

Culture and Communities Committee

10.00am, Tuesday, 16 March 2021

Third Party Cultural Grants Funding 2021/22

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1. Recommendations

- 1.1 It is recommended that the Culture and Communities Committee:
 - 1.1.1 Notes the on-going impact of COVID-19 on the cultural sector and importance of continuing the cultural grant funding programme;
 - 1.1.2 Notes the update on the cultural grants fund in 2020/21;
 - 1.1.3 Approves the continuation of Strategic Partnership, flexible and project funding recommendations for 2021/22 as set out in Appendix 1; and
 - 1.1.4 Approves the procurement and continuation of the multi-cultural event introduced in 2019 for two years, in the first instance.

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Executive Director of Place

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Third Party Cultural Grants Funding 2021/22

2. Executive Summary

- 2.1 This report provides an update on the third party cultural grants fund 2020/21 and requests approval for funding to be allocated in 2021/22.
- 2.2 The impacts of COVID-19 on the cultural sector reinforces the need for continued proactive support and retention actions to contribute to the stability and recovery of the city's cultural sector. This strategy reflects the Council's vital partnership role with stakeholders, Strategic Partners, communities and creative practitioners to achieve this.

3. Background

- 3.1 On [18 June 2019](#), the Culture and Communities Committee considered the outcomes of a review of Third Party Cultural Grants Funding and approved three year in principle funding for the recommended Strategic Partners, the creation of a Flexible Fund and New Models funding programmes.
- 3.2 This programme of funding is aligned to provide continued support for the city's year-round cultural activity and infrastructure as well as the city's festivals, in line with the [Culture Plan](#), [Thundering Hooves 2.0](#) and the Council's Commitments
- 3.3 Following the outbreak of COVID-19, the Council's Leadership Advisory Panel on [31 March 2020](#) agreed the funding recommendations for 2020/21 and agreed to seek to support the sector in response to the on-going negative impacts of the COVID-19 on funded partners. The use of funding by Strategic Partners and Groupings was agreed for mitigation activity as a result of the negative impacts.
- 3.4 Since this funding was released, regular and on-going reporting from the recipients has enabled the Council to directly monitor and work with Strategic Partners on their progress throughout the year. This reporting includes programme delivery re-design and updates.
- 3.5 As a Council Arms Length Organisation, the performance of Capital Theatres Ltd is reported annually to the Culture and Communities Committee and the Governance, Risk and Best Value Committee. The next report will be in autumn 2021.

4. Main report

Culture Grants

- 4.1 The total proposed cultural grants budget for 2021/22 is £4,689,279 and the recommendations, set out in Appendix 1, reflect direct and continued strategic, targeted support for the sector at this time, contributing to the retention of jobs, creative practices and development, and responsive programming and delivery of activity throughout the city
- 4.2 This monitoring programme for 2020/21 has provided a robust overview and basis from which to base these recommendations.

Strategic Partners and Groupings

- 4.3 The recommendations in Appendix 1 show funding allocations of £3,006,000 for Strategic Partners and £1,099,900 for Groupings (theatre and literature) for Year two (of three) of the Strategic Partners funding programme.
- 4.4 It is important to acknowledge the positive, practical response of these Strategic Partners to the COVID-19 crisis, and their proactive approach to programme modelling and preparation with artists to an online format; maximising freelance employment opportunities; retaining full-time jobs wherever possible; contributing to city and national agendas on mitigation and recovery planning measures.
- 4.5 The city's future recovery and success depends on our key sectors responding wherever possible in a dynamic, imaginative and practical way to the current challenges.

