

Report of the Director of City Development

Report to Executive Board

Date: 16 July 2014

Subject: Grants to Cultural Organisations

Are specific electoral Wards affected? If relevant, name(s) of Ward(s): All	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input 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. Leeds has a remarkable artistic heart. It is the home to many nationally and internationally recognised companies, has provided the inspiration for countless artists, and boasts a growing independent creative sector and a broad range of diverse community festivals.
2. Outside London it is the only city with its own opera and ballet companies, and is the strongest city for dance in all its diversity. Alongside Wakefield we can claim to be the birthplace of modern sculpture, with a growing reputation in the broader visual arts. Our community festivals include the oldest West Indian Carnival in Europe. The city has a very strong record in delivering and supporting creative and artistic endeavour, and was recently praised by the chair of Arts Council England, Sir Peter Bazalgette for doing so.
3. The arts engage with, and deliver on, a diverse range Council priorities including working with communities, supporting economic development, promoting a positive image of the city and making it a better, richer and more diverse place to live, work or visit.
4. The arts in general are funded through three sources; earned income (mainly ticket sales), sponsorship and philanthropy, and grant funding. These three sources are mutually reliant. The main sources of grant funds for arts organisations are from Arts Council England and local government.

5. The arts@leeds grant programme is an excellent example of issues raised in Local Government Commission where external organisations are a strong part of the civic architecture and life. Funding for developing the creative life of the city is devolved by investing in cultural organisations. By grant aiding companies as opposed to commissioning or directly delivering activity, companies around the city and beyond are empowered to fashion a diverse programme of work in response to, and often reflect the communities around them.
6. In Leeds we have two main grant funds. Arts@Leeds and Leeds Inspired. Arts@Leeds provides core revenue support to organisations and Leeds Inspired is a smaller scheme which provides project funds. The Arts@Leeds grant scheme provides opportunities for residents from across the city to engage in cultural activity as either a participant, an attender or a creator. By funding a varied portfolio of cultural organisation we aim to deliver a diverse body of work firmly embedded within communities, from grass roots activity through to large scale programmes.
7. Arts organisations are businesses like any other business and in order to plan effectively to sustain and grow they need as much certainty on income as possible. In 2010/13 Leeds introduced 3-year funding for the first time which was exceptionally well received even though the funding total was reduced. The recommendations in this paper would allow for a second 3-year scheme to operate, thereby continuing to support the artistic heart of the City. The paper aims to determine the overall level of financial support for the arts in the city, it does not propose the level of support to individual organisations

Recommendations

1. Executive Board is recommended to:
 - (i) Approve the continuation of a 3-year grant funding programme to cultural organisations;
 - (ii) Approve in principle the total funding allocation to this scheme as per 2.11;
 - (iii) Approve simplification of our arts funding by incorporating the historical support for Leeds West Indian Carnival, Leeds Reggae Festival, the Irish Festival and Yorkshire Sculpture Triangle into the scheme.
 - (iv) Agree the timescale with grant application launch in August, deadline in October and decisions in January to enable arts organisations to forward plan, together with a revision of the application and monitoring form.
 - (v) Increase the minimum level of grant from £1,000 to £2,000 and enforce a maximum application of £750,000.

1. Purpose of the report

- 1.1 This report provides background information on the arts@leeds and Leeds Inspired grant scheme in order to determine appropriate levels of support in future years.
- 1.2 It seeks approval for the continuation of the Leeds Inspired grant scheme and the proposed amendments to the arts@leeds grant scheme. To agree a budget for the next 3 years and bring in line several funded cultural activities into the Arts@Leeds portfolio with the objective of transparency, monitoring and ensuring value for money.
- 1.3 Leeds City Council wishes to grant aid activities that meet the City's cultural ambitions, inspire local people and attract visitors. We want to strengthen our links to the arts and culture sector by supporting established and emerging companies. Develop economic growth both in the sector and across Leeds, through employment and by the encouragement of cultural tourism.

