

<b>Item No:</b>	<b>Classification:</b> Open	<b>Date:</b> 22 January 2013	<b>MEETING NAME:</b> Cabinet Member for Culture, Leisure, Sport and Olympic Legacy
<b>Report title:</b>		Arts and Culture Commissioning Programme 2013 - 2014	
<b>Ward(s) or groups affected:</b>		All	
<b>From:</b>		Strategic Director of Environment and Leisure	

## RECOMMENDATION

1. That the Cabinet Member for Culture, Leisure, Sport and the Olympics approves the Arts grants for 2013/14, as attached at Appendix 1, effective from 1 April 2013 to 31 March 2014.

## BACKGROUND INFORMATION

2. The Arts grants portfolio includes the following organisations:
  - Blue Elephant Theatre
  - Cafe Gallery / Bermondsey Artists Group
  - Carl Campbell Dance Company 7
  - London Bubble Theatre
  - Southwark Arts Forum
  - Theatre Peckham
  - South London Gallery
3. Approval of grants over £2,500 for the Arts are a matter for the Cabinet Member for Culture, Leisure, Sport and the Olympics as set out in the Council's Constitution: Clauses 2 and 5 Part 3D and is considered by individual member decision making (IDM).
4. The Arts Commissioning Plan sets out the priorities and themes for the service's commissioning in 2013/14, 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 in Appendix 1.
5. The providers are required to deliver services through arts activities to achieve the Council's core priorities as outlined in Southwark's Vision and the Fairer Future Principles including: being more transparent; creating a fairer borough; making Southwark a place to be proud of; realising potential; spending money as we would our own; and transforming public services. These providers are required to contribute to a sustainable cultural infrastructure in local areas, and complement the large cultural organisations in the north of the borough.
6. Providers are monitored six-monthly and required to provide detailed performance information on user groups and audiences, on a quarterly basis. This information includes data on interactions with schools, Southwark children and young people participating in the programme, the total numbers of events programmed, the total attendance numbers as well as the percentage of users from ethnic minority groups. Data informs Culture Equality Impact Assessments as well as the Arts performance indicators.

## **KEY ISSUES FOR CONSIDERATION**

7. 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. 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 Arts Council England, various trusts and foundations and some income generation. Funding through the Culture programme supports a percentage of core costs and ensures that organisation can then lever in additional funding from other sources for local services.

### **Assessment Criteria**

8. All organisations in the programme have appropriate governance, policies and systems in place. Recommendations for funding for 2013/14 were made on the basis of the following assessment 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 any reduction in funding; what percentage has been planned for, and what percentage of other income is confirmed for 2013/14.
9. The portfolio of organisations recommended for 2013/14 prioritises direct service delivery, quality arts provision, location within the borough, future sustainability of the organisation and support for artists.
10. Direct service delivery comprises of arts and cultural programmes that benefit all residents including children and young people and older people. This includes: dance performance and classes; theatre performance and classes; visual arts exhibitions; and associated education and family programmes.
11. The organisations are proposed for their consistently high quality artistic output as measured through formal monitoring. Geographic location is also critical in ensuring the provision is available at a range of locations in the borough so that access to and participation in the arts are available to all residents.
12. Future sustainability has been considered; enabling the organisations to become independent from council funding through business planning, revenue generation and fundraising. New innovative ways of working have been assessed and are supported.
13. Finally, support to our artistic community and individual practitioners has been considered within the portfolio of arts organisations. Southwark Arts Forum provides a specific core function of offering support and advocacy services for artists living in the borough, whilst other organisations within the portfolio offer professional development opportunities for artists.

## **Community Impact Statement**

14. The role of the Arts Grants is to enable the delivery of 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.
15. Given Southwark's demographics, the organisations recommended to provide services are committed to engaging children and young people, culturally specific communities, and potentially marginalised groups in priority neighbourhoods.

## **Financial Implications**

16. The recommended grant allocation for 2013/14 is detailed in Appendix 1 and totals £354,893. The current revenue budget allocation for this expenditure is £350,065, leaving a short fall of £4,828 which can be met within the overall proposed 2013/14 revenue budget allocation for the Culture, Libraries, Learning and Leisure Division. The allocation includes rent paid on behalf of the organisations, where relevant, as listed in Appendix 1.

## **Policy Implications**

17. Support for these arts organisations is proposed because their services contribute to the Council's Priorities as represented in Southwark's Vision and the Fairer Future Principles of:
  - Being more transparent.
  - Creating a fairer borough.
  - Making Southwark a place to be proud of.
  - Realising potential.
  - Spending money as we would our own.
  - Transforming public services.
18. They also support underlying visions and plans of the Children and Young People's Plan 2010- 2013.

### Children and Young People's Plan 2010-2013

- Thinking family:
  - Succeeding into adulthood
  - Working together to keep children safe
19. They achieve this through:
    - Contributing to the uniqueness of our borough and enhancing its reputation as a cultural borough.
    - Providing high quality free and low cost cultural provision for all the residents to access.

- Supporting arts provision throughout the borough ensuring ease of access to arts provision for our residents.
- Enabling our residents to achieve their goals, whether this is through a formal qualification or a personal goal.
- Providing opportunities for young people and families to participate in arts provision.
- Providing volunteering opportunities.
- Encouraging our residents to become more mentally and physically healthy through participation in the arts.

### **Consultation**

20. Face-to-face consultation has been undertaken with all the organisations in the programme through their monitoring meetings.

### **SUPPLEMENTARY ADVICE FROM OTHER OFFICERS**

#### **Director of Legal Services (SB/01/13)**

21. The Director of Legal Services (acting through the Contracts Section of the Corporate Team) notes the content of this report. The recommendation set out in paragraph 1 is consistent with the Council's corporate policy 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.
22. The Director of Legal Services will provide advice and assistance to officers as required in connection with the drafting of suitable forms of legal agreement to regulate the funding of the organisations listed in Appendix 1.

#### **Strategic Director for Finance and Corporate Services (ET/13/01)**

23. This report recommends that the Cabinet Member for Culture, Leisure, Sport and the Olympics approves the Arts and Heritage grants programme for 2013/14, effective from 1 April 2013 to 31 March 2014.
24. The strategic director notes that the resource implications contained within the report, the recommended Arts and Heritage grants programme being some £5k higher than the 2011/12 budget, which will be contained within the department's overall budget resources. Officer time to effect the recommendation will be contained within existing budgeted revenue resources.

## BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

Background Papers	Held At	Contact
None		

## APPENDICES

Appendix number	Title of appendix
1	Table of financial recommendations for 2013/14
2	Culture Commissioning priorities 2013/14

## AUDIT TRAIL

<b>Lead Officer</b>	Deborah Collins, Strategic Director of Environment & Leisure	
<b>Report Author</b>	Adrian Whittle, Head of Culture, Libraries & Leisure, Environment & Leisure	
<b>Version</b>	Final	
<b>Dated</b>	22 January 2013	
<b>Key Decision?</b>	Yes	
<b>CONSULTATION WITH OTHER OFFICERS / DIRECTORATES / CABINET MEMBER</b>		
<b>Officer Title</b>	<b>Comments Sought</b>	<b>Comments included</b>
Director of Legal Services	Yes	Yes
Strategic Director of Finance and Corporate Services	Yes	Yes
<b>Cabinet Member</b>	Yes	Yes
<b>Date final report sent to Constitutional Team</b>	22 January 2013	