



DERBY CITY COUNCIL

COMMUNITY COMMISSION
11 FEBRUARY 2010

Report of the Corporate Director –
Regeneration and Community

ITEM 13

ANNUAL ARTS GRANTS 2010/11

SUMMARY

- 1.1 In 2009/10 Derby City Council Arts Team allocated grants of £842,988 to arts organisations in the city. During 2009 a review was undertaken of grant funding for arts activity in the city with a number of recommendations for future grant criteria. The recommended total budget for Arts grants in 2010/11 is £856,470 and the specific proposals are set out.

RECOMMENDATION

- 2.1 To consider and make any comments on the review recommendations at paragraphs 3.5 to 3.12.
- 2.2 To consider and make any comments on the specific proposals at section 4.

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

Overview

- 3.1 In 2009/10 Derby City Council Arts Team allocated grants of £842,988 to arts organisations in the city. The rationale for awarding arts grants is to sustain and, where possible, increase the capacity of those organisations which are doing most to assist the Council in the achievement of its aims and priorities, more widely reflected in the city's Sustainable Community Strategy.
- 3.2 In most cases the Council's grants are used as match funding in bids to external sources. Our grants are directed where they will maximise this total income for arts activity. A recent economic impact assessment has shown that the five organisations receiving the highest level of grant funding from the Council contribute over £14.4 million to the economy of the city. This is a return of £11 for every £1 of Council money spent.
- 3.3 The Arts Team holds a small arts grants pot for grants of up to £1,000. This aims to support new initiatives and projects by smaller organisations and individual artists. In 2009/10 total funding available was £4,243 with the maximum grant allocated being £500. This project fund levers substantial partnership funding. In 2008 it enabled activity with a total value of £82,401 to take place. Decisions on small grants from this fund are delegated to the Assistant Director Culture.

Arts Grants Review

- 3.4 During 2009 a review was undertaken of grant funding for arts activity in the city. This included grants given as regular funding to organisations and small arts grants. This aimed to rationalise the approach to grant allocation, ensure organisations support delivery of DCC aims and priorities and also to note the good practice set out in the Derby Compact. The report makes the following **recommendations**:
- 3.5 In line with best practice recommendations of the Derby Compact move to three year funding agreements with Regularly Funded Organisations. These should also receive a year on year inflation linked increase in their level of grant funding. As in 2010/11, grants to individual organisations in 2011/12 and 2012/13 will be dependant upon total monies available and individual organisations' achievements as detailed in their annual performance review.
- 3.6 Update the existing Performance Matrix process of performance monitoring. This will move towards a more rigorous process consisting of written report and grading of performance against specific criteria linked to strategic priorities.
- 3.7 The Arts Strategy Action Plan has recently been repositioned within the context of the Cultural City Action Plan. This aims to focus the work of the Arts Team and enable demonstration of wider strategic purpose within DCC, Cultural City and across Derby City Partnership more widely. Actions from the Cultural City Action Plan will be included within quarterly performance monitoring requirements for organisations receiving regular funding.
- 3.8 Five organisations currently receive under £2,500 in regular funding. For these organisations, the information requested both currently and in the future under the proposed revision to performance management, will be disproportionate to the level of funding received. It is therefore recommended that organisations currently receiving under £2,500 will no longer receive regular funding. Instead they will have the opportunity to apply for Small Arts Grant funding for individual project activity which meets the Council's priorities for the arts.
- 3.9 It is recommended that in lieu of a notice period these organisations receive their first quarter payment in 2010/11 and then nothing. This will give organisations resource with which to plan their exit from regular funding. Organisations affected are:
- Derby Chamber Music Society
 - Flying Donkeys
 - Media Archive for Central England
 - Red Earth Theatre
 - Opus
- 3.10 Derby Concert Promoters Association currently receive an Arts Grant from DCC that they distribute to third parties. This is not in line with principles of best practice or accountability. It is therefore recommended to remove them from the portfolio of regularly funded organisations. It is recommended that in lieu of a notice period they receive their first quarter payment in 2010/11 and then nothing.

