

Culture and Communities Committee

10.00am, Tuesday, 1 February 2022

Third Party Cultural Grants Funding 2022/23

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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 the importance of continuing the cultural grant funding programme;
 - 1.1.2 Notes the update on the cultural grants fund in 2021/22;
 - 1.1.3 Approves the continuation of Strategic Partnership, flexible and project funding recommendations for 2022/23, as set out in Appendix 1;
 - 1.1.4 Approves the extension of the duration for Strategic Partnership funding from three to four years, given the impacts of COVID-19 on planning, stability and programmes; and
 - 1.1.5 Approves, in principle, the commitment of revenue funding to the multi-cultural festival, establishing the event in the city's festivals calendar.

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Report

Third Party Cultural Grants Funding 2022/23

2. Executive Summary

- 2.1 This report provides an update on the third party cultural grants fund 2021/22 and requests approval for funding to be allocated in 2022/23, alongside an extension of the Strategic Partnership funding duration from three to four years.
- 2.2 The on-going impacts of COVID-19 on the cultural sector reinforces the need for continued proactive support and retention actions to contribute to the stability, retention 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, on [31 March 2020](#) the Council's Leadership Advisory Panel approved 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. It was agreed that Strategic Partners and Groupings could use the allocated funding to mitigate these negative impacts.
- 3.4 On [16 March 2021](#), the Culture and Communities Committee agreed to continue this approach for at least the first six months of 2021, which has subsequently proven to be an essential strand of funding support for Strategic Partners, and the sector, over the course of the year.
- 3.5 Throughout the period, regular and on-going reporting required of the recipients has enabled the Council to directly monitor and work with Strategic Partners on their

activity throughout the year. This reporting has included, where feasible, programme delivery re-design and updates.

- 3.6 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 most recent report was provided to Committee on [16 November 2021](#).

4. Main report

Culture Grants

- 4.1 The total proposed cultural grants budget for 2022/23 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 continued retention of jobs, creative practices and development, and where it has been possible, responsive programming and delivery of activity throughout the city.
- 4.2 This monitoring programme for 2021/22 has provided a robust overview and basis on which to prepare 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 three (of three) of the Strategic Partners funding programme.
- 4.4 It is important to acknowledge the positive, practical response of the 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.
- 4.6 2022/23 is the final year of the current Strategic Partnerships (SP) revenue funding programme. It is proposed that this is extended for one year to conclude at the end of 2023/24.
- 4.7 The extension is proposed to enable a review and proposal for the next SP portfolio to be developed next financial year, implemented the following financial year (2023/24) with funding allocated from 2024/25. The review will be based on two years of COVID-19 impacts, and officers expect will return to a degree of stability before reviewing funding commitments going forward.
- 4.8 This extension will add a year of continued funding stability for the existing programme.

Flexible Funding

- 4.9 The Flexible Funding programme reflects Committee agreement to ensure significant levels of project funding can be accessed more widely in parallel with the Strategic Partnerships longer term revenue programme.
- 4.10 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.
- 4.11 To date this funding has resourced on-going creative practice and development, short-term employment, production, training, professional development, new collaborations and networking.
- 4.12 In 2021/22, the total budget available was £300,000.
- 4.13 In the current context, these commitments have become even more critical.
- 4.14 Based on the Flexible Funding programmes in 2021/22, delivered under strict COVID-19 Guidance, 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 creativity, stability and as far as possible, the retention and recovery of the sector.
- 4.15 There were three Flexible Funding programme strands in 2021/22. These were Diversity and Inclusion, Creative Community Partnerships and Creative Practitioners.
- 4.16 In 2021/22, two one-off funding programmes were also delivered. The first was a £100,000 fund approved by the Council on [18 February 2021](#) for the retention and recovery of local events and festivals, and one of £150,000 offering practical funding support to creative practitioners throughout the city. The latter was delivered in partnership with the Business Growth and Inclusion team who identified and allocated Scottish Government resources to the sector. This was administered by Edinburgh Performing Arts and Development and Creative Edinburgh.
- 4.17 As a result of successful applications to the Creative Community Partnerships Fund reaching a maximum budget requirement of £70,000, a further £30,000 was allocated to the local festivals and events fund, thereby benefitting a further four festivals and events.
- 4.18 These funds represented a substantial Council commitment at a time of exceptional pressures, supporting core practitioners, events, opportunities and jobs across the creative and cultural sector.
- 4.19 With the above in mind, it is proposed that the three priorities under which strategic and responsive project funding programmes (£300,000) would be delivered in 2022/23 are:
- 4.19.1 Diversity and Inclusion (£100,000) - which will be expected to further build on, and learn from, the 2021/22 programme. This would represent a third

year of this programme, which 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;

4.19.2 Creative Practitioners/Artists Programmes (£100,000) – which will build on the provision of 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

4.19.3 In partnership with WHALE Arts (£100,000), a one-year funding partnership and programme design will be developed to build an active network of arts-based community hubs and arts practitioners and participant exchange in the city by working directly with the venues, their communities, participants and practitioners.

