

Title of meeting: Culture, Leisure and Economic Development Decision Meeting

Date of meeting: 15 March 2024

Subject: Revenue Funding Grants 2024 - 2025

Report by: Director of Culture, Leisure and Regulatory Services

Cabinet Member: Councillor Steve Pitt

Wards affected: All

Key decision: No

Full Council decision: No

1. Purpose of report

1.1 To seek approval for the proposed funding levels for the Revenue Grant payments to cultural organisations for the financial year 2024/25.

2. Recommendations

2.1 That the Revenue Grant payments as outlined are agreed for the financial year 2024/25.

3. Background

3.1. A core level of revenue funding has been provided to a range of cultural organisations as an essential part of the wider cultural offer across the city. In all instances the core level of funding as proposed in this report is then used by the organisations as seed corn funding to leverage in funding from other sources to support the on-going running costs of these cultural organisations.

3.2. All revenue grant payments are supported by a detailed Service Level Agreement reporting against which has to be provided prior to the release of any payments. The payments are also provided to the organisations in two equal instalments pending receipt of the reporting information.

3.3. The information required ranges from updated business plans and audited accounts through to a range of operational policies and evidence of insurance policies. The Service Level Agreement also stipulates specific requirements depending on the nature and function of the organisation and requires them to respond to newly

adopted council policies such as the PCC Social Value policy and the Reduction in carbon emissions.

3.4. The proposed revenue grant contributions for 2024/25 are as follows:

Organisation	Purpose of the Revenue Grant	Proposed Grant for 2024/25
Aspex Visual Arts Trust	To support the work of Aspex as the primary contemporary visual arts space in Portsmouth	£16,900
Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra	To enable the orchestra to have Portsmouth as a key concert centre with high quality concerts and outreach programmes	£25,000
City of Portsmouth Preserved Transport	To provide specialist storage and maintenance for specific historic vehicles from Portsmouth's Museums collection	£8,680
Peter Ashley Activity Centres	To support the development of the outreach programme and delivery of activities	£3,000
Kings Theatre	To support the programme of work at the Kings Theatre including the development of education and outreach programmes	£48,000
New Theatre Royal	To support the programme of work at the New Theatre Royal including the of education and outreach programmes	£77,000
Portsmouth Creates	To support this facilitating cultural organisation in the delivery of their work with individual creatives and bespoke projects	£50,000
Portsmouth Guildhall	To support the ongoing delivery of the key actions outlined in the detailed funding agreement and business plan	£103,000
Portsmouth Pride	To support the delivery of the Portsmouth Pride event	£10,000*

3.5 Please note the allocation towards Portsmouth Pride has already been secured from an agreed sum within Resources and will not be funded from within Culture, Leisure & Economic development budgets. It is listed here in order to ensure that the principals of the application of a Service Level Agreement model and split payment are agreed.

4. Reasons for recommendations

- 4.1. The provision of revenue funding to cultural organisations has a long history in Portsmouth and both officers and members have gone to considerable lengths to protect the revenue funding through the periods of budget reductions. The continued provision of this funding both acknowledges the strategic importance of

these organisations but also the role this funding provides in attempting to leverage in financial support from other bodies such as Arts Council England and the National Lottery Heritage Fund.

5. Integrated impact assessment

- 5.1. Integrated Impact Assessment attached at Appendix A.

6. Legal implications

- 6.1 The Council has a specific statutory power under Section 145 of the Local Government Act 1972 to make contributions (which would include grant funding) towards the pursuit of arts, entertainment and cultural objectives and may also rely on the general power of competence for local authorities in the Localism Act 2011, section 1

7. Director of Finance's comments

- 7.1 The revenue grant payments proposed will be met from the 2024/25 budget provision.

.....
Signed by:
Stephen Baily
Director of Culture, Leisure and Regulatory Services

Appendices:

Appendix A- Integrated Impact Assessment

Background list of documents: Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972

The following documents disclose facts or matters, which have been relied upon to a material extent by the author in preparing this report:

Title of document	Location

The recommendation(s) set out above were approved/ approved as amended/ deferred/ rejected by on

.....
Signed by:
Cabinet Member for Culture, Leisure and Economic Development