

Report of The Head of Arts and Venues

Report to Libraries, Arts and Heritage Officer Board

Date: 5th March 2012

Subject: Three Year Grants to Cultural Organisations

Are specific electoral Wards affected? If relevant, name(s) of Ward(s): All	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Are there implications for equality and diversity and cohesion and integration?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Is the decision eligible for Call-In?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Does the report contain confidential or exempt information? If relevant, Access to Information Procedure Rule number: Appendix number:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

Summary of main issues

1. The cultural offer in Leeds is vital to the City's economy and the Council is keen to ensure a broad programme which contributes to the City Vision cultural objectives. These are building the city's cultural talent, removing all barriers, defining what makes Leeds distinctive from other cities and inspiring and being inspired by the community.
2. The **3-year cultural grants** provide funding to support the core activities of Leeds based organisations that demonstrate a strong commitment to the city and deliver against the four core objectives above. Bids of over £4m were received.
3. This report proposes the level of grants to be allocated via the 3 year grants fund.

Recommendations

4. To approve the organisations included in the report receive 3-year grants to support their cultural activity.

Purpose of this report

- 1.1 To recommend for approval the allocation of the 3-year cultural grants

2 Background information

- 2.1 In July, Executive Board agreed to revise the grant scheme process and introduce a three-year scheme to provide greater stability to cultural organisations that demonstrate commitment to the City through their programming, educational activity and support to the local economy. Significant change to the Arts Council funding arrangements was a further driver, as these changes impacted the city's arts organisations in different ways. All grants are assessed against the same criteria which included reach; target audiences; performance against the four cultural objectives; financial stability; realism of costing; alternative funding sources and opportunities; equality; diversity and safeguarding policies; programme and commitment to the city.
- 2.2 The City Vision defines the four cultural ambitions of the city. To be successful grant applicants must demonstrate how they will deliver against these, ie how they will
 - spot nurture and retain talent
 - remove barriers to enable all to participate in cultural activity
 - contribute to the distinctiveness of the cultural offer in the city
 - inspire the communities of Leeds and be inspired by them
- 2.3 Fundamental to the scheme is the collection of data to evidence the social and economic value of culture for the city. All successful applicants commit to collect and submit core data throughout the year. The delivery against commitments and clear evidence of value will be used when assessing organisations as part of the grant process. All organisations receiving three-year grants will be subject to annual review against their commitments.

3 Main Issues

- 3.1 The grant scheme was significantly oversubscribed. The new approach attracted a much broader range of organisations and individuals proposing an exciting mix of ideas. For the first time bidders were able to use electronic application forms and for some there were technical difficulties which will be resolved for the future. A paper form was available however and it was agreed to receive bids in any format.
 - 3.1.1 In summary
 - The value of all the bids against the 3 - year scheme was £4.2m
 - For the 3-year scheme 36% of the applications were from voluntary or amateur organisations, 62% from professional organisations
- 3.2 The bids covered a wide range of cultural types i.e. dance, sport, visual arts, and the proposed recommendations for funding have taken this into consideration. This will ensure that the city will host sport; opera; theatre; creative writing; dance; music in many forms; craft; design; creative digital; street entertainment; photography; visual arts; circus and more.

3.2.2 Local people were asked, through the Citizens Panel, what type of activities they would like to see in Leeds in 2012. The response is fascinating and has been used to shape the grant allocations. Different art forms and sport cost vastly different amounts to host or develop, activities engage different numbers of people which also impacts on budgets required. As a result there isn't a direct correlation between the grant allocations and the percentage of local people preferring to see specific types of activity.

Activity	% response	Activity	% response
Outdoor activities in parks	66	Sports Festival	44
Theatre	65	Visit to Museums	44
Popular Music Concert	62	Shows/Musicals	44
Local community Festivals	55	Musicals	43
Comedy	54	Visual Art Exhibitions	43
Street Entertainment	53	Dance	41
Film	50	Visits to Galleries	36
Walking in a park	50	Literature Festivals	32
Heritage Trails	47	Author Visits	26
Classical Music Concert	46	Opera	26
Activities in Museums	45	Other	6

3.3 The proposed allocations the 3-year grants are as follows

Organisation		2012/13	2013/14	2014/15
Artlink West Yorkshire	Requested	30,000	30,500	31,100
	Allocated	12,000	12,000	12,000
BTCV	Allocated	10,250	10,250	10,250
DAZL	Requested	7,000	7,500	8,000
	Allocated	6,500	6,500	6,500
East Street Arts	Requested	70,000	70,000	70,000
	Allocated	18,752	19,000	20,000
Headingley Festival	Requested	6,000	7,000	8,000
	Allocated	1,000	1,000	1,000
Heads together	Requested	10,000	10,000	10,000
	Allocated	2,000	2,000	2,000
Hyde Park Unity day	Requested	5,850	5,850	5,850
	Allocated	2,000	2,000	2,250
I love West Leeds	Requested	10,000	10,000	10,000
	Allocated	4,000	4,000	4,000
Interplay	Requested	24,895	27,570	29,895
	Allocated	16,000	16,000	16,000

