



# Doncaster Council

**Doncaster  
Health and Wellbeing Board**

**Date: 11 November 2021**

**Subject:** History, Health and Happiness: Wellbeing at Heritage Doncaster Update

**Presented by:** Victoria Ryves, NPO Programme Manager, Heritage Doncaster

<p><b>Purpose of bringing this report to the Board</b></p> <p>The presentation will update the Board on the History, Health and Happiness programme at Heritage Doncaster. This includes the impact on the community to date and the results of ongoing evaluation by Sheffield Hallam University/Arc Research. The Board are invited to feedback and challenge the work to date. Heritage Doncaster is exploring future funding models for this programme of work. We invite the Board to consider what role History, Health and Happiness could play in the health and wellbeing of Doncaster's community in the future, in order to inform future applications, and we also wish to explore what models of commissioning may look like in the future. We also invite the Board to consider how as individual organisations you may contribute to the work of History, Health and Happiness at Heritage Doncaster in its current programme of work (until March 2023).</p>	
Decision	
Recommendation to Full Council	
Endorsement	
Information	<p>Heritage Doncaster's History, Health and Happiness programme is a programme of wellbeing activities that take place in four communities in Doncaster. The work is funded by Arts Council England. Our activities aim to use history and storytelling to spark conversation, improve wellbeing and tackle isolation.</p>

Implications		Applicable Yes/No
DHWB Strategy Areas of Focus	Substance Misuse (Drugs and Alcohol)	No
	Mental Health	Yes
	Dementia	Yes
	Obesity	No
	Children and Families	Yes
Joint Strategic Needs Assessment		No
Finance		No
Legal		No
Equalities		No

Other Implications (please list)	Determining content of funding application
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<p><b>How will this contribute to improving health and wellbeing in Doncaster?</b></p>
<p>History, Health and Happiness works in localities around the borough to tackle isolation, improve wellbeing and encourage connections. The work is evaluated by Sheffield Hallam University and Arc Research and Consultancy Ltd. Heritage Doncaster is confident that the programming is forming connections, enhancing skills and improving the wellbeing of participants. Evaluation for 2020/21 found that lockdown sessions “reached out to the vulnerable and built online communities.” The evaluation concludes that “for those who attend the [digital social clubs] the impact of the project has been considerable, both in terms of connection, mental health, and increased confidence around computer use.” It also found that participants had a 20% increase in interest in new things - a contributing factor to increased mental health scores.</p> <p>A full analysis of the impact can be found in Impact Reports:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Impact Report 2019/20: <a href="https://www.heritagedoncaster.org.uk/projects/happyhistory/history-health-and-happiness-impact-report-2019-20/">https://www.heritagedoncaster.org.uk/projects/happyhistory/history-health-and-happiness-impact-report-2019-20/</a></li> <li>• Impact Report 2020/21: <a href="https://www.heritagedoncaster.org.uk/projects/happyhistory/history-health-and-happiness-impact-report-2020-21/">https://www.heritagedoncaster.org.uk/projects/happyhistory/history-health-and-happiness-impact-report-2020-21/</a></li> </ul>

<p><b>Recommendations</b></p>
<p>The Board is asked to:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide feedback and challenge the History, Health and Happiness programme to date</li> <li>• Consider what role History, Health and Happiness may play in the health and wellbeing of Doncaster’s community, in order to inform future funding applications (submitted in March 2022)</li> <li>• Consider how as individual organisations you may contribute to the work of History, Health and Happiness at Heritage Doncaster until 2023. Areas to develop include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Work with children and young people</li> <li>○ Activities in Stainforth, Adwick/Woodlands and Hexthorpe</li> <li>○ Adult mental health</li> <li>○ Commissions and alternative funding structures</li> <li>○ Ways to enhance co-production in the programming, including with health professionals</li> </ul> </li> </ul>