

Item No:	Classification: Open	Date: 5 April 2011	Decision Taker: Cabinet Member for Culture, Leisure, Sport and the Olympics
Report title:		Arts and Culture grants 2011 – 12	
Ward(s) or groups affected:		All	
From:		Strategic Director of Environment	

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. It is recommended that that Cabinet Member for Culture, Leisure, Sport and the Olympics approves the Arts and Culture grants for 2011 – 12, as attached at Appendix 1, effective from April 1, 2011 – March 31, 2012.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

2. On 22 February 2011 Council Assembly agreed the council's budget. The budget recommended for 2011-12 is £240,444 inclusive of market rents. The Arts and Culture grants programme includes the following organisations:
 - Blue Elephant Theatre
 - Cafe Gallery / Bermondsey Artists Group
 - Carl Campbell Dance Company 7
 - London Bubble Theatre
 - Southwark Arts Forum
 - Southwark Playhouse
 - Theatre Peckham
3. Approval of grants over £2,500 under the Arts and Culture programme is a matter for the Cabinet Member for Culture, Leisure, Sport and the Olympics (Constitution: Clauses 2 and 5 Part 3D) and will be considered via individual member decision making (IDM).
4. The Culture Service Commissioning Plan for 2011/12 was agreed through the individual member's decision-making process (IDM) in September 2010. The Plan sets out the priorities and themes for culture service's commissioning in 2011/12, the expected links between Council policy and priorities and the outcomes that are to be delivered by the voluntary organisations that receive grant-aid. This is attached at Appendix 2.
5. The arts and cultural providers will deliver services through arts, culture and heritage activities to achieve the Council's core priorities of: Improving life chances; a better place for people; quality services that are accessible, customer focused and efficient, and contributing to Southwark's celebration of the 2012 Olympics. These providers contribute to a sustainable cultural infrastructure in local areas, and complement the large cultural organisations in the north of the borough.
6. Current providers for 2010/11 were invited to resubmit applications for the reduced funding. Applications were received from all seven organisations.

7. Providers are monitored six-monthly and required to provide detailed performance information on user groups and audiences. This information includes data on children and young people, adults, over-60s, disability, and BME, and Southwark users. Data informs Culture Equality Impact Assessments as well as the Arts and Culture performance indicators.

KEY ISSUES FOR CONSIDERATION

8. The seven organisations in the programme are key providers of local services with a reach into local communities and proven engagement at a neighbourhood level, as demonstrated by the statistics at paragraph 7. The majority have a borough-wide reach, and recognition for the quality of their services regionally. The majority of the organisations operate with a 'mixed economy' funding model; that is that they have multiple funding streams, including the Children's Fund, Arts Council, LDA and various trusts and foundations, and some income generation. The majority of organisations are to receive reductions from other funders in 2011 – 12, and a key part of the assessment for determining the level of funding through this programme has been on the sustainability of the organisation in 2011 – 12, and its ability to reconfigure services and identify other revenue and funding streams. Funding through the Culture programme supports a percentage of core costs and ensures that organisation can then lever in additional funding for local services.
9. Cafe Gallery and Theatre Peckham are revenue funding clients of the Arts Council and will sustain a reduction on their ACE grant for 2011 – 12. Funding through The Arts Council's new national programme for 2012 – 13 will be confirmed on 31st March, 2011, and will determine their sustainability or otherwise in 2012 – 13.
10. Blue Elephant Theatre, London Bubble, Theatre Peckham and Southwark Playhouse are also in receipt of funding through Southwark Children's Fund which expires on 31st March 2011, and is not replaceable.
11. The Council's Transition Fund Round 1 has confirmed support for five organisations in the programme in 2011 – 12, pending National Transition fund application decisions. The remaining two are eligible to make reapply or make an application to Round 2 in June 2011. The monitoring of the Transition Fund grants will be included in Culture's service monitoring, ensuring the programmes are integrated. The transition fund awards are included in Appendix 1. The Transition Fund is managed through Community Engagement.

