PRESS RELEASE

BEACON RETAINS COVETED ACCREDITATION

A COVETED award has been gained by The Beacon Museum for the thirteenth year running.

Museum Accreditation Status has again been achieved by the Whitehaven harbourside museum this week.

The Accreditation Scheme sets nationally agreed standards for museums in the UK. It defines good practice and identifies agreed standards, thereby encouraging development. It is a baseline quality standard that helps guide museums to be the best they can be, for current and future users.

Elizabeth Kwasnik, Director of The Beacon Museum, said:

"Since the Accreditation Scheme was introduced into the UK museum sector in 2004, the Beacon Museum has consistently achieved full accreditation.

"We are delighted that, once again, the standards by which we care for our collections, learners and visitors have been acknowledged and recognised by Arts Council England.

"We hope this further encourages the public to visit the Beacon Museum and engage with the numerous and varied activities that we offer.

"Accreditation endorses the Beacon Museum as a safe, enduring and engaging haven for the history, heritage and science of Copeland and West Cumbria."

The scheme is managed as a partnership between the Arts Council, the <u>Welsh Government</u>, <u>Museums Galleries Scotland</u> and the <u>Northern</u> Ireland Museums Council.

Its shared vision for accreditation is to build trust in UK museums by maintaining a shared understanding of professional standards and encouraging sustainable development through effective planning, responsible collections management and active engagement with communities.

For more information call The Beacon Museum on 01946 592302 or visit www.thebeacon-whitehaven.co.uk.