2. Background information

- 2.1 The cultural offer in Leeds is vital to the City's economy and the health and wellbeing of the residents. The City Priority Plan sets out key priorities for making Leeds the Best City for Business, Children and Young People and Communities in which to live. The City Cultural Vision is to develop and retain the city's cultural talent, by removing barriers to participation, defining what makes Leeds distinctive from other cities and by inspiring and being inspired by the community. Best council objective: promote Sustainable and Inclusive Economic Growth. We want to ensure Leeds is an active and creative city where all cultural organisations feel they have a voice and influence over cultural direction; and inactive people have become active.
- 2.1 Leeds is renowned for its strong engagement with the arts through both participation and attendance. Since 2012 we have seen Leeds go from strength to strength. This is evident with the opening of the First Direct Arena, which has already played host to over 50 events. The launch of Trinity Leeds shopping centre marked a key retail regeneration to the city and as a company have actively invested in artists and arts activities since its opening. Leeds, alongside Welcome to Yorkshire, won the bid to host the Grand Depart for the Tour De France. To celebrate the event in Yorkshire, Leeds has supported the Yorkshire Festival. Of the commissions funded by the festival, Leeds based companies played a major role raised the profile of the city as a cultural destination and showcased the hive of high quality artistic talent.
- 2.2 As well as the commercial activities Leeds has seen capital investment from Arts Council England. Most recently, the regeneration and redevelopment of the Carlsberg Tetley Brewery and the opening of the critically acclaimed contemporary art gallery the Tetley. In the summer we will also see the opening of East Leeds' first arts centre, The Chapel in Seacroft, managed by arts company Heads Together. We have seen an increase in participation in the activities directly produced by the council through Culture and Sport. Highlights have included Light Night 2013 which saw an audience of approximately 35,000

visitors to the event. 215,000 people attended an event at the Town Hall in 2012, and 92,000 people used the Carriageworks Theatre. Meanwhile the Leeds International Film Festival, the largest annual film event in England outside of London, attracted an audience of over 35,000 to 261 screenings and events across the city.

- 2.3 Grant aid from the council enables cultural organisations to support, develop and programme cultural activities in the city for Leeds residents. Funding received via grant aid is used to enable the public the opportunity to develop a rich and high quality artistic experience as creators, participants and audience members whilst allowing arts organisations to take creative risks. As grants are assessed we need to ensure transparency with our decisions, ensure quality control plus support/address the following agendas; health & wellbeing, age friendly city, child friendly city agenda, etc.
- 2.4 Arts organisations use our grant funding to lever in other match funding from trusts, sponsors and other grant giving bodies. Leeds benefits from over £20m annual investment from Arts Council England.
- 2.5 In turn this will enable us to guarantee we fund a diverse portfolio of arts and cultural activities with the limited funding in the budget. Whilst offering support, advocacy, training to both funded and non-funded Leeds based cultural organisations.
- 2.6 In 2012 Leeds City Council introduced a new 3 year grant scheme for cultural organisations. This change from a 1 year rolling scheme was very well received as it allows cultural organisations to plan effectively, raise match funding and balance their programmes across more than 1 year. To continue this model the authority needs to determine grant levels for 2015–2018.
- 2.7 The scheme would run alongside the 3-year scheme for ‘National Portfolio Organisations’ run by Arts Council England. Individual organisations will have been notified of their Arts Council 2015-18 funding levels on 1 July 2014 which will help inform the nature of their applications to arts@leeds.
- 2.8 In order to make decisions on individual grants in this time table we need to set the overall level of the arts@leeds grant ‘pot’ before the Council as a whole determines its overall 2015 – 18 budgets. The proposal in this paper is to reduce the arts@leeds budget in line with the latest information on the overall budget position in the next three years. In consultation with Finance, it is proposed to reduce the total level of grant funds available in 2015-16 by 10%, in 2016-17 by a further 5%, 2017-18 no further cut would be applied.. However, the funding agreement will make it clear that particularly the final year’s settlement is dependent upon the Authority’s budget position in 2017/18.
- 2.9 There are a number of awards which for historical or operational reasons have sat outside the arts@leeds grant scheme. The new 3 year programme offers an opportunity to simplify and bring together all cultural funding across the council under the same single transparent process. The organisations concerned are: Leeds West Indian Carnival (LWIC), the Reggae Festival, the Yorkshire Sculpture Triangle and the Irish Festival. In terms of the Carnival and Reggae

the current support is managed through Parks and Countryside who support the event whilst the budget sits in City Development. Officers will work closely with the organisations concerned to ensure a smooth transition from the current system to the new arrangements. In future all organisations receiving funding from the Council will be required to complete a funding application and monitoring returns to allow the City Council to clearly scrutinise and evaluate the use of public funds.