Assessment of proposals for funding

12. All organisations in the programme have appropriate governance, policies and systems in place. An assessment of applications for 2011 -12 were made on the following criteria:
 - A clear and comprehensive programme meeting the key themes
 - Outcomes and milestones: specified and measurable targets, and evaluation measures
 - A balanced budget that demonstrates value for money, and the financial viability of the organisation

- Impact of a reduction in funding; what percentage has been planned for, and what percentage of other income is confirmed for 2011 – 12.

The assessment score sheet is attached at Appendix 3.

13. Organisations were invited to apply on 21 January 2011. The assessment of applications was completed on 28 February, with a one-to-one consultation process with all organisations being completed by 15 March, and in advance of the formal recommendations for funding being made by 3 March.
14. The recommendations for funding for 2011- 2012 have prioritised direct service delivery; that is arts and cultural programmes that benefit residents directly including children and young people and older people. The programme is focused on ensuring access and participation in the arts across the borough by all residents. Residents' engagement in the arts increased to 53.8% in 2010 according to the national indicators (NI11). The recommendations also ensure a spread of services across the borough and have mitigated against closure of local venues which are serving local neighbourhoods. Where the Arts Council is also a funder, the Council's funding match has been maintained but will be subject to review in 2012 - 2013 with the review of the Arts Council's national funding priorities. Organisations with a capacity to increase income generation through box office, membership fees, trusts and sponsorship have been given a lower priority.

Community Impact Statement

15. The Cultural Services Arts Grants Programme is committed to delivering a range of activities which meet the Council's priorities across the borough, and particularly in areas that are most economically, socially, environmentally or culturally disadvantaged. It is widely acknowledged that multiple deprivation factors prevent people from accessing culture and leisure activities, but that cultural activities have an important role to play in improving the quality of life and in encouraging community cohesion. It is also recognised that Southwark is an exceptionally creative and vibrant borough. The programme aims to build on this strength through ensuring equality of access, participation and presence across the borough.
16. Given Southwark's demographics, the organisations recommended to provide culture services are committed to engaging children and young people, culturally specific communities, and potentially marginalised groups in priority neighbourhoods.
17. Culture Services Equalities Impact assessments have assessed the impact of the reductions of services for each organisation. Inevitably, reductions will impact on services for children and young people and older people. However, it should not prevent most services from continuing in some form and from

Resource implications

18. The overall recommendations for the Culture Services Arts Grants programme can be met within the proposed cash allocation allowed for the Environment Departmental budget for 2011/12. The proposed total allocation for Culture Services Commissioning in 2011/12 is £240,444, inclusive of market rents. The recommendations for £240,444 allocation are set out in Appendix 1.

Policy Implications

19. Support for arts organisations is given because their services contribute to the Council's Priorities as represented in the Corporate and Community Strategies in particular:

Improving life chances

- enjoyment of culture and leisure through accessible culture and opportunities for participation by Southwark residents
- achieving educational potential through opportunities for children and young people (0-19 years), and in particular those who may not normally have access to cultural activities
- economic well-being through access to skills and employment
- value diversity and be active citizens

A better place for people

- locality and community mix
- liveable public realm
- a vibrant and mixed economy
- sustainable use of resources

Quality services that are accessible, customer focused and efficient.

- artistic quality and innovation in programmes
- effective leadership in all aspects of management and governance
- quality and accessibility for the general public, audiences and participants

London 2012

- opportunities for volunteering and programmes that provide skills for employment

Consultation

19. Face –to –face consultation has been undertaken with all the organisations in the programme. They have also been informed of the Council's budget and likely reductions to the VCS through the series of letters from the Leader of the Council and the Cabinet member for Equalities and Community Engagement.