Flexible Funding

- 4.6 The Flexible Funding reflects Committee agreement to ensure significant levels of project funding could be accessed more widely in parallel with the Strategic Partnerships longer term revenue programme.
- 4.7 This funding aims to promote stronger collaboration, developing new partnerships and creating new funding streams for the culture sector in Edinburgh as well as providing investment in artists' development, to support and sustain the local artistic community' and to 'support greater partnership working across the arts and culture sector enabling it to flourish year-round.'
- 4.8 To date this funding has resourced on-going creative practice and development, short-term employment, production, training, professional development, new collaborations and networking.
- 4.9 In 2020/21, the total budget available was £200,000 rising to £300,000 for 2021/22 following conclusion of the two-stage grant reduction process agreed with the Edinburgh International Festival (see Appendix 1).
- 4.10 In the current context, these commitments have become even more critical.
- 4.11 Based on the success of the [Diversity and Inclusion Fund](#), delivered under strict COVID-19 Guidance, and the more recently introduced Creative Practitioner Support Fund, it is recommended that the continuation of flexible funding is

essential as it demonstrably facilitates the delivery of effective, responsive and tailored funding programmes contributing to a degree of stability and as far as possible, the retention of the sector.

- 4.12 It is proposed that the three principal priorities under which strategic and responsive project funding programmes would continue are:
- 4.12.1 Diversity and Inclusion programmes - which will be expected to further build on, and learn from, the 2020/21 programmes. As reported to Committee on [17 November 2020](#) the Diversity and Inclusion programme has successfully developed active collaborative networks, professional development programmes, created practical mutual channels to the further development of cultural organisations representative board membership; and facilitated the production of new work and partnerships;
- 4.12.2 Creative Practitioners/Artists Programmes – which will contribute to the essential support and retention of the city’s creative talent both in terms of practice retention and development, alongside the production of new work and projects both as individuals and through partnerships, networks and collaborations; and
- 4.12.3 Through Creative Community Partnerships initiatives, funding partnership and programme design will be developed by working directly with community-based arts venues and practitioners.
- 4.13 Regular updates on the further development and design of these funding programmes will be provided to committee members throughout 2021/22.

Resilience Funding 2020/21

- 4.14 The Leadership Advisory Panel approved the re-allocation of project and flexible fund programme resources, which had not at that point been fully implemented, to create an emergency resilience fund. This fund comprised re-directed flexible funding of £147,200.
- 4.15 Subsequently, a stakeholder partnership contribution of £100,000 was made by the Council to the emergency retention of the Fringe Society and £42,000 was allocated to the development and delivery of the [Edinburgh Freelance Creatives Practice Support Fund](#) in partnership with Edinburgh Performing Arts Development (EPAD) and Creative Edinburgh.
- 4.16 This small grant programme has been very well received by the sector and is supporting freelance artists, technicians and creatives working in the arts and creative industries, helping to sustain practice in practical ways. The programme is also improving the Council’s understanding of the individual creative freelance practitioner sector in the city.
- 4.17 The balance of £5,200 has been allocated to the EPAD and Creative Edinburgh partnership towards the further development of communications and active engagement with this sector going forward.

Resilience Funding Reallocation 2021/22

- 4.18 For 2021/22, the recommended reallocation of this funding proposes returning funding to Flexible Funding programmes and new strategic project funding. The new strategic project funding is proposed to be used as follows:
- 4.18.1 Working with local communities, through actions included in the [Granton Waterfront Cultural Strategy](#), and in particular researching and developing an embedded community liaison and engagement programme led by creative practitioners in the area, recommended funding allocation of £24,200;
 - 4.18.2 Working with WHALE Arts in their role as the identified community engagement and creative learning partner. This allocation will contribute to their work to further improve the design of community-centred cultural partnership working models to maximise participation and legacy benefits to the community-based partners, recommended funding allocation of £18,000;
 - 4.18.3 Contributing to consolidation of funding to the multi-cultural festival 2021. For the first two successful years of the event, funding has been allocated from both events and cultural grant budgets. Further information on this is provided below; and
 - 4.18.4 Working with the University of Edinburgh, the Culture Map Partnership Fund of £3,545 is recommended to ensure the map content and website is regularly updated and maintained.