2.10 Although there is not a specific requirement to set the Leeds Inspired budget for 3 years ahead, it is included here for reasons of practicality and simplicity as the two schemes are managed together by the service.

2.11 The 2014/15 base budget for Arts Grants and Leeds Inspired is £2.9m (after taking into account the £100k efficiency that we have in the base budget for grants. This includes funds previously allocated separately to deliver Carnival and Reggae, some of which is direct grant (Carnival) and also payments to Parks and Countryside for their services in delivering the events.

The proposed funding is therefore as per the table below:

	14/15 Budget	15/16 % Reduction -10.0%	15/16 Draft Budget	16/17 % Reduction -5.0%	16/17 Draft Budget	17/18 % Reduction 0.0%	17/18 Draft Budget	Notes
Arts Grants including Carnival & Reggae funds & Leeds Inspired	2,970,110	-297,011	2,673,099	-133,655	2,539,444	0	2,539,444	14/15 Base includes £100k efficiency saving
TOTAL	2,970,110	-297,011	2,673,099	-133,655	2,539,444	0	2,539,444	

2.12 The new programme would also give the opportunity to improve and simplify the application process, in line with what we have learnt from the previous scheme.

2.13 The arts@leeds grant programme is an excellent example of issues raised in Local Government Commission where the creative life of the city is devolved by investing in cultural organisations. By grant aiding companies as opposed to commissioning or directly delivering activity, companies around the city and beyond are empowered to fashion a diverse programme of work in response to, and often reflect the communities around them.

2.14 The City is currently considering bidding to become European Capital of Culture in 2023. The continuing strength of our cultural organisations would be a vital component of any bid. Bringing the city together to bid is almost as important as winning, as it offers an opportunity to address issues within the culture and arts sector and bring the city, not just its cultural institutes, together under a shared ambition. This consideration has already had benefits in Leeds with the Town Hall meeting in January 2014 being the first time that the City's cultural sector has come together, alongside some other community and business organisations with this kind of shared purpose.

- 2.15 There is considerable research on the impact of the title for the cities involved. We know that bidding has an important leverage effect on the development of new or more effective policies and strategies, even in cities which do not win the title.
- 2.16 Under the European Capitals of Culture programme a city cannot develop what is already fully developed; it needs to start from the position of being a second or third city. This alone makes the journey as important as arriving at the destination. The commitment to making the bid will produce successful outcomes. By sustaining the arts@leeds and Leeds Inspired funding we will ensure that cultural organisations are able to play their part in any future bid for Leeds to be European Capital of Culture 2023
- 2.17 A bid could help us build an international image of a 21st century Leeds in Europe and beyond, a vital creative ‘can-do’ city for future generations with an associated increase in jobs, skills, technological and business capacity; and accelerate improvements to the environment and public realm.
- 2.18 Cultural activity funded by the City Council for Leeds residents is delivered through a number of different mechanisms; grant support, commissioned activity or directly produced and delivered events.
- 2.19 Arts Development work with arts organisations both funded and non-funded to increase opportunities for all Leeds residents and visitors to celebrate the diversity of the city. Leeds City Council provides two specific arts and cultural grant schemes for cultural organisation.
- 2.20 Arts@Leeds, 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 below.
- 2.21 **Leeds Inspired grants** provide project funding to promote and generate time limited events and activities that encourage public participation and offer arts organisations and artists the opportunity to produce work at a grass roots level.
- 2.22 Other grant schemes within the council include: Community Committee well-being fund, mice money and direct commissioning by services such as adult social care.
- 2.23 In 2012, 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. For this report we seek permission to continue the 3 year scheme and make modifications as needed to the application process.
- 2.24 The City Vision defines the **four cultural ambitions of the city**. To be successful in their funding, applicants must demonstrate how they will deliver against these four criteria i.e. 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 to be inspired by them
- i) **Spotting, nurturing and retaining talent in Leeds** – organisations need to demonstrate how they are working with the City’s potential and existing talent as well as bringing established talent to the City. This is across the wide range of skills from backstage to front of house, from creator to exhibitor. They would need to demonstrate engagement of apprenticeships, volunteers, coaching/mentoring and training.
 - ii) **Removing barriers** – organisations need to demonstrate how everyone will have a chance to experience cultural activity, not limited by ability, ethnicity, heritage, economic or social position.
 - iii) **Demonstrating Leeds’ distinctiveness and tell the City’s story** – individuals and companies in receipt of a grant need to demonstrate how they act as advocates for the City, both within Leeds and across the UK, helping define its distinctive nature through innovative programming and demonstrating how it underpins the economy.
 - iv) **Community inspired** – all organisations have to demonstrate not just their work with community groups, particularly in the most challenging wards, to enable them to engage in culture, but also the impact of their work.