Supplementary advice from other officers

Strategic Director for Communities, Law & Governance

20. The Strategic Director of Communities, Law & Governance (acting through the Contracts Section) notes the content of this report. The recommendation set out in paragraph 1 is consistent with the Council's corporate policy as described in paragraph 13 and the decision to approve that recommendation is one which may be taken by the Cabinet Member as it falls within the scope of the matters reserved to her under Part 3D of the Council Constitution.

Strategic Director of Finance

21. This report asks that the Cabinet Member for Culture, Leisure, Sport and the Olympics approves the Arts and Culture grants programme of £240k for 2011/12, effective from April 1 2011. Budget savings of £60k identified during 2011/12 budget setting process have been reflected in this programme

BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

Background Papers	Held At	Contact
Applications and assessments	160 Tooley Street	Anya Whitehead
Commissioning documents	160 Tooley Street	Anya Whitehead
Draft service specifications for 2011-12	160 Tooley Street	Anya Whitehead
Equality Impact Assessments	160 Tooley Street	Anya Whitehead
Culture performance information on funded organisations	160 Tooley Street	Anya Whitehead

APPENDICES

Number	Title
1	Table of financial recommendations for 2011- 2012
2	Culture Commissioning priorities 2011 - 2012
3	Assessment score sheet

Audit Trail

Lead Officer	Gill Davies, Strategic Director of Environment	
Report Author	Anya Whitehead, Head of Culture, Dept of Environment	
Version	Final	
Dated	5 April 2011	
Key Decision?	Yes	
CONSULTATION WITH OTHER OFFICERS / DIRECTORATES /CABINET MEMBER		
Officer Title	Comments Sought	Comments included
Strategic Director of Communities, Law & Governance	Yes	Yes
Chief Finance Officer	Yes	Yes
Cabinet Member	Yes	Yes
Date final report sent to Constitutional Officer	5 April 2011	

Appendix 1 - Table of financial recommendations for 2011- 2012

Organisation	2010 - 2011	Recommended 2011 - 2012	Transition Fund – Round 1 2011 - 2012
Bermondsey Artists Group	£45,929.73	£40,929.73	Unsuccessful
Blue Elephant Theatre	£39,249.36	£34,750.36	£19,000 (pending decision on national transition programme)
Carl Campbell Dance Company 7	£37,473.99	£30,728.99	£7,000
London Bubble Theatre	£34,612.05	£30,000	£15,000
Southwark Arts Forum	£51,770.78	£36,993.41	Applying for Round 2
Southwark Playhouse	£15,668.49	£0	£25,000
Theatre Peckham	£74,490.94	£67,041.85	£15,000
Total	£299,195.34	£240,444.34	

Appendix 2 : Culture service commissioning priorities

Culture Services Commissioning Plan 2011- 2012 Contracts

Our strategic aims

The Culture Services Programme

The services commissioned within the programme deliver the Environment & Housing Department's key aims and priorities, and in particular, *provide positive life opportunities through sports, learning and culture.*

The Culture Services Commissioning Programme is defined by the priorities of Southwark 2016, Southwark at the Centre, and the borough's aspirations for the London 2012 programme.

The contribution of commissioned services to delivering the priorities of Southwark 2016 is specifically through *improving individual life choices through enjoyment of culture and leisure opportunities* and increasing residents' satisfaction with these services. Commissioned culture services will contribute to this priority through increasing local access and participation in activities, and delivering high quality services. Additionally, culture services can contribute to *valuing diversity and active citizenship*, as well as creating *a better place for people.*

Southwark at the Centre, the Council's guiding cultural document, ensures that the borough's cultural services deliver on the Council's core priorities: Improving the quality of life in respect of – life chances, health, vibrancy and celebrating cultural diversity. The themes for the Commissioning Plan reflect the core priorities. Commissioned services are expected to impact on a range of the following outcomes:

Improving life chances – Southwark's people are its assets

- achieve economic well-being through access to skills and employment
- contribute to achieving educational potential
- Enjoyment of culture and leisure through accessible culture and opportunities for participation
- Be healthy
- Stay safe
- Value diversity and be active citizens

A better place for people

- Localities of mixed communities;
- sustainable use of resources,
- a vibrant and mixed economy
- a liveable public realm

Commissioned services will deliver quality services, be accessible, customer focused and efficient.

