

Wessex Museums Charter

Wessex Museums is a thriving partnership of the four leading museums across the counties of Dorset and Wiltshire:

**DORSET
MUSEUM**

**poole
museum**

The **SALISBURY
MUSEUM**

**WILTSHIRE
MUSEUM**

Our purpose

Wessex Museums exists to build the resilience and relevance of our museums by helping them share the story of our counties through their outstanding cultural heritage in ways that inspire, connect and add value to people's lives.

Characteristics

Respect

A relationship that is collegiate and candid, that fosters trust and mutual respect is the foundation of our partnership.

Collaboration

Seeking every opportunity to work together, recognising and building on our different strengths, and appreciating that these generate a vital and creative tension.

Passion

For the great collections we have and in our desire to engage people in the wider stories and their relevance to the world today.

Innovation

Be brave and creative in our approach to resilience, seeking opportunities for real innovation that will help secure our future – and always challenging what this means to us.

Realism

About what we can really achieve well and what is sustainable.

Our ambition

Wessex Museums will inspire more people to explore and enjoy the outstanding art and heritage of the region and to understand its significance to their lives. We will help our museums to share the amazing story of the region in new and exciting ways and make a major contribution to the cultural, social and tourism economies of Dorset and Wiltshire.

Opportunities

We believe that this partnership provides the opportunity to:

- Strengthen the message and cultural offer of our museums.
- Push us out of our comfort zone to do things in new ways.
- Tell important stories from across our region.
- Share and learn from successes and mistakes, build relationships and enhance our reputation with partners and stakeholders.
- Increase our organisations' resilience and diversify their income streams.