**Tavistock Guildhall Gateway Project – Background Summary**

The Tavistock Guildhall Gateway Project is funded by the National Lottery Heritage Fund Heritage and Tavistock Town Council (total project cost £1,645,007.00). The project will redevelop the Grade II\* Tavistock Guildhall, former Police Station and Trowtes House, open up public access to its historic courtroom and police cells, provide a range of interpretive experiences within these spaces (including a World Heritage Site Gateway Centre), offer a new learning, volunteering and activities programme for people of all ages, and make space available in the Guildhall for events and community use including outside of general opening times. The Guildhall Gateway Visitor Centre will be operated by Tavistock Town Council’s delivery partner, Tavistock Heritage Trust (THT).

The project will also deliver a new ‘one-stop-shop’ for Council and other public services based in the Guildhall, providing convenient and easy access to a range of information and support.

Following the extensive restoration of the building the project will:

* Create a brand new heritage interpretation offer in the former police cells and historic courtroom, telling the fascinating story of the building and of Tavistock’s wider heritage as the eastern gateway to the Cornwall and West Devon Mining Landscape World Heritage Site.
* Create a new public reception area in the Guildhall for both welcoming visitors to the Visitor Centre and for Council ‘one-stop-shop’ services.
* Deliver a varied heritage activities programme for people of all ages, including a school’s offer, family days, research projects, skills workshops and a co-produced partnership project with the South West Police Heritage Trust for young people at risk of offending.
* provide a dedicated space for heritage learning activities in the former Magistrates’ Retiring Room
* Offer a prestigious new venue in the historic Courtroom for events and functions which will be available for community use outside of public opening hours.
* Offer 50 new volunteering opportunities, including as visitor information assistants, Guildhall welcome stewards, tour guides, and learning and events volunteers.