4.20 As with 2021/22, regular updates on the further development and design of these funding programmes will be provided to Committee members throughout 2022/23.

Project Funding 2022/23

4.21 For 2022/23, this budget equates to £130,379. It is proposed that this funding is allocated as follows:

4.21.1 Continuing the work with local communities, through actions included in the [Granton Waterfront Cultural Strategy](#), and in particular community liaison and engagement programme led by creative practitioners in the area;

4.21.2 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. This is in addition to the one year funding programme described at point 4.19.3 in the report; and

4.21.3 Consolidation of the funding commitment to the multi-cultural festival from project to Strategic Partnership funding for the next two years. The festival has been delivered for three years, including an online programme in 2020. A summary is included in Appendix 2. The event has evolved and grown, embracing and developing an ethnically diverse programme and audience.

Multi-cultural Festival 2022/23

4.22 The Multi-cultural Festival has been successfully delivered over the last three years and included a re-formatted version in 2020 over three months online, featuring new performances and collaborations filmed under COVID-19 Scottish Government Guidelines.

4.23 The festival organiser until now, African Connections, was identified through a procurement process in 2019, with the contractual agreement of up to two years

(one plus one) and included an option to extend for one further year. The event has developed well over the period and is forging a positive identity and breadth of programming ambition and development.

- 4.24 In the report to Committee in March 2021, it was recommended that, to inform next steps, survey feedback would be sought about the event to date. This has recently been concluded.
- 4.25 It is recommended that the festival is retained in the city's festivals calendar going forward, and that the funding model be reviewed to reflect an on-going revenue funding commitment of £43,000.
- 4.26 This would replace a year to year contractual and re-procurement model and put the festival, originated by the Council, onto a more established and stable footing and facilitate fundraising opportunities and further artist and programme development. It would support the growth of longer-term benefits to the festival's diverse communities, audiences and practitioners.
- 4.27 Should this be agreed in principle by Committee, further advice will be sought from both legal and procurement to deliver this outcome for 2022/23.

Edinburgh Visual Artists and Craft Maker Awards (VACMA)

- 4.28 This small-grant partnership commitment with Creative Scotland delivers practice development and mentoring resources to visual artists and craft makers in the city.

Culture Mapping Partnership

- 4.29 We have continued the small grant resource towards this City of Edinburgh Council/University of Edinburgh programme partnership to ensure that the Culture Map remains current and updated.

Living Wage

- 4.30 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 proposed budget for the third party cultural grants programme in 2022/23 is £4,689,279. As part of the Council's 2022/23 budget framework, the funding commitment will be considered by Finance and Resources Committee on 18 February 2022.
- 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 support 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 – 2022/23 Cultural Grant Recommendations.

9.2 Appendix 2 – Edinburgh Multicultural Festival 2019/21 - In Brief

2022/23 CULTURAL GRANT RECOMMENDATIONS

Strategic Partners

Organisation	Banding (up to)	Level of Grant Award 2021/22	Recommended Level of Grant 2022/23
	£20,000	Year 2 of 3	Year 3 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
Imaginate		£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		£1,926,000	£1,926,000
Total		£3,006,000	£3,006,000

Strategic Partners: Groupings

Organisation	Banding (up to)	2021/22 Level of Grant Award	Recommended Level of Grant 2022/23
Literature Grouping:	£100,000	Year 2 of 3	Year 3 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)	2021/22 Level of Grant Award	Recommended Level of Grant 2022/23
		Year 2 of 3	Year 3 of 3
Scottish Chamber Orchestra	£50,000	£50,000	£50,000
Queens Hall	£60,000	£60,000	£60,000
Total		£110,000	£110,000

Proposed Revenue Funding Model 2022/23

Event	2021/22 Level of Grant	Recommended level for 2022/23
Multicultural Event		£43,000
Total		£43,000