Organisation		2012/13	2013/14	2014/15
Invisible Flock	Requested	10,000	10,000	10,000
	Allocated	2,000	2,000	2,000
Irish Arts Foundation	Requested	6,250	6,000	5,000
	Allocated	3,000	3,000	3,000
Kirkstall Festival	Requested	2,000	2,000	2,000
	Allocated	1,000	1,000	1,000
Leeds Asian Festival	Requested	40,000	40,000	40,000
	Allocated	29,500	29,500	29,500
Leeds Chinese Community	Requested	14,000	17,000	20,000
	Allocated	2,000	2,000	2,000
Leeds Combined Arts	Requested	3,300	3,300	3,300
	Allocated	1,000	1,000	1,000
Leeds Contemporary Arts	Requested	65,000	70,000	75,000
	Allocated	2,000	2,000	2,000
Leeds Grand Theatre and Opera House Ltd	Requested	602,000	620,300	639,000
	Allocated	180,000	190,000	200,000
Leeds International Piano Competition	Requested	20,000	40,000	40,000
	Allocated	20,000	10,000	10,000
Leeds Irish Festival	Requested	17,000	18,000	20,000
	Allocated	16,000	16,000	16,000
Leeds Music Hub	Requested	2,500	2,500	2,500
	Allocated	1,000	1,000	1,000
Leeds Sports Federation	Allocated	9700	9700	9700
St. Patrick's Day Parade	Requested	15,000	17,000	20,000
	Allocated	6,000	6,000	6,000
Leeds Theatre in Education	Requested	8,000	8,000	8,000
	Allocated	2,000	2,500	2,500
Left Bank	Requested	40,000	40,000	50,000
	Allocated	2,000	2,000	2,000
Lifeforce Productions	Requested	15,000	15,000	15,000
	Allocated	5,000	5,000	5,000
Little London Arts	Requested	4,000	9,000	9,000
	Allocated	2,000	2,750	4,000
Lumen	Requested	15,000	15,000	15,000
	Allocated	4,000	4,250	4,500
Makor	Requested	3,000	3,300	3,700
	Allocated	1,000	1,000	1,000

Organisation		2012/13	2013/14	2014/15
Meanwood Urban Valley Farm	Allocated	62,000	62,000	62,000
Middleton Equestrian Centre	Allocated	140,000	140,000	140,000
Morley Literature Festival	Requested	7,000	7,000	7,000
	Allocated	2,000	2,000	2,000
Musical Arc	Requested	5,000	5,000	4,5000
	Allocated	3,000	3,000	3,000
Northern Ballet Theatre	Requested	350,000	357,000	362,355
	Allocated	220,000	250,000	250,000
Northern School of Contemporary Dance	Requested	13,400	13,755	14,120
	Allocated	9,000	9,000	9,000
Opera North	Requested	864,000	864,000	864,000
	Allocated	760,000	720,000	710,000
Otley Courthouse	Requested	13,000	13,400	13,600
	Allocated	5,500	5,500	5,500
Pavillion	Requested	18,000	20,000	22,000
	Allocated	12,000	12,000	12,000
Phoenix Dance	Requested	85,000	85,000	85,000
	Allocated	75,000	75,000	75,000
Project Space Leeds	Requested	120,000	100,000	80,000
	Allocated	43,000	44,000	44,000
Pyramid of Arts	Requested	15,000	17,000	20,000
	Allocated	5,500	5,500	5,500
Red Ladder	Requested	13,500	14,500	11,500
	Allocated	5,000	5,000	5,000
RJC Dance	Requested	20,000	20,000	20,000
	Allocated	12,700	13,000	13,840
SAA-UK	Requested	63,696	63,696	63,696
	Allocated	16,000	16,250	16,250
Schools partnership (Garforth Arts Festival)	Requested	5,000	5,000	5,000
	Allocated	2,250	2,250	2,250
Skipkko Arts team	Requested	7,500	7,750	8,000
	Allocated	6,000	6,000	6,000
Slung Low	Requested	10,000	10,000	12,000
	Allocated	4,000	4,000	4,000
Space 2	Requested	15,000	15,000	15,000
	Allocated	2,000	2,000	2,000

Organisation		2012/13	2013/14	2014/15
Theatre Co. Blah Blah Blah	Requested	17,260	17,615	17,965
	Allocated	14,000	13,500	13,000
Together for Peace	Requested	10,000	10,000	10,000
	Allocated	1,500	2,000	2,000
Urban Sprawl	Requested	4,396	4,396	4,396
	Allocated	1,000	1,250	1,500
West Yorkshire Playhouse	Requested	930,000	940,000	950,000
	Allocated	680,000	710,000	710,000
Woolgather	Requested	14,500	18,000	23,900
	Allocated	2,500	2,500	2,500
Yorkshire Dance	Requested	126,300	126,300	126,300
	Allocated	59,000	60,000	60,000
Youth Theatre	Requested	14,860	18,000	23,900
	Allocated	2,000	2,500	2,500

4 Corporate Considerations

4.1 Consultation and Engagement

4.1.3 The changes to the grants scheme grew from consultation with a wide range of organisations and individuals. Changes to the Arts Council funding process in 2011 had a significant effect on both large and small organisations in the city. A number of smaller organisations lost their major funding streams while the impact on larger organisations has varied from increases in Arts Council Grant Funding to significant decreases. The Arts Council have moved to a three year scheme and these changes prompted the larger organisations to request that Leeds City Council also move to a three year funding plan coterminous with the Arts Council.