Within this vision we recognise and fund appropriate organisations within the city that raise the profile of Leeds, recognise organisations and their employment of local staff and artists, and the different scales of organisations to ensure a diverse range of art forms, activities, and opportunities to engage are funded.

2.25 Fundamental to the schemes 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 assessed through the application process. Each successful organisation will be subjected to 6 monthly and annual reviews against their commitments.

2.25 Throughout the duration of the arts@leeds scheme we have funded 51 organisations.

- For the 3-year scheme 36% of the applications were from voluntary or amateur organisations, 62% from professional organisations
- The bids covered a wide range of cultural types i.e. dance, visual arts, and the proposed recommendations for funding have taken this into consideration. This will ensure that the city will host opera; theatre; creative writing; dance; music in many forms; craft; design; creative digital; street entertainment; photography; visual arts; circus and more.

3 Main Issues

3.1 The application process will be launched in August (a marketing campaign advertising the scheme will start in July this will include a flyer, email shots, social media and information sent through our mailing list).

- 3.2 The Arts Development team within Arts & Venues will host a seminar in August, followed by 1-2-1 surgeries with arts organisations. The surgeries will be open to any arts organisations who are interested in applying for funding from the grant scheme. The deadline will be in October thus allowing applicants to have a minimum of 7 weeks to make their application.
- 3.3 As soon as applications are received they will be initially checked for eligibility.
- 3.4 They will then be assessed for quality of application against rigorous assessment criteria.
- 3.5 As we anticipate more applications than we will be able to fund, we would then apply a second stage of the process. A small team of staff and the portfolio holder would then look at the geographical spread of applications to assess (balance) whether we are funding opportunities across the city and to make sure that we are supporting a range of organisations, artforms and size of organisations i.e. professional, voluntary and grass roots activities. This will include the incorporation of the cultural festivals outlined earlier (Carnival, Reggae, Irish festival) so as to obtain a uniform approach to all funds allocated by the Council. In the context of the proposed cuts in Year 1 and 2 of the scheme we anticipate needing to make some difficult decisions from a range of truly exemplary organisations.
- 3.6 With final recommendations being made to the Executive board in December it is anticipated that organisations would be informed in January. Each organisation will need to sign a funding agreement including their key performance indicators as stated in their application.
- 3.7 To manage expectations we will ask all new applicants to meet with us before they submit their application. Organisations will be discouraged from presenting unrealistic requests.
- 3.8 We propose to amend the limits to £2,000 minimum and £750,000 maximum amount arts organisations can apply for. Organisations previously receiving £1000 will be eligible to apply for this new minimum amount
- 3.9 We will work with both funded and unsuccessful organisations to support the delivery of their work through advocacy, cross promotion and networking.

Leeds Inspired

- 3.10 Since 2012 Leeds Inspired (LI) has supported access to art and culture in the city through its rolling grants schemes; commissioned projects and the Leeds Inspired events website www.leedsinspired.co.uk.
- 3.11 The LI grants schemes exist to support time limited projects and offer arts organisations and artists the opportunity to produce work at a grass roots level. Grants recipients are often small organisations with strong links into local communities. The LI Small Grants (up to £1000) are allocated every two months and enable communities and arts organisations to access support for activities relatively quickly.