Flexible Fund

Flexible Fund Priorities	2021/22 Level of Grant	Recommended levels for 2022/23
Diversity and Inclusion	£100,000	£100,000
Creative Community Partnerships*	£100,000	
Edinburgh Practitioner/Artist Support	£100,000	£100,000
<i>Local Cultural Festivals and Events*</i>	<i>£100,000</i>	
<i>Freelance Practice Support Fund**</i>	<i>£150,000</i>	
WHALE Arts: Arts-based Community Hubs Programme		£100,000
Total	£300,000***	£300,000

* Creative Community Partnership Fund allocation £100,000. £30,000 was reallocated to the Local Cultural Festivals and Events Fund. (Ref 4.17)

** Freelance Practice Support Fund delivered Scottish Government resources (Covid-19 Local Authority Discretionary Fund) and administered by Edinburgh Performing Arts and Development, and Creative Edinburgh. (Ref 4.16)

*** The one-off project funding allocations were additional to the baseline service budget.

2022/23 Project Funding

Culture Plan Budget	2021/22 Level of Grant	Recommended levels for 2022/22
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
Granton Cultural Strategy	£24,800	£24,800
WHALE Arts	£18,000	£18,000
Culture Map Partnership Fund	£3,545	£3,545
Multicultural Event (potential move to Strategic Partner status for 2022/23)	£43,000	
Total	£173,379	£130,379

* As agreed at the Culture and Communities Committee on 16 November 2021, the Diversity Officer post allocation will be allocated to the staffing budget facilitating the establishment of the permanent position.

	Total Budget 2021/22	Total Budget 2022/23
Total Culture Budget	£4,689,279	£4,689,279

EDINBURGH MULTICULTURAL FESTIVAL 2019 TO 2021

IN BRIEF

Since 2019 the Edinburgh Multicultural Festival has established a strong network of ethnically diverse artists and creatives who have contributed to creating its identity and presented their existing or new work on a variety of stages and platforms.

ARTISTS

Over the past three years the festival has engaged over 150 artists and ensembles across art form, ethnicities, backgrounds, and ages.

The festival has adapted to the changing environment affected by Covid-19 while creating new opportunities for ethnically diverse artists to engage with local and international audiences. The most recent annual review of the festival's YouTube channel evidenced the direct engagement of over 16,000 audiences across the globe.

The Edinburgh Multicultural Festival offers a unique platform for artists at different stages of career progression to present their work, develop ideas and work in different settings. The festival has offered professional photography and videography to contributing artists for whom it was one of the few opportunities, due to limited access to resources otherwise, to work with other creatives.

AUDIENCES

The festival has built on its reach over the past three years with groups of returning audiences attending events and increasing online following. The changing advertising environment required readjustments to PR/Comm campaigns while traditional printed advertising had less impact on engagement. The learning continued with better and increasing advertising options and limitations in the north of Edinburgh.

NEW WORK AND OPPORTUNITIES

The festival having commissioned music, theatre and dance collaborations, has attracted Scotland-based and international artists thus positioning itself as a supporter of, and platform provider for, the emerging Scottish scene.

To quote Jose Luis Cote, visual artist of Colombian descent now based in Leith: 'Edinburgh Multicultural Festival is an encounter that reflects not only on the multicultural and artistic richness that come from all around the world and that coexists in the town. It is also an encounter of cross-fertilizations across the artistic practice, as well with the general community of Edinburgh.' Music band Dopesickfly added 'Edinburgh Multicultural Festival is the best; their artist-friendly team was professional from beginning to end. We're beyond grateful to have been included twice in the festival, it's given our band a huge jump start. From high quality live video to an eclectic live music line up next to musicians from across the world!'

NEXT STEPS

With all the above in mind, continued support to our ethnically diverse artists and creatives as well as improvement of the festival delivery and audience development, could be offered through:

- establishing of a network of curators and event managers representing different art forms to allow diversity of thought and ideas as well as greater reach cross the industry;
- hosting regular events across the city to engage with audiences and present the festival offer in the run-up to the festival;
- supporting local musicians and vocalists, who often do not share one platform, through jamming sessions and creating spaces for support, mentorship and exchange of creative ideas and work opportunities;
- fundraising for further funding to resource commissioning of work over longer periods of time and greater impact on artists;
- engaging with other festivals that promote world music or multiculturalism in the UK and beyond;
- liaising with local business as part of the programme development to ensure mutual benefits and continued support for the festival in the area;
- greater engagement with local hospitality spaces, community groups and organisations across the north of Edinburgh, eg: restaurants and pubs in Newhaven; community organisations in Pilton/Muirhouse to ensure local residents recognise the festival as a local offering unique to the north of Edinburgh.

African Connections: December 2021