4.1.4 Leeds City Council wishes to grant aid activities that meet the City's cultural ambitions, inspire local people and attract visitors. To help develop the overall programme local people were asked, via the Citizens Panel, what they would like to see in the city in 2012. The results of the survey have been used in assessing the grants and allocating funding.

- Response to the survey was high, with 1180 replying via email and 145 responding to the postal survey.
- While 91% of respondents said they liked to be part of an audience, 43% said they liked to take a more active part in an event such as a mass participation or a local festival and 52% said they liked doing both.
- The types of activities respondents said they wanted to see in the city is included at 3.2.2.

- When identifying where people liked to attend events, the results were very close with 84% attending close to home, while 73% enjoy events in the city centre. 56% were prepared to travel anywhere in the city to attend an event.
- When asked what one thing would, in their view make Leeds the best place to live or visit a wide range of responses were received. Answers ranged from preference for different types of activities to comments on events in other cities. However the most interesting answers to this question focused on issues the public wanted resolved. The action most people wanted to see (14% of respondents) is an inclusive and accessible programme. 11% of respondents wanted improvements to transport, 9% referred to the need to improve cleanliness and 8% shared strong views that there should be more, better and greater variety of marketing and communication of events and activities.

4.2 Equality and Diversity / Cohesion and Integration

4.2.1 Cultural grants can support activity which can do much to tackle issues of equality and cohesion. All organisations bidding for a grant must include their equality and diversity policy and their safeguarding policies. Those who do not have such policies when preparing their bids are supported to create them.

4.2.2 All applicants need to demonstrate how funding will support them remove barriers and how they will inspire communities. They also must supply data on their target audiences. This has been used to identify how well the proposed allocations support everyone in the city. The following numbers were identified by the organisations it is proposed to grant support. Caution should be taken with this data as it refers to their bid and the funding will not stretch to fully fund the applicants. However it can be used as a base.

Age range	3 year grants
Under 5	143,526
5-11	311,373
12 – 15	626,266
16 – 19	731,917
20 – 24	1,032,386
25 – 64	1,378,635
Over 65	1,044,892
Work targeted at specific audiences	
People with disabilities	141,372
People at the risk of social exclusion	198,306
Asian or Asian British	145,318
Black or Black British	112,675
Chinese	58,561
Other Ethnic Group	137,973

4.2.3 An Equality Impact Assessment has been carried out and is available on request.

4.3 Council policies and City Priorities

4.3.1 The cultural sector in Leeds is important to the economic strength of the city through employment, commissioning and inward investment through audience secondary spend.

4.3.2 When considering the allocation of grants the number of people that would be employed, including volunteers and the numbers of new works were considered. Again caution is required with these figures as it will not be possible to fully support the bids from organisations. However as a guide the number of people who will benefit from the activities are

Beneficiaries	3 year grants
Number of Artist/Practitioners	36,642
Days Artist/Practitioners employed	281,098
Volunteers	29,983
Number of members of the community who will be engaged as creators	57,706
New works created	
Performances	2,084
Books	417
Film	370
Catalogues	74
Compositions	387
Commissions	631
Other	1,394

4.4 Resources and value for money

4.4.1 Leeds Metropolitan University are working with the Council to develop simple yet effective measures for the social and economic value of the programme. All successful applicants are committed to provide data on actual take up during the year and this will then be used to produce a value statement at the end of the year. Both Leeds Universities have leading professionals in the field of the economic and social value of culture and the Council will work with both teams in 2012 to develop these measures.

4.5 Legal Implications, Access to Information and Call In

4.5.1 All organisations are required to submit their governance arrangements, their banking details and a register of interests to ensure probity.

4.5.2 This report is subject to Call In

4.6 **Risk Management**

- 4.6.1 When allocating the grants the risks and opportunities for organisations and the Council have been considered

5 **Conclusions**

- 5.1 The grants proposed will result in Leeds building its reputation both as a venue for major organisations and a producer of a distinctive programme accessible to all.

6 **Recommendations**

- 6.1 That the Chief Libraries, Arts and Heritage Officer approves the 3-year grants as indicated at 3.3

7 **Background documents**

- 7.1 Results of the Citizen's Panel Culturally Inspired Survey
- 7.2 Equality Impact Assessment Cultural Grants
- 7.3 Grant bids and decisions paper

¹ The background documents listed in this section are available for inspection on request for a period of four years following the date of the relevant meeting. Accordingly this list does not include documents containing exempt or confidential information, or any published works. Requests to inspect any background documents should be submitted to the report author.