Multi-cultural Festival 2021

- 4.19 The [multi-cultural festival](#) in 2020 successfully took place, re-formatted over three months to take place online, featuring new performances and collaborations filmed under COVID-19 Scottish Government Guidelines. The programme was well-received and included a new partnership with Edinburgh's Diwali festival.
- 4.20 The festival organiser was identified through a procurement process in 2019, with the contractual agreement was for up to two years. The event has developed well over the period and is forging a positive identity and breadth of programming ambition and development.
- 4.21 It is recommended that a procurement process to retain the festival in the city's calendar is implemented as soon as possible. In the interim it is recommended that the funding commitment of £43,600 be made for this purpose.
- 4.22 Whilst it is important to seek to maximise the benefits and positive impact of the event to date, it is acknowledged that procuring the event again may well involve change. The core requirements for the multicultural festival model will be retained as the basis for the process (further information on this is included in Appendix 2).
- 4.23 It is also recommended that, to inform the procurement process, public comment is sought over the next month (to end April) about the event to date. The contact to do so will be: events@edinburgh.gov.uk. The opportunity to comment will be

promoted via Culture Service networks, mailing lists and Council website and social media channels.

Living Wage

- 4.24 As previously reported to Committee in [November 2017](#), since 2017/18 the Living Wage has been included as a standard requirement in funding application paperwork and agreement conditions. The data supplied is submitted to the Council's Central Grants Register.

5. Next Steps

- 5.1 Following Committee's consideration and approval, the recommended projects, funding agreements and monitoring programmes will be implemented.
- 5.2 Further development, formats and planned timelines of the recommended flexible funding work strands will be shared with Committee in due course.
- 5.3 In parallel with changes brought about by COVID-19, the overall grants programme will continue to fulfil Culture Plan objectives, the majority of which continue to be relevant in the current context:
- 5.3.1 Ensure that everyone has access to world class cultural provision;
 - 5.3.2 Encourage the highest standards of creativity and excellence in all aspects of cultural activity;
 - 5.3.3 Support greater partnership working in the cultural and creative sectors and maximise resources available to help them thrive all year round;
 - 5.3.4 Articulate the positive impact of culture in Edinburgh and promote Edinburgh's cultural success locally, nationally, and internationally;
 - 5.3.5 Develop and support infrastructure which sustains Edinburgh's cultural and creative sectors; and
 - 5.3.6 Invest in artists and practitioner development, and support and sustain the local artistic community.

6. Financial impact

- 6.1 The budget for the third party cultural grants programme in 2021/22 is £4,689,279. The budget was approved at Finance and Resources Committee on [2 February 2021](#) and forms part of the Council's 2021/22 budget framework agreed by Council on [18 February 2021](#).
- 6.2 The recommended grants programme is set out in Appendix 1.

7. Stakeholder/Community Impact

- 7.1 The Culture Strategy team will continue to facilitate cultural development, consult and work with residents, practitioners and communities; co-produce projects, activities, services and funds with strategic partners, providers and service users in line with the Service remit.
- 7.2 The Council's funding of third parties through grant aid significantly contributes to the delivery of its Equality Act 2010 duty to seek to eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation, and to advance equality and foster good relations.
- 7.3 Grants to third parties contribute to meeting the city's carbon neutral target of 2030 and enables the Council to meet Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2009 Public Bodies Duties.

8. Background reading/external references

- 8.1 None.

9. Appendices

- 9.1 Appendix 1 – 2021/22 Cultural Grant Recommendations.
- 9.2 Appendix 2 – Multi-cultural festival remit (2019).

2021/22 CULTURAL GRANT RECOMMENDATIONS

Strategic Partners

Organisation	Banding (up to)	Level of Grant Award 2020/21	Recommended Level of Grant 2021/22
	£20,000	Year 1 of 3	Year 2 of 3
Edinburgh Art Festival		£20,000	£20,000
Edinburgh Printmakers		£20,000	£20,000
Edinburgh Sculpture Workshop		£20,000	£20,000
Stills Gallery		£20,000	£20,000
	£50,000		
Dance Base		£50,000	£50,000
Edinburgh International Book Festival		£50,000	£50,000
	£75,000		
Edinburgh Festival Fringe		£75,000	£75,000
	£100,000		
Artlink		£100,000	£100,000
Centre for the Moving Image		£100,000	£100,000
Edinburgh Jazz and Blues Festival		£100,000	£100,000
Imagineate		£100,000	£100,000
	£125,000		
Festivals Edinburgh		£125,000	£125,000
	£150,000		
Edinburgh Science		£150,000	£150,000
North Edinburgh Arts		£150,000	£150,000
	£2,500,000		
Edinburgh International Festival* <i>(* Grant level reduction Year 2 of 2 - agreed funding level as a result of Third Party Cultural Grants Review 2019, implemented 2020 - £100,000 reallocated as agreed to Flexible Fund for 2021/22)</i>		£2,026,000	£1,926,000
Total		£3,106,000	£3,006,000

