



Babergh District Council
Corks Lane
Hadleigh
Ipswich
Suffolk IP7 6SJ

Telephone: 01473 825811
Email:
jennifer.jenkins@babergh.gov.uk

15th February 2016

Sir Peter Luff
Chairman
Heritage Lottery Fund
7 Holbein Place
London
SW1W 8NR

Dear Sir Peter

Babergh District Council fully supports Gainsborough's House *Reviving an Artist's Birthplace: A National Centre for Thomas Gainsborough* and purchased Gainsborough's Chambers and the adjacent land with the sole intention of securing the site for the project. Furthermore, we have worked closely with Gainsborough's House from the beginning of their plans particularly through the Sudbury Town Steering Committee, of which the Director Mark Bills is a member.

We are, totally committed to this project because we can see its direct benefits to Sudbury, its communities and its significant role in the town's economic development and tourism offer. We are therefore looking at ways in which to maximise our support in any way we can.

Whilst Babergh District Council currently faces great financial challenges, we appreciate that the most significant way in which we could provide help to support the capital project is to consider gifting Gainsborough's Chamber to Gainsborough's House as match funding.

It is the intention of this letter to pledge our commitment to *Reviving an Artist's Birthplace*, and to confirm we are minded in principle to consider gifting the property which has an estimated value of £235,000 with the hope it could be used for match funding for the project.

Yours sincerely

Cllr Jennie Jenkins
Leader of the Council
Babergh District Council