

<b>Title of Report:</b>  <b>Cultural Grant Aid Programmes</b>	<b>Officer Presenting:</b> <b>Head of Culture</b>  <b>Author: Arts &amp; Culture Manager, Tourism Manager, Festivals &amp; Events Manager</b>
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## **1 Purpose of Report/Recommendations**

- 1.1 To secure member approval for the allocation of funding for the following programmes Cultural Venues for 2018/19, Heritage Animation for 2017/18 & 2018/19, Access Programme for 2017/18 & 2018/19 and Headline Events Funding for 2018/19.

## **2 Background**

- 2.1 Members will recall previous reports to this committee approving the roll out of funding programmes for Cultural Venues 2018/19, Headline Events Fund 2018/19, Heritage Animation Fund for 2017/18 & 2018/19, An Access Programme for 2017/18 and 2018/19. These funds were all extensively promoted including by public notice and a number of information sessions were held across the Council area to provide detail on the funds.
- 2.2 The Cultural Venues Fund sought applications from those organisations engaged in Arts & Culture or Museum & Heritage activity. The budget allocation for each category was ring fenced.
- 2.3 The Heritage Animation Programme was focused on the delivery of an animation and visitor servicing programme specifically targeting the participation of heritage venues within DCSDC. Members will recall that this fund was established to promote visitor servicing among the heritage venues in particular those who did not qualify for the cultural venue funding.
- 2.4 The Access Programme focused on Cultural Venues, supporting small capital improvements directly related to the findings detailed within an independent access audit. The programme was designed to meet the community planning action of "...promoting accessible cultural experiences". The independent access audits were carried out as part of the Access and Inclusion project within the Culture department.
- 2.5 The Headline Events Fund programme incorporates strategic cultural and sporting events of significant scale and is replacing the previous named Tier 2 events fund.

### **3 Key Issues**

- 3.1 The total value of funding for the Cultural Venues funding applied for was £158,103 against an available grant aid budget of £142,000. Fifteen eligible applications were received, three from the Museum & Heritage sector and twelve from the Arts & Culture sector. The successful applicants are outlined in Appendix 1 of the report. It is proposed that should there be confirmation of any additional budget from annual or in-year savings that members agree to increase the Arts & Culture specific budget to £158,103 thereby meeting the eligible requirements of the twelve applicant organisations.
- 3.2 The total value of funding sought from the Museum & Heritage budget was £14,851 against an available grant aid budget of £83,600. Council previously agreed to ring fence the Heritage & Museum Venues budget within the Cultural Venues Fund programme.
- 3.3 The underspend of £68,749 for the 2018/19 Cultural Venues Fund budget allocated to the Museum/Heritage sector was to be utilised within the Heritage Animation Grant Aid Programme for 2018/19. The maximum award for both the Cultural Venues Fund and the Heritage Animation Fund cannot exceed £17,000 in any one year.
- 3.4 The total budget for the capital based Access Programme is £75,000 per annum with twelve applicants in total from venues who had completed their independent access audits. It is recommended that awards are made from the budget allocation for 2017/18 (£62,789) and 2018/19 (£75,000) equating to £137,789 in total. Extending this budget to £138,254 will enable full access improvements to 8 venues (Venue A – H as detailed in Appendix 3). Furthermore, business case submissions have been made to two statutory agencies to contribute to this programme. If successful, this will enable access improvements to be made to all applicant organisations as well as create the potential for a second programme call. Members are asked to approve the extension of this fund should additional external funding be secured.

- 3.5 The total anticipated available budget for the Headline Events will be £206,000. This total consists of £166,000 for Arts and Culture Events and £40,000 for Sporting events. There were 14 applications, 12 of which reached the threshold mark in order to be eligible. The total value of funding sought from the Festival and Events budget that is eligible is £220,869.50 against an available grant aid budget in Arts and Culture £166,000 and Sport of £40,000. There was only one applicant in the Sporting category and it is recommended that the maximum £30,000 is awarded to that applicant with the remaining £10,000 be allocated to the arts and culture fund. This will extend the total budget for Arts & Culture events to £176,000. It is proposed that should there be confirmation of any additional budget from annual or in-year savings that Council increase the Arts & Culture specific budget to £190,869 thereby meeting the eligible requirements of the 12 applicant organisations. A full summary of applicants is outlined in Appendix 4 of this report.
- 3.6 The total budget for the Heritage Animation Fund was £60,579 for 2017/2018 and £83,600 for 2018/2019. In total five applications were received, four of which reached the threshold mark in order to be eligible. The total funds that have been allocated under this programme are £29,669.64 for 17/18 and £41,944.66 for 18/19. It is recommended that the underspend from this fund is utilised to further support animation and visitor servicing within the heritage sector either directly or indirectly possibly with a capacity building programme as it is clear that there is an issue with a number of venues regarding their resources available to secure funding and develop the venues as attractions. Officers will scope recommendations for this based on the needs of the sector in line with the emerging respective Tourism and Arts & Culture strategies and bring back a future report to members. A summary of the applicants is outlined in Appendix 2 of this report.

#### **4 Financial, Equality, Legal, HR, Improvement and other Implications**

- 4.1 The proposed 2018/19 Cultural Venue grant awards will be drawn from anticipated member approved rates based budgets with venues I, J, K and L receiving full eligible funding if potential savings can be identified.
- 4.2 The proposed 2017/18 and 2018/19 Heritage Animation grant awards will be drawn from existing and anticipated member approved rates based budgets.
- 4.3 The proposed 2017/18 and 2018/19 Access Programme awards will be drawn from existing member approved budgets for a three-year capital based access programme. This programme will be extended for further calls should additional external funding be secured.
- 4.4 The proposed 2018/19 Headline Events awards will be drawn from existing member approved budgets.

## **5 Recommendations**

- 5.1 To approve the proposed award allocation outlined in this report for Cultural Venues, including an increase in the overall 2018/19 Cultural Venue budget for Arts & Culture organisations from £142,000 to £158,103 subject to resources. This represents a potential total increase of £16,102.
- 5.2 To approve the roll out the proposed 2017/18 and 2018/19 Heritage Animation programme awards totalling £71,614.30 and to develop options to allocate the underspend to further support animation and visitor servicing within the heritage sector either directly or indirectly possibly with a capacity building programme.
- 5.3 To approve the roll out the proposed 2017/18 and 2018/19 Access Programme Awards totalling £138,254 and should external funding be secured to extend this programme for further calls.
- 5.4 To approve the proposed award allocation outlined in this report for Headline Events 17/18 programme awards totalling £206,000.

### **Background Papers**

#### **Appendix 1 – Cultural Venue Programme Awards 2018/19**

#### **Appendix 2 – Heritage Animation Programme Awards 2017/18 & 2018/19**

#### **Appendix 3 – Access Improvement Programme Awards**

#### **Appendix 4 – Headline Event Programme Awards 2018/19**