What are the challenges facing local museums?
• Judy Lindsay, Chair of London Museums Group
• Every region in the country has a museums federation and LMG is the federation for the London region
• Welcomes members from 250 museums and has current membership of 600
Current Landscape
• Dissolution of Museums, Libraries and Archives Council and transfer of functions to Arts Council England
• Restructuring of Renaissance
• Museum of London to deliver museum development for the region
• Economic downturn
• Growth of spending on experience rather than material goods
• The ‘staycation’
• The growth of technology
What are the issues facing the sector?
• University museums struggling to argue their case
• Cuts in local authority funding leading to reduced service provision and closures
• More advocacy is needed to prevent museums being seen as the first thing to be cut
• Professionals being replaced with non qualified staff to cut costs
• The Renaissance years have created unrealistic expectations among the public and museums
How can we tackle these issues?
• Museums attract tourists and appeal to local residents - we must capitalise on that
• Advocacy is all important and ACE, GLA, LMG and MDOs should work together to promote and protect museums
• MDOs should be seen as a source of intelligence on what’s happening at ground level
• Consortia and the formation of larger museum trusts may be a way forward but that would require much consultation and leadership
• We should be sharing skills and resources across the sector
• Lobbying to keep DCMS