Arts, culture and education are embedded into the London 2012 programme through, with the aim of unlocking London's reputation as a world cultural capital to celebrate youth and internationalism. The values for the London 2012 programme are: welcoming the world, celebrating London and the UK's unique internationalism and

cultural diversity; inspiring and involving young people, and generating a positive legacy for cultural participation. The organisations supported through the Commissioning Plan are key to involving Southwark's communities in the opportunities that London 2012 will offer.

2. The Needs

The Cultural Services Commissioning Programme delivers a range of activities which meet the Council's priorities across the borough, and particularly in areas that have least cultural facilities and services. It aims to ensure that local communities have access to cultural provision in their local area, and that people are not excluded because of economic or other multiple deprivation factors. Southwark is an exceptionally creative and vibrant borough. The programme aims to build on this strength through ensuring equality of access, participation and activity across the borough.

The following factors will determine the commissioning priorities in 2011-2012. Applicants to the programme will be required to demonstrate an understanding of Southwark's communities and identify target groups, specific needs, proof of consultation, expected benefits and outcomes, partnership working, impact measures and quality of service. Specifically, we will expect applications to demonstrate how proposed services and projects will address the needs, and applications will be assessed on these criteria.

Demographics and diversity¹

Projects will be socially inclusive, and recognise the diversity and needs of Southwark's population, which as well as a significant White British community includes London's largest Black African community (16.1%), Black Caribbean (8%); and Bangladeshi, Indian, Chinese, Latin-American and Irish communities.

Deprivation

There are contrasts of opportunity and different environments in the borough, with some of London's most deprived areas next to thriving and affluent areas. The location of deprivation is in a broad band across north and central Southwark from south of the riverside developments to the borders of Dulwich. Cultural provision through the Commissioning Programme will take into account opportunities for unemployed people and socially excluded groups.

Priority Neighbourhoods

Cultural services working within the priority neighbourhoods and with local communities are a key tool in engaging those most at risk of social exclusion through improving the range of life choices open to local residents. They are also 'gateways' for local residents to access a range of cultural, leisure, learning and employment opportunities across the borough. The areas of the borough with the most challenging environments, and the least cultural facilities, are parts of Bermondsey, Rotherhithe, Camberwell, Walworth, Borough, Nunhead and Peckham Rye.

Health

15% of residents are identified as disabled, and 9% in poor health. This is notable in Nunhead & Peckham Rye, Camberwell, Walworth and Peckham. This figure includes people with long-term mental illness, and we know that numbers of mental health service users are comparatively high, particularly amongst the younger population.

Children and young people

¹ All statistics used are from 'Southwark's Vital Statistics' compiled by Southwark Analytical Hub, 2007.

Southwark has a higher percentage of children 0 – 4 years than the London average, 7.1% of the borough's population, whilst 5 – 19 year olds make up 15.5%. The number of children and young people living in families that are poor or out-of-work is significant. These families are least likely to access cultural opportunities out-of-school hours. Culture services contribute to the achievement of the Young Southwark which aims to improve the lives of local children and young people. Young people themselves value cultural activities but Mori Resident Surveys have identified the lack of local cultural activities and facilities for children and young people. 'More for children and young people to do' is a key outcome for Young Southwark.

As well as creative expression and personal fulfilment, cultural activities offer young people mentoring and support, and provide role models, which may be lacking in other areas of their lives. Cultural activities, including music, media and performing arts, are positive activities. They promote social engagement, community cohesion, healthy lifestyles and encourage positive choices. They are also important diversionary activities, and are proven to contribute to a decline in local crime rates. Ensuring the diversity and choice of cultural opportunities in local areas in Southwark is crucial.

Children with disabilities and special needs, and children looked after, are least likely to access cultural services out-of-school hours, and there is a need to provide progressive, accessible and relevant services for this group.

