugurated Art UK online shop.

# 5.0 PROPOSALS

5.1 It is proposed to lend the painting to Art UK, subject to matters of transport, security and insurance being arranged to the satisfaction of the Libraries, Museums and Archives Manager.

## 6.0 IMPLICATIONS

### 6.1 Finance

## Financial Implications:

One off Costs

Cost Centre	Budget Heading	Budget Years	Proposed Spend this Report £000	Virement From	Other Comments
N/A					

Annually Recurring Costs/ (Savings)

Cost Centre	Budget Heading	With Effect from	Annual Net Impact £000	Virement From (If Applicable)	Other Comments
N/A					

## 6.2 **Legal**

The painting to be loaned is the property of the McLean Museum and Art Gallery and can be loaned without restriction.

#### 6.3 Human Resources

The preparation for the loan of the work will be carried out by the staff of the McLean Museum and Art Gallery.

## 6.4 Equalities

Has an Equality Impact Assessment been carried out?

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X 1	No	This report does not introduce a new policy, function or strategy or recommend a change to an existing policy, function or strategy. Therefore, no Equality Impact Assessment is required.

## 6.5 Repopulation

There are no known Repopulation implications.

## 7.0 CONSULTATIONS

7.1 n/a

## 8.0 LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS

### 8.1 None



Harry Clifford Pilsbury

An Old Woman Reading

Oil on canvas 35.8 x 30.8 cm

Harry Clifford Pilsbury was the son of the artist Wilmot Pilsbury (1840-1908). He was born in London on 8 January 1870 and was educated at Leicester. He taught Art at Oundle and Wiggeston School, Leicester before becoming Headmaster of Whittlesey School of Art. He exhibited between 1899 and 1925, his work being shown at the Royal Academy, the Royal Society of Artists, Birmingham, the Walker Art Gallery, Liverpool and elsewhere. He died in 1925.