- 3.12 The LI Main Grants fund (£15,000) is open for applications twice a year and has enabled activity to take place with a longer lead in time. This often enables communities and arts organisations to deliver local activities for bigger events such as the Tour De France or Rugby League World Cup. Both schemes are always oversubscribed with demand for funding outstripping the available budget.
- 3.13 Recipients of LI support will often use its as match funding to apply to other grants schemes, trusts and foundations and lever in additional funding for the city. More than 180 projects have been delivered with the support of Leeds Inspired funding and have included community choirs, creative play sessions with grandparents and grandchildren, art workshops on the canal, mural painting with young people and community theatre performances in Kirkgate Market.
- 3.14 Because Leeds Inspired scheme is based on a 6-week rolling programme of grants (as opposed to the 3-year arts@leeds model) there is no requirement to determine budget levels for 15/16 now. However, there is currently also no intention for a disproportionate reduction to the project and community based Leeds Inspired grants, *relative* to arts@leeds which provides core funding. Coupled with activity we services deliver themselves, the two schemes together form the core city council grant support for arts activity in the city
- 3.15 The 10 Community Committees have two delegated funding pots, the Wellbeing fund and the Youth Activities fund. The Wellbeing Fund is spent on community projects that meet local priorities outlined in each Committee's community plan. The Community Committees differ slightly on how funding is allocated, with most opting for some form of open grants scheme for larger projects, and all offering small grants to grassroots community organisations.
- 3.16 In 2013, Area Committees were given a delegated budget to invest in open access activities for children and young people age 8-17 following with the redirection of the Youth Service towards a more targeted provision. Projects must be chosen in consultation with young people, and many arts organisations have benefited from the funding to run a range of activities including drama classes, studio recording sessions, and a creative writing course.

4 Corporate Considerations

4.1 Consultation and Engagement

- 4.1.1 Throughout 2012-14 we have regularly consulted with current grant holders and have made alterations to processes such as monitoring where possible in response to feedback. We have also met with non-funded arts organisations cultural organisations, LCC area committee officers, Arts Council, other local authorities and will continue to do so.
- 4.1.2 Leeds City Council, through the Citizen's Panel asked the public what their views on Leeds and the provision of cultural activities. The survey was to look at activities throughout 2013. These are the key findings
- 78% said they had attended an event in 2013.

- 66% said they were satisfied or very satisfied with the cultural provision in Leeds.
- 1,025 respondents say Cultural activities makes Leeds is a good place to live. 766 respondents stated culture makes them think Leeds is thriving while 786 said culture was improving Leeds and 877 said Leeds is a creative city.

4.2 Equality and Diversity /Cohesion and Integration

4.2.1 By funding a diverse range of activities, organisations and art forms we enable all residents the opportunity to engage with a wide choice of arts and the cultural activity. We can enable a geographical spread of activity, look at the cultural diversity of the programme funded as well as art form and targeted work, i.e. NEETS, people with challenging lives and minority groups.

4.2.2 Cultural grants can support activity which can do much to tackle issues of equality and cohesion. All organisations bidding for a grant more than £10,000 must include their equality and diversity policy and their safeguarding policies. Those who do not have such policies when preparing their bids will be supported to create them.

4.2.3 All applicants need to demonstrate how funding will support them remove barriers and how they will inspire communities. They also supply must supply data on their target audiences. This has been used to identify how well the proposed allocations support everyone in the city.

4.2.4 An Equality Impact Assessment has been completed and is attached as an appendix.

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. This supports the Best Council Plan 2013-17 objective, 'Promoting sustainable and inclusive economic growth'.

4.3.2 Age Friendly City

4.3.2.1 Leeds has now been granted as an Age Friendly City by the World Health Organisation, arts@leeds can support this work, for instance through West Yorkshire Playhouse's Heydays programme. Arts activity can assist in changing attitudes towards ageing; allowing ageing to be seen as a positive experience and emphasising the contribution that older people make to society as artists, participants and audience members.

4.3.3 Child Friendly City

4.3.3.2 The funding will work alongside the Child Friendly team to bring everyone together to make Leeds a child friendly city – a place where children are valued, supported, enjoy growing up, and look forward to a bright future. Arts@leeds does not fund work in schools, it does support out of school work.