Out of school hours / leisure time

The programme will commission services to benefit children and young people out-of-school hours, at weekends and at holiday times. It will not prioritise the commissioning of services in schools or as part of enriched curriculum provision as there is already significant provision available for schools in this area.

Older people

Culture services have focused largely on provision for children and young people but older people in the borough are increasingly requesting relevant provision. It is expected that some parts of the programme will deliver services that include older people, or cater exclusively for them.

Cultural diversity in service providers

Cultural diversity is reflected in the range of participants using arts, culture, and heritage services in the borough. However, it is not reflected in the range of cultural organisations currently receiving the most significant amounts of funding, or those delivering higher-profile services. This is a London-wide issue, but is particularly pertinent to Southwark. The rich heritage of Southwark's diverse communities also needs to be reflected in cultural activities, and to give an impetus to community cohesion. New services have been commissioned through the one year project fund since 2006, and this strategy will be continued, dependent on the availability of Culture service's budget.

3. National policy that influences the Council's programme

- National Strategy for Neighbourhood Renewal (CLG)
- Olympics 2012 (LOCOG); Setting the Pace (MLA)
- Culture at the Heart of Regeneration (DCMS)
- Creative Britain (DCMS)

- Cultural Metropolis, and the recognition of the role of culture plays in the capital in inner and outer London boroughs, and in social inclusion, education and learning and skills for work. (GLA)
- Every Child Matters, and Youth Matters, with their five priorities for children and young people.
- The Disability Discrimination Act which imposes obligations in terms of improving access to facilities and services.

4. Council Policies

- Southwark 2016
- The Council's core priorities, as outlined in Section 1.
- Southwark at the Centre – the Council's strategic priorities for arts and culture
- The Southwark Compact and associated guiding principles
- Southwark Equalities and Human Rights Scheme
- Young Southwark and Children and Young People's Plan
- Southwark's statement of intent for London 2012 and the Olympics and Paralympic Games

5. The Culture Service Programme Themes for 2011-2012

The programme will seek to commission services that impact on the Council's core priorities. The services will be commissioned under the following themes. Services will be expected to address selected, not all, objectives under themes 1, 2 and 4. Theme 3 concerns artistic quality and all aspects of management and governance and services will be required to address this in detail.

(1) Improving life chances – Southwark's people are its assets

Services will address how their activities impact on the following:

- Enjoyment of culture and leisure through accessible culture and opportunities for participation by Southwark residents
- Increased access and opportunities out-of-schools hours in leisure time for good quality cultural activities, including children and young people who are most at risk of exclusion, such as children looked after, and children with disabilities.
- Contributing to the educational achievement of children and young people (0-19 years) in the borough and celebrating their talents
- Helping to achieve economic well-being through access to skills and employment
- Encouraging health and well-being
- Valuing diversity and being active citizens, including services that promote community cohesion, cultural understanding and exchange, and ensuring that services meet the needs of Southwark's communities.
- encouraging a sense of community and residents' involvement through cultural activity, including participation from socially excluded groups

(2) A better place for people

Services will address how their activities impact on the following:

- Improving the physical and social well-being of local neighbourhoods through cultural activity.
- Contributing to the locality and community mix
- Promoting a liveable public realm
- Contributing to a mixed local economy
- Promoting sustainable use of resources

(3) Commissioned services will deliver quality services, be accessible, customer focused and efficient.

Services will demonstrate how they ensure artistic quality and innovation in their programmes; effective leadership in all aspects of management and governance; ensure quality and accessibility for the general public, audiences and participants and maintain quality in work with other agencies.

(4) London 2012 programme

Services will demonstrate how they will contribute to Southwark's aspirations for London 2012 in terms of:

- Provision of artistic and cultural opportunities as part of key programmes for the London 2012 programme, and associated with the Olympics and Paralympics
- Opportunities for volunteering and ensuring appropriate skills are in place to recruit and manage volunteers
- Delivering programmes that provide skills for employment, which contribute to the Council's volunteering strategy and broader London 2012 volunteering schemes.

