



Report of the Chief Libraries, Arts and Heritage Officer

Scrutiny - Working Group on Grants

Date: 18th November

Subject: Working Group Paper on Grants to Culture and Sport Related Organisations

Electoral Wards Affected:

Ward Members consulted
(referred to in report)

Specific Implications For:

Equality and Diversity

Community Cohesion

Narrowing the Gap

1.0 Purpose of Report

1.1 To provide further information and clarification to the Scrutiny Board report of 7 September to enable the Scrutiny Working Group to discuss the benefits to the City of the grants the Council makes to cultural and sport organisations.

2.0 Principles for Grant making

2.1 Leeds funds cultural and sports organisations to enable them to survive and contribute to the core principles of the cultural vision:

- To spot, nurture and retain creative talent
- To enable all to engage via a wide mix of cultural opportunity
- To breakdown barriers
- To show Leeds as a significant city with a vibrant distinctive cultural offer

3.0 Who grant funds these organisations?

3.1 Appendix 1 details the grants that the cultural and sports organisations receive. There are three main funding organisations : Leeds City Council, Arts Council and West Yorkshire Grants. The Council contributed £417,000 in 2010/11 to West Yorkshire Grants, 35.25% of that total grant funding and then West Yorkshire Grants funded organisations in Leeds to a sum of £549,347 due to the regional contribution made by the major companies based in Leeds.

Whilst the majority of grants have been to organisations for year long programmes of activities, the Council has also supported three community festivals. The history of each is different and from 2011/12 all will fall within the grant making process.

Leeds Asian Festival receives a grant of £33,428 and unfunded support from Parks of £6,569, Irish Festival receive £17,831 and in recent years Sport have provided over £30,000 unfunded support to this event. Reggae and Carnival receive a sum of £50,000 outside the grant framework currently. Parks and Countryside provide funded support to the sum of £208,430 and unfunded support of £12,379 and Events provides Carnival Queen at a cost of £30k

4.0 Benefits to the City of the grant funding

4.1 In 09/10 arts@leeds funding 76 organisations who offered 21,816 sessions of participating activity including workshops, exhibitions, talks and demonstrations to 142,738 residents with opportunities for participation in all wards of the city. 1,169,641 people were attracted to cultural performances and events and 467,570 online audience members. A 250% increase on 2008/09. 3,703 Leeds artists were employed, a 150% increase. The organisations brought in almost £44 million of income via funding, sponsorship and tickets sales. The work with some the city's most vulnerable people continued.

Appendix 2 includes much more detail of the activities of the grant funded organisations. There is clear benefit from grant funding but some activities need further examination:

- some organisations expect to receive grants without applying or meeting deadlines. Leeds City Council provides support to organisations to fill in the application forms and it is proposed that the timetable and process is more rigorously applied in the current financial climate.
- grant priority should be made to those who proportionately provide maximum impact to the people of Leeds and meet the four principles of the cultural vision.
- Monitoring is more rigorous on impact to ensure that companies do not exaggerate people they have worked with. It is not all about numbers though and quality of experience is vital.
- All funding which the Council consider to be cultural or sporting grants will only be made through the formal process

5. Recommendations

Scrutiny is asked to consider the current impact of the grant process.

Appendix 1

Organisation	LCC Grant allocated 2010/11	LCC Service Support – funded and unfunded	Receipt of West Yorkshire Grant	Arts Council
Opera North	878,810		253,955	9,654,778
West Yorkshire Playhouse	774,920		84,672	1,574,542
Northern Ballet Theatre	248,950		143,631	2,765,183
Leeds Grand Theatre and Opera House Ltd	204,160			
Middleton Equestrian Centre	173,760			
Yorkshire County Cricket Club	100,000			
Phoenix Dance	85,310		9,600	486,025
Meanwood Valley Urban Farm	73,920			
Yorkshire Dance Company	65,000		9,691	195,130
Project Space Leeds	50,000			
Reggae and Carnival	50,000	Funded Support £30k Carnival Queen £105,980 Reggae £102440 Carnival Unfunded support £12,379		
Leeds Asian Festival (Mela)	33,428	Unfunded support £6509		
Interplay Theatre	22,675		6,566	106,085
East Street Arts	20,163		8,640	48,771
Irish Festival	17,831	Unfunded support £38,897		
Blah Blah Blah Theatre Company	16,703		6,048	82,068
Arts Link West Yorkshire	16,024		7,344	30,914
Pavilion	15,123		8,640	51,350
SAA UK	14,971			87,295
RJC Dance	12,750			82,160
Leeds Animation workshops	11,465			
British Trust for Conservation Volunteers, Skelton	11,530			
Leeds Sports Federation	10,500			
Piano Competition	10,000			
Northern School of Contemporary Dance	9,180			
Axis	0			373,923
Red Ladder Theatre	2,500			248,020

Company				
Audiences Yorkshire	0			171,773
Cape UK	0			127,337
Jabadao	2,500		9,600	110,768
Tutti Fruitti Production	0			89,092
Unlimited Theatre Co	3,500			89,092
Peepal Tree Press	0			80,574
National Ass. for Literature Development	0			72,386
Jazz Yorkshire	0			57,567
The Culture Company	0			49,614
LMU Gallery & Theatre	2,750			44,541
Alchemy Anew	0			43,349
Skipko Arts	6,836			29,174
Lumen Arts Ltd	2,200			22,276
Pyramid of Arts	6,000			21,095
Ascendance Rep	1,000		9,600	
Heads Together			7,344	