

News release



10 December 2019

Funding approved for new display cases at Oxford University Museum of Natural History

Three quarters of a million visitors a year to Oxford University Museum of Natural History are set to enjoy new displays in the Museum's main court thanks to a £250,000 grant from FCC Environment, distributed by FCC Communities Foundation.

The money will be used to purchase a number of new conservation-grade display cases that will better protect and preserve the specimens on display. The project also offers the opportunity to create imaginative new displays that will offer visitors thought-provoking narratives around the sciences of the natural environment.

Professor Paul Smith, director of Oxford University Museum of Natural History, says: "The generous grant from FCC Environment allows us to take the important first step in a longer-term plan to transform the Museum. With the installation of the new displays we will be able to safeguard our heritage, while conveying new messages and information to the Museum's large local, national and international audiences."

FCC Environment is the leading UK waste and resource management company and is part of a global group with a strong heritage in providing services for communities and business.

Steve Longdon, Regional Director for FCC Environment, says: "We are delighted to be able to support Oxford University Museum of Natural History in its aim to improve the visitor experience. The Museum caught our attention because it has an internationally important collection of geological and zoological specimens, an award-winning education programme and a very active public engagement programme. It is open to the general public, free of charge, seven days a week.

"The new display cases that FCC Environment are funding will be imaginative and captivate audiences, engaging them in thought-provoking and meaningful ways. This is a very exciting opportunity for us and we look forward to visiting the museum once the new displays are in place."

Professor Smith hopes the completed displays will be officially opened to the public late 2020.

FCC Communities Foundation is a not-for-profit business that awards grants for community projects through the Landfill Communities Fund.

*

Media information:

For further information please contact:

Scott Billings
Digital engagement officer
Oxford University Museum of Natural History

News release



Parks Road
OX1 3PW
scott.billings@oum.ox.ac.uk

Notes to editors:

About Oxford University Museum of Natural History

Founded in 1860 as the centre for scientific study at the University of Oxford, the Museum of Natural History now holds the University's internationally significant collections of entomological, geological and zoological specimens. Housed in a stunning Pre-Raphaelite-inspired example of neo-Gothic architecture, the Museum's growing collections underpin a broad programme of natural environment research, teaching and public engagement.

In 2015, the Museum was a **Finalist in the Art Fund Prize for Museum of the Year**. In 2016, it won the top accolade, Best of the Best, in the **Museums + Heritage Awards**.

www.oumnh.ox.ac.uk

www.morethanadodo.com

About FCC Environment

FCC Environment is the leading UK waste and resource management company and is part of a global group with a strong heritage in providing services for communities and business. Its vision is to be the environmental company of choice, delivering change for a sustainable future. It employs 2,400 people and operates more than 200 facilities across England, Scotland and Wales. FCC Environment donates the landfill tax credits that are generated by its operations to FCC Communities Foundation, in order to add value to the environmental and social infrastructure of the communities around landfill sites. www.fccenvironment.co.uk

About FCC Communities Foundation

FCC Communities Foundation is a not-for-profit business that awards grants for community, conservation and heritage projects from funds donated by FCC Environment through the Landfill Communities Fund and Scottish Landfill Communities Fund. Since 1998, FCC Communities Foundation has granted over £200m to more than 7,000 projects which benefit people living within 10 miles of a FCC Environment landfill site. For more information please visit www.fcccommunitiesfoundation.org.uk

About Landfill Communities Fund / Scottish Landfill Communities Fund

The Landfill Communities Fund and Scottish Landfill Communities Fund - any waste that is discarded which cannot be reused, reprocessed or recycled may ultimately be disposed of in a landfill site. To encourage the re-use, recycle and recovery of more value from waste and use more environmentally friendly methods of waste disposal, Landfill Tax is charged on each tonne of waste sent to landfill. Landfill Operators (LOs) are able to redirect a small proportion of landfill tax liability to support a wide range of community and environmental

News release



projects in the vicinity of landfill sites through the Landfill Communities Fund (LCF) and Scottish Landfill Communities Fund (SLCF). The LCF is regulated by ENTRUST on behalf of HM Revenue & Customs, and the projects are delivered by enrolled Environmental bodies (EBs). The SLCF is regulated by SEPA on behalf of Revenue Scotland and projects are delivered by Approved Bodies (ABs).