4.3.4 Arts & Health

4.3.4.1 As part of experiencing the arts and culture can create a sense of wellbeing and transform the quality of life for individuals and communities. What is less well known is that every day the arts are having a significant impact on people's health in hospitals, health centres, GP practices and other healthcare settings within and throughout our communities. Through the arts@leeds grant scheme we will ensure that provision will be given to arts and health activity.

4.4 Resources and value for money

4.4.1 When reviewing the allocation of grants the number of people that would be employed, including volunteers, the level of engagement and the number of new works will be considered.

4.4.2 We will assess how the money will be distributed and monitor on the return of investment, by reviewing additional funds brought to Leeds by our funded organisations.

4.4.3 Dispersion of funding

4.4.3.1 Funding limits, we propose that the funding limit should be set at minimum £2,000 and maximum £750,000.

4.4.3.2 The application limits recommended will enable smaller organisations the opportunity to apply for additional funds to grow and develop their organisation. The maximum level is to manage expectations of the larger organisations.

4.4.3.3 Additionally we have taken on board comments for the smaller organisations in relation to the amount of monitoring needed for the scheme and in future, this will be reduced for organisations receiving less than £5,000..

4.4.3.4 As part of the application process and the funding available we will work with organisations to manage their expectations of the funding they apply for and in turn are awarded. We are expecting applications from new organisations as well as uplift request from current clients. We have allocated surgery time to meet with prospective applicants to guide them through the process and offer advice and support where needed, Only applicants that meet the criteria, have a track record of work in Leeds and have previously been funded by the arts@leeds scheme will be allowed to apply for an increase. Due to the limited funding available permission will only be granted in exceptional circumstances.

4.4.3.5 Each application will be assessed to ensure they are eligible for the grant scheme, before they are assessed for the quality of their activity.

4.4.3.6 For 2015-18 we would like to introduce a 2 tier scheme. The application and monitoring process will be based on the level of funding awarded. Organisations that receive £5000 or more will be required to complete a more detailed application and monitoring document.

4.5 Legal Implications, Access to Information and Call In

4.5.1 All organisations are required to sign a funding agreement and submit their governance arrangements, their banking details and a register of interests to ensure probity. They are also requested to complete 6 and 12 monthly monitoring reports, if these reports are not received or satisfactory.

4.6 Risk Management

4.6.1 Risks will be managed through the application process, the funding agreement, the biannual monitoring, attending board meetings and events to ensure the company is spending the Council's funds appropriately. Checks will be in place and money will be requested to be returned if the organisation is deemed to be using it inappropriately.

4.6.2 Inevitably in a competitive grants programme the authority will need to manage the disappointment of some applicants. This is achieved by ensuring a robust application and assessment process and high quality communications.

5 Conclusions

5.1 The proposed continuation of the arts@leeds grants scheme will result in the empowerment of cultural organisations to deliver creative and artistic work for resident of Leeds. By enabling this activity we will contribute to the City's ambition to become a healthier place to live and a more creative and entrepreneurial place to work. It will aid efforts to cement community cohesion and help remove a sense of social isolation in the elderly.

5.2 By facilitating the these grants Leeds will build on its reputation as a city of high quality culture, where great art is created and strengthen its reputation as a cultural destination where artists want to live and work.

6 Recommendations

6.1 Executive Board is recommended to:

- (i) Approve the continuation of a 3-year grant funding programme to cultural organisations;
- (ii) Approve in principle the total funding allocation to this scheme as per 2.11;
- (iii) Approve simplification of our arts funding by incorporating the historical support for Leeds West Indian Carnival, Leeds Reggae Festival, the Irish Festival and Yorkshire Sculpture Triangle into the scheme.
- (iv) Agree the timescale with grant application deadlines in October and decisions in January to enable arts organisations to forward plan, together with a revision of the application and monitoring form.

- (v) Increase the minimum level of grant from £1,000 to £2,000 and enforce a maximum application of £750,000.

7 Background documents¹

7.1 None

¹ The background documents listed in this section are available to download from the Council's website, unless they contain confidential or exempt information. The list of background documents does not include published works.