7. Outcomes and Outputs

The commissioning of services from arts and cultural organisations aims to provide high quality arts and culture experiences for local residents that can be accessed in local areas. The programme aims to increase participation in cultural services by local residents, and to produce high quality cultural programmes that celebrate the creativity and diversity of the borough and its people. It aims to ensure that all children and young people in Southwark can benefit from the vibrant range of arts and cultural organisations in the borough and that this becomes a positive choice in the longer term.

The programme is not limited in the range of culture that it supports but it will aim to achieve a balance of activity across all art forms.

However, the programme will not support the following types of activities:

- One-off events or festivals
- Activities which form part of the Council's Equalities Events programme, which is supported through other Council funding
- Programmes which take place exclusively in schools as part of curriculum activities
- Regular programmes of workshops or classes that are further, adult or higher education programmes.

Outcomes

Organisations will be expected to measure and achieve specific outcomes relevant to the theme, and proposals will need to demonstrate how this will be achieved.

The Council uses the national indicators N10 (visits to museums and galleries) and N11 (Engagement in the arts) as overall indicators of performance that compare with other London boroughs and local authority areas across the UK. N11, surveyed from April to October as part of the national Active People survey, measures the percentage of the adult population in a local area that have either attended an arts event or participated in an arts activity at least three times in the past 12 months. As at October 2010, we were positioned with a 53.8% propensity for residents to engage. The national average according to the Arts Council's Taking Part survey (2009/10) is 60.7%. We wish to maintain and improve on this performance, and commissioned services are a key factor in achieving this.

Key outcomes for the programme are:

- Increased participation in cultural services by local residents.
- Increased satisfaction with cultural services by local residents
- Sustainable and increased cultural provision in priority neighbourhoods, including improved local networks.
- Increased cultural diversity and cultural exchange in local services.
- Impact on children and young people enjoying and achieving and positive choices
- Impact on volunteering opportunities and skills for employment.

Outputs

Commissioned services are expected to keep records of audience and user figures, with Southwark users identified within total numbers, as well as children and young people, BAME communities, disabled groups, or vulnerable or disadvantaged groups, older people, and to demonstrate how they will reach minimum targets for each. They are also expected to achieve 75% repeat attendances for on-going workshop programmes, and to set a minimum attendance level.

The outcomes and outputs are collected on a quarterly basis and form part of the Cultural Services monitoring programme.

Contracts and Service Level Agreements

Contracts are offered within the terms of the Council's Contract Standing Orders and Procurement Strategy.

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Appendix 3: Assessment Scoring Sheet

Contract service specification score sheet 2011-2012

Name of organisation:

Description of service	
Is it a clear and comprehensive programme?	
Theme 1 - Improving life chances	
How far does it meet the objectives?	
Theme 2 - A better place for people	
How far does it meet the objectives?	
Theme 3 - Artistic quality, management & governance	
How far does it meet the objectives?	
Theme 4 - London 2012	
How far does it meet the objectives?	
Outcomes & Milestones	
Are targets specified?	
Are targets realistic & achievable?	
Are there clear indicators, evaluation measures?	
Budget for 2011-2012	
Is the budget balanced, clear and appropriate?	
Does it demonstrate value for money?	
Based on proposed budget, how financially viable is the org?	
Total score (out of 22)	
Impact	
What percentage cut has organisation budgeted for? (a)	
What is impact of proposed cut (loss of projects, staff)?	
What percentage cut does Culture recommend? (b)	
What is the % difference between proposal (a) & recommendation (b)?	
How/will this difference impact on the organisation? (fewer or further losses?)	
What percentage of other income is confirmed for 2011-12?	

Score 0, 1 or 2 (for all questions except impact section)

0 = does not meet criteria

1 = partly meets criteria

2 = fully meets criteria