- 3.11 Transfer disinvested money from the portfolio of regularly funded organisations to the Small Arts Grants Fund and increase the maximum grant available from £1,000 to £5,000. Grants at the maximum level of £5,000 will only be given out in exceptional circumstances. This will increase aspiration amongst Derby arts organisations. It will also allow strategic work to be commissioned by the Arts Team against recognised Cultural City priorities.
- 3.12 The Arts Team currently hold a discretionary amount of £5,000 in operational budgets to contribute to arts activity that meets cultural diversity priorities. It is proposed that this amount will be transferred to, and administered from, the Small Arts Grants budget where it will be ring-fenced for culturally diverse activity.

Financial

- 3.13 The recommended total budget for Arts grants in 2010/11 is £856,470. The amount recommended for grants to regularly funded organisations is £838,069, leaving £18,401 available for small arts grants up to a maximum of £5,000.
- 3.14 There is an increase of £13,482 on the total allocation of arts grants in 2009/10 Grant report. This reflects the following;
- Funding of £5,000 for small grants towards culturally diverse arts activity. Previously administered from within the Arts Team this amount has now been brought within the Small Arts Grants Fund.
 - Inflation linked increase of 1% to all organisations receiving regular funding. This equates to £8,482 in 2010/11.

4 Proposals for 2010/11

Name of Arts Organisation	Level of Grant approved 2009/10	Amount recommended 2010/11	Reason
Derby Chamber Music Society	£1,050	£266	Organisation below the recommended £2,500 threshold. Recommended that the first quarter payment is made and remaining grant transferred to the Small Arts Grants Fund.
Derby Concert Promoters Association	£4,850	£1,225	Organisation does not fit with principles of best practice. Recommended that the first quarter payment is made and remaining grant transferred to the Small Arts Grants Fund.
Dèda	£122,200	£123,422	To promote dance locally, regionally, nationally and internationally through Dance Development, Classes and Workshops, Professional Programme and Commercial Activity.
Derby Jazz	£4,500	£4,545	To continue to promote an all year round programme of performances by international, national, regional and local jazz artists using several city centre venues. In addition, Derby Jazz organises education projects.
Derby LIVE	£295,275	£298,228	To ensure the continued production, programming and presentation of live theatre in Derby.
First Movement	£8,500	£8,585	To create opportunities for learning-disabled people to work together to develop their unique creativity through the arts.

Flying Donkeys	£1,030	£261	Organisation below the recommended £2,500 threshold. Recommended that the first quarter payment is made and remaining grant transferred to the Small Arts Grants Fund.
MACE	£1,940	£490	Organisation below the recommended £2,500 threshold. Recommended that the first quarter payment is made and remaining grant transferred to the Small Arts Grants Fund.
OPUS	£1,000	£253	Organisation below the recommended £2,500 threshold. Recommended that the first quarter payment is made and remaining grant transferred to the Small Arts Grants Fund.
QUAD	£370,150	£373,852	To provide facilities and services that connect people and businesses to art and film, creating opportunities for entertainment, education and participation.
Red Earth Theatre	£2,100	£530	Organisation below the recommended £2,500 threshold. Recommended that the first quarter payment is made and remaining grant transferred to the Small Arts Grants Fund.
Surtal Asian Arts	£5,250	£5,303	To make South Asian arts activities more mainstream so that it raises awareness of South Asian arts and culture among the wider community.
ViVA	£20,900	£21,109	To act as a flexible musical resource for Derby, as well as for urban and rural communities across the six counties of the region and, increasingly, nationally.
Small Arts Grants	£4,243	£18,401	Unallocated grants to organisations removed from RFO portfolio added to Small Arts Grant pot.
Totals	£842,988	£856,470	

For more information contact: Mike Brown 01332 641488 e-mail mike.brown@derby.gov.uk
Background papers: None
List of appendices: Appendix 1 – Implications

Appendix 1

IMPLICATIONS

Financial

- 1.1 As set out in the report

Legal

- 2.1 It is proposed to give several organisations payment in lieu of notice.

Personnel

- 3.1 None directly arise

Equalities Impact

- 4.1 The review was carried out with reference to the Derby Compact good practice

Corporate objectives and priorities for change

- 5.1 The review and proposals link to 'Giving you excellent services and value for money' and 'Creating a 21st century city centre' with particular reference to the 'range of cultural experiences'