

Mr M Clark
Executive Director
Derwentside District Council
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County Durham DH8 5JA

Office of the Chief Executive
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Sunderland SR2 7DN

Telephone: 0191 553 1112
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Date 31st March, 2006.
Our ref GS/PG
Your ref



Dear Mr Clark,

I enclose a copy of a letter recently sent to the British Library, following a notice of motion passed at a recent Council meeting, regarding their refusal to agree an application by Tyne & Wear Museums to borrow the Lindisfarne Gospels to display in Sunderland.

We would like to gain your support in requesting the British Library to reconsider its decision and allow the people of this region the opportunity to visit their own heritage.

Should you have any queries about this letter, the matter is being dealt with by my colleague Mr. G. Shaw, who may be contacted on 0191 553 7987, email gary.shaw@sunderland.gov.uk.

Yours faithfully,

Ged Fitzgerald
Chief Executive.

Delivering services for a better future

The British Library,
St. Pancras,
96 Euston Road,
LONDON,
NW1 2DB.

Office of the Chief Executive
P.O. Box 100, Civic Centre,
Sunderland SR2 7DN

Telephone: 0191 553 1112
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Date 30th March, 2006.
Our ref LS/PG
Your ref

Dear Sir,

At its last meeting the Council of the City of Sunderland unanimously approved the following motion:-

This Council deplores the recent decision by the British Library to refuse the request of Tyne and Wear Museums to return the Lindisfarne Gospels to the North-East temporarily during 2006, in order that they might be displayed in Sunderland.

Furthermore, that this Council calls upon the British Library to reconsider its decision not to release the Lindisfarne Gospels for further loan until 2014 at the earliest and that this Council pledges itself to do all in its power to change the British Library's policy, which unreasonably deprives the people of this region of the opportunity to visit their own heritage.

I look forward to receiving your response to the motion as soon as possible.

Should you have any queries about this letter, the matter is being dealt with by my colleague Mr. L. Stoddart, who may be contacted on 0191 553 1007, email lee.stoddart@sunderland.gov.uk.

Yours faithfully,



Ged Fitzgerald
Chief Executive.

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