Strategic Partners: Groupings

Organisation	Banding (up to)	2020/21 Level of Grant Award	Recommended Level of Grant 2021/22
Literature Grouping:	£100,000	Year 1 of 3	Year 2 of 3
TRACS		£41,000	£41,000
Edinburgh UNESCO City of Literature		£47,700	£47,700
Scottish Poetry Library		£10,000	£10,000
Scottish Book Trust		£1,200	£1,200
Total		£99,900	£99,900
Theatres Grouping:	£1,000,000		
Capital Theatres		£585,130	£585,130
Royal Lyceum Theatre Company		£328,830	£328,830
Traverse Theatre		£40,447	£40,447
Lung Ha Theatre Company		£15,593	£15,593
Edinburgh Performing Arts Development (EPAD)		£30,000	£30,000
Total		£1,000,000	£1,000,000

Revenue New Model Partnership Funding

Organisation	Banding (up to)	2020/21 Level of Grant Award	Recommended Level of Grant 2021/22
		Year 1 of 3	Year 2 of 3
Scottish Chamber Orchestra	£50,000	£50,000	£50,000
Queens Hall	£60,000	£60,000	£60,000
Total		£110,000	£110,000

Flexible Fund

Flexible Fund Priorities	2020/21 Level of Grant	Recommended levels for 2021/22
Diversity and Inclusion	£100,000	£100,000
Arts and Health (<i>reallocated to Emergency Resilience budget at Leadership Advisory Panel Meeting March 2020**</i>)	£100,000	
Edinburgh Practitioner/Artist Support		£100,000
Community Partnership Programme		£100,000
Total	£200,000	£300,000

*** EIF grant level reduction Year 2 of 2 - agreed funding level as a result of Third Party Cultural Grants Review 2019, implemented 2020 - £100,000 reallocated as agreed to Flexible Fund for 2021/22)*

Grant Review

Transitional Funding (resources allocated to 2021/22 to Culture Plan Budget)	2020/21 Level of Grant (Year 1 of 1)	Recommended levels for 2021/22
Scots Fiddle Festival	£4,290	£0
Scottish Indian Arts Forum	£4,255	£0
Total	£8,545	£0

2021/22 Project Funding

Culture Plan Budget	2020/21 Level of Grant	Recommended levels for 2021/22
Culture Development Fund	£30,684	£30,684
Edinburgh Visual Artist and Craft Maker Awards (partnership programme with Creative Scotland) (VACMA)	£19,750	£19,750
Co-Funded Temporary Diversity Agent for Change Post (partnership with Creative Scotland)	£33,600	£33,600
COVID Emergency Response Resilience Funding (<i>ref March 2020 Leadership Advisory Panel meeting: EPAD and Creative Edinburgh Practitioner Fund Partnership</i>)	£47,200	
Granton Cultural Strategy		£24,200
WHALE Arts		£18,000
Culture Map Partnership Fund		£3,545
Multicultural Event *** (*** 2021/22 - This is the same level as previous years, the grant total having been allocated previously from both events and cultural grant budgets)	£33,600	£43,600
Total	£164,834	£173,379

	Total Budget 2020/21	Total Budget 2021/22
Total Culture Budget	£4,689,279	£4,689,279

EDINBURGH MULTI-CULTURAL EVENT

Summary Brief (2019)

- City event that celebrates the city's rich cultural heritage.
- The vision is to offer a diverse and inclusive programme of activities, events, attractions and celebrations designed to provide a showcase for the wealth of multi-cultural artistic talent in the city, and provide opportunities for visitors and residents to experience this in the form of shows, events, displays, performances, exhibitions, and so on.
- The preferred month for this event is September, and the proposed location is North Edinburgh.