

# Heritage Statement Maurice Dobson Museum and Heritage Centre

## Background

Darfield's Maurice Dobson Museum and Heritage Centre is housed in an old Yeoman's house in Darfield's conservation area. It is a grade 2 listed building. The Museum stands out on the corner of the conservation area, in a prominent position.

The museum is overflowing with an eclectic collection of historical treasures featuring everything that is great about Darfield and Barnsley's past achievements. From industrial heritage to domestic memorabilia, the museum offers a comprehensive and immersive insight of Darfield and its ground-breaking history.

The Museum and Heritage centre are celebrating 25 years of our doors being open in 2025, it is managed by Darfield Area Amenity Society, who make up the committee, and totally operated by volunteers, all funds raised are done so to maintain and keep the doors open of this independent museum.

## Introduction

This statement outlines the design and access considerations for the proposed placement of a blue plaque on the museum building. The blue plaque aims to commemorate the significant history contributions associated with the site, enhancing public awareness and appreciation for the museum's heritage.

## Design Proposal

The blue plaque will be designed in accordance with standard specifications for heritage markers, it will feature:

Design Proposal:

**1, Material and finish:** the plaque will be made of durable weather resistance materials such as cast iron metal or enamel ensuring longevity and low maintenance the finish will be smooth with a matte or semi-gloss surface to minimise glare.

**2. Dimensions:** the plaque will be measuring approximately 600 millimetres in diameter and a standard size that is easily visible yet proportionate to the museum's facade

**3 Colour Scheme:** the primary colour will be a deep blue consistent with traditional blue plaques with white lettering for the text the colour choice will complement the museum's architecture and style and surrounding environment.

**4. Text content** the plaque will display the name of the individual or event being commemorated along with a brief description detailing its historical significance the front will clear and legible suitable for public reading from a distance.

**5.Placement:** The Plaque will be strategically placed on the front façade of the museum, at a height of approximately 1.5 meters from the ground. This location ensures visibility to pedestrains and passersby while adhering to accessibility standards

**Access:** considerations public access ability the location of the plaque will be will not obstruct entryways or pathways ensuring easy access for all visitors including those with mobility impairments.

**Viewing distance:** the distance will be considered for various audiences including children and individuals with disabilities ensuring that the text is readable from reasonable distance within the required physical strain.

**Lighting:** adequate lighting will be provided to ensure visibility of the plaque and during evening hours this may include ambient lighting from nearby sources or dedicated spotlights and enhance the plaques visibility without causing light pollution.

**Conclusion:** the proposed blue plaque will serve as a meaningful addition to the museum honouring its historical significance while being thoughtfully designed and accessible to all this initiative not only aims to educate the public but also to foster appreciation for the rich cultural heritage represented by the museum, we look forward to a positive impact this plaque will have on visitors and the local community