

SUBJECT:	BOOLE SCULPTURE - LINCOLN RAILWAY STATION
DIRECTORATE:	COMMUNITIES & ENVIRONMENT AND MAJOR DEVELOPMENTS
REPORT AUTHOR:	STEVE BIRD, ASSISTANT DIRECTOR AND MARIA CLAYTON, CAPITAL PROJECTS MANAGER

1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1 To seek approval to agree formal HoT's and enter into the necessary legal agreement to enable the gifting and ongoing maintenance of a new bronze sculpture to commemorate the work of George Boole.

2. Executive Summary

- 2.1 The Heslam Trust have commissioned the Boole Sculpture and wish to gift this sculpture to the City of Lincoln Council on completion of its installation at the Lincoln Central railway station. The City of Lincoln Council would also take on full maintenance and repairing obligations for the Sculpture.
- 2.2 The statue commemorates the work of George Boole, a former resident of Lincoln.

Widely recognised as the forefather of the information age, self-taught mathematician George Boole was born in Lincoln in November 1815 and his work forms the basis of computer science and electronic circuitry.

He was born into modest family circumstances in the city, where his father was a shoemaker and his mother a lady's maid. He went on to work as a teacher and devoted himself to the study of mathematics. Boole promoted the value of education in the city, and ultimately rose to become an eminent mathematician.

Boole's legacy is through his mathematics, and more specifically his theories around Boolean Algebra.

In 1844 he was awarded the Royal Society's Royal Medal for Mathematics, and became the first Professor of Mathematics at Queen's College Cork in 1849. There, he developed his most important work – *An Investigation of the Laws of Thought*.

In 2015 Cork University unveiled a statue to George Boole in recognition of his work.

George Boole died in Cork, Ireland, a professor of mathematics, in 1864.

A stained-glass window at Lincoln Cathedral marks Boole's achievements, and a blue plaque marks his former home and school in Pottergate.

2.3 The sculpture is to be located on land in the ownership of East Midlands Trains outside the railway station.

3. Background

3.1 For some years now the Heslam Trust have sought to find a suitable way to commemorate the work of George Boole in the city.

3.2 The Heslam Trust approached the City of Lincoln Council during the construction of the Lincoln Transport Hub scheme to advise that they would like to commission some artwork to recognise George Boole's contribution to the world of mathematics.

3.3 Various possible locations in the City were considered as a suitable place for the sculpture and following discussions with East Midlands Trains and Network Rail an 'in principle' agreement was reached between them and the Heslam Trust to allow the sculpture to be located on the railway station forecourt. This agreement was subject to:

- i. Network Rail's Landlord Approval
- ii. East Midlands Trains Approval as the TOC (Train operating company)
- iii. Planning consent

3.4 An 'in principle' agreement was also reached between the Heslam Trust and the City of Lincoln Council whereby the CoLC would take ownership of the completed sculpture including all ongoing insurance, repair and maintenance obligations subject to the Heslam Trust providing an upfront financial consideration to the CoLC to cover such ongoing maintenance and repair costs.

3.5 The City Council has agreed to undertake care/maintenance, but in accordance with a formally drafted maintenance agreement that limits responsibility to basic cleaning/general care, and not repair/replacement in cases of extensive damage. The definition of what constitutes extensive damage will be the subject of further conversations between officers of the Heslam Trust and City Council.

4. Proposal

4.1 An image of the statue is shown below



4.2 The location of installation is to be as per appendix A

4.3 On completion of the installation of the sculpture, anticipated to be 2021 the City of Lincoln Council will add the sculpture to its inventory of public art, and undertake routine general maintenance as required in accordance with the obligations contained in the legal agreements.

5. Strategic Priorities

5.1 Let's drive economic growth

Public art installations are seen by many as a measure of the vibrancy and cultural advancement of an area.

5.2 Let's enhance our remarkable place

Public art is an important part of making a place interesting and inviting to live, work, and visit.

6. Organisational Impacts

6.1 Finance.

The adoption of the statue comes with a commuted sum, as is now normal practice for gifted public art items. The proposed sum is a one off contribution of £10,000 from the Heslam Trust, the same value as the city obtained for the Tank memorial sculpture located on Tritton Road. This commuted sum will be held in an earmarked reserve until such time as it is required to fund repairs and maintenance costs.

6.2 Legal Implications including Procurement Rules

The item will be added to the Council's inventory of public art for insurance purposes. The agreement for the ownership of the sculpture to be transferred to the city council along with the care/maintenance of the sculpture will be prepared by the legal representatives for the Heslam Trust, East Midlands Trains and

Network Rail together with the City of Lincoln Council's Legal Services team.

6.3 **Equality, Diversity and Human Rights**

The Public Sector Equality Duty means that the Council must consider all individuals when carrying out their day-to-day work, in shaping policy, delivering services and in relation to their own employees.

It requires that public bodies have due regard to the need to:

- Eliminate discrimination
- Advance equality of opportunity
- Foster good relations between different people when carrying out their activities

Officers have not undertaken a full equality analysis as third parties are taking responsibility for the relevant consents which are required which will require consideration of matters relating to equality. Evidence of this consideration will be required as part of the acceptance of the statue. Furthermore, we have undertaken background research and to the best of our knowledge have ascertained that George Boole was not associated with any activities during his lifetime which could be considered as discriminatory.

6.4 **Human Resources**

N/A

6.5 **Land, Property and Accommodation**

The statue is being gifted with a commuted sum, so will be subject to a formal agreement between the City Council and Heslam Trust

The statue is not on Council land, and so maintenance responsibilities will be covered by a separate agreements between the Heslam Trust, City Council, Network Rail and East Midlands Trains.

6.6 **Significant Community Impact**

It is intended to enrich the experience of visiting Lincoln, commemorating the work of George Boole, and inspiring travellers.

6.7 **Corporate Health and Safety implications**

The stature will be subject to usual site inspections and periodic care, adding to the work of the Community Services section.

7. **Risk Implications**

7.1 (i) Options Explored
Adoption.
Not adopting.

7.2 (ii) Key risks associated with the preferred approach
Adopting brings a risk from unexpected costs, as this is a very expensive piece of art, and as such it has been necessary to mitigate this in the legal agreement, with

the statue remaining the responsibility of the Heslam Trust in certain extreme situations.

8. Recommendation

8.1 Director of Major Development and Directorate for Environment and Communities will work jointly with the Heslam Trust, East Midlands Trains and Network Rail in the satisfactory delivery and conclusion of this proposal.

8.2 The Director of Environment and Communities be asked to adopt the sculpture on the basis of the principles set out in this report subject to agreeing the transfer of ownership and the maintenance agreement.

Is this a key decision? No

Do the exempt information categories apply? No

Does Rule 15 of the Scrutiny Procedure Rules (call-in and urgency) apply? No

How many appendices does the report contain? Two

List of Background Papers: None

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