

Equalities Impact Assessment

Aim of Policy / Scope of Service: Recommendation to return water carrier made from human cranium				
Different Groups included in scope	Potential Impact on this group	Existing data/information inc. relevant legislation	Data/Information required	Potential actions to minimise negative impact and maximise positive impacts
BME and faith communities in Brighton & Hove	Groups see return of water carrier by RP&M as appropriate: positive impact	Process and recommendation informed by all relevant policies and guidelines: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Acquisition and Disposal Policy</i> (RP&M 2005) • <i>Guidance for the Care of Human Remains</i> (DCMS 2005) • <i>Policy for the care and treatment of Human Remains</i> (RP&M 2006) 		BHCC Communications team to liaise with the Australian High Commission in developing and releasing a press statement concerning the return. Statement issued via RP&M website making transparent the processes involved in making the recommendation, the terms on which it was made, and the positive outcomes deriving from the decision.
Indigenous communities in Australia, particularly the Ngarrindjeri Nation, the source community	Groups see return of water carrier by RP&M as appropriate: positive impact			RP&M to work closely with representatives of the Ngarrindjeri Nation to undertake a cultural exchange and maximise the positive impacts of the return of the water carrier.

What consultation has been used or undertaken?	Date	Methods Used	Findings
<p>Detailed information on the history and cultural significance of the carrier – and extensive references from contemporary written reports – were provided by a museum specialist in Indigenous Australian history and cultural heritage.</p>	<p>2006 to date</p>	<p>Email correspondence</p>	<p>All consultation detailed in the documented evidence gathering process and summarised in the Cabinet Report</p>
<p>Specialists in UK museums were also consulted during the research process.</p>	<p>2006 to date</p>	<p>Email correspondence, conversations by phone and face-to-face meetings</p>	
<p>Consultation with senior members of the Ngarrindjeri Nation.</p>	<p>May 2009</p>	<p>Face-to-face meetings</p>	
<p>We have also drawn on the expertise and documented decisions made by many UK museums which have considered requests for the return of Indigenous Australian human remains.</p>	<p>2006 to date</p>	<p>Email correspondence, conversations by phone and face-to-face meetings</p>	

Agreed Actions	Timescale	Lead Officer	Review date
To support the BHCC Communications team in liaising with the Australian High Commission to develop and release a press statement concerning the return.	For Friday 22 May 2009	Sarah Posey, Head of Collections & Interpretation / Helen Mears, Keeper of World Art, RP&M	22 May 2009
To work with the Australian High Commission in preparing the water carrier for return.	Date of transfer tbc	Helen Mears, Keeper of World Art, RP&M	Nov 2009
To work with the Australian High Commission and members of the Ngarrindjeri Nation in developing a cultural exchange to mark the return, including the possible acquisition of a collection of Ngarrindjeri art.	May 2009	Helen Mears, Keeper of World Art, RP&M	Nov 2009
Also to –			
To draft a statement to post on the RP&M website making transparent the processes involved in making the recommendation, the terms on which it was made, and the positive outcomes deriving from the decision.	For Friday 22 May 2009	Helen Mears, Keeper of World Art, RP&M	22 May 2009

