

**TWAM CORPORATE HEALTH AND SAFETY POLICY STATEMENT****Distribution: To be brought to the attention of all Staff and Volunteers****INTRODUCTION**

This supplementary statement should be read along with Newcastle City Council's [Corporate Policy Statement on Health and Safety at Work](#). The Newcastle City Council Corporate Policy Statement lays down the Council's aims to protect the health and safety of all users of services, all members of the public exposed to activities, all employees, and all other persons who work on or visit premises. The TWAM Corporate Policy Statement lays down health and safety aims and objectives which apply to TWAM, and it specifically sets out the responsibilities of managers and supervisors for furthering the aims and pursuing the objectives.

**COMMITMENT OF TYNE & WEAR ARCHIVES & MUSEUMS**

This supplementary statement is issued to confirm that Tyne & Wear Archives & Museums is fully committed to supporting the health and safety aims of Newcastle City Council, as Lead Authority for TWAM, and to achieving the health and safety objectives set for it.

**In particular Tyne & Wear Archives & Museums will endeavour to:**

- a) minimise fire and general safety and health risks in all parts of our museums, when working from home, or in other workplaces;
- b) minimise risks of injury to any of our employees;
- c) minimise risks of violent assault to our employees;
- d) minimise risks from the use of display screen equipment;
- e) effectively control the health and safety competence and performance of contractors we engage to carry out work;
- f) effectively restrict or control the movement and activity of visitors within our museums, so that our visitors are not exposed to unreasonable risks to their health or safety;
- g) integrate appropriate health and safety requirements and controls into the planning for, and control of, any events we organise;
- h) ensure that all exhibits and displays are constructed, erected and maintained so as to be free from risks to our visitors and employees;
- i) minimise risk of employees or visitors contracting Covid-19, or any other infectious diseases, in any of our venues.

## FURTHER INSTRUCTION AND GUIDANCE ON HEALTH AND SAFETY

In order to ensure that appropriate instructions and guidance effectively reach all relevant employees, Tyne & Wear Archives & Museums will develop and keep up to date a range of health and safety documents. Managers and supervisors will be responsible for ensuring that relevant instructions and guidance are effectively brought to the attention of their staff. These instructions and guidance documents will comprise a mixture of risk assessments, corporate health and safety policies, codes of practice and training specifications. They will be appropriate for the health and safety control of our activities, based on the findings of structured risk assessments.

Newcastle City Council's corporate health and safety instructions and guidance are available to staff at the following SharePoint address:  
<https://365newcastle.sharepoint.com/sites/poc/healthandsafety/Pages/default.aspx>

TWAM's corporate health and safety instructions and guidance are available to staff at the following SharePoint address:  
<https://twmuseums.sharepoint.com/Policies%20%20Procedures/Forms/AllItems.aspx?FolderCTID=0x012000887E2BEB71E2354CBAC30B15E3D77309&viewid=1bdf4893%2D5120%2D4d06%2D8037%2D86fb7cf2724d&id=%2FPolicies%20%20Procedures%2FHealth%20and%20Safety>

In addition, managers and supervisors may also keep local copies of key documentation. It is the responsibility of each Venue Manager to ensure staff working in the buildings for which they are responsible have received relevant health and safety instructions and guidance and know how and where to access them.

[TWAM's Health and Safety Organisational Responsibilities](#) document provides clarification of the health and safety responsibilities of holders of managerial, supervisory and specialist posts at various levels, as well as broad health and safety duties and responsibilities on all employees and volunteers. All our managers and supervisors carry health and safety responsibility for those activities and undertakings under their control. All staff and volunteers are urged to familiarise themselves with this document.

## WORKING TOGETHER

Our collective aim must be to provide a positive health and safety culture throughout Tyne & Wear Archives & Museums, so that there is a continuous, cost effective, improvement to our health and safety performance.

We all owe this to our fellow employees and to other persons who may be affected by our activities, and to the cause of minimising financial losses from accidents and incidents of equipment damage. To support this we have appointed Newcastle Personnel (Safety) to provide us with professional safety and occupational hygiene assistance.

We ask you to continue to play your part in keeping health and safety as a top priority within Tyne & Wear Archives & Museums.



**(Chair of TWAM Strategic Board)**

**Date 17.09.2021**



**(Director of Tyne & Wear Archives & Museums)**

**Date 17.09.2021**