

Title of meeting: Culture and City Development Decision Meeting

Date of meeting: 31 January 2020

Subject: Revenue Grants 2020/2021

Report by: Director of Culture, Leisure and Regulatory Services

Wards affected: All

Key decision: No

Full Council decision: No

1. Purpose of report

- 1.1 To outline to the Cabinet Member the proposed funding levels for the Revenue Grant payments to cultural organisations for the financial year 2020/21 in order to enable effective planning by the individual organisations and take into account the deferment of the Revenue Funding decisions due to Purdah until February 2020.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 **To propose the details of the funding levels, which will be confirmed by Members at the Full Council meeting in February 2020 when the Council's overall revenue budget is agreed.**

3. Background

- 3.1 Funding of a very small number of Cultural organisations has been an essential part of maintaining the wider cultural offer across the city for many years. Despite significant reductions in funding a core level of revenue grant funding has been maintained by the Council which has enabled organisations to use this as seedcorn funding to lever in other financial support.
- 3.2 The revenue grant contributions from the Council for 2020-2021 are proposed as follows:

Organisation	Purpose of the Revenue Grant	Proposed Grant for 2020-2021
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	£25,000
Kings Theatre	To support the programme of work at the Kings Theatre including the development of education and outreach	£48,000
New Theatre Royal	To support the programme of work at the New Theatre Royal including the development of education and outreach	£77,000
Peter Ashley Activities Centres	To support the work and activities at both Fort Widley and Fort Purbrook	£3,000
City of Portsmouth Preserved Transport	To provide specialist storage and maintenance for historic vehicles from Portsmouth's Museums collection	£6,200

- 3.3 All grant awards are subject to a detailed Service Level Agreement and a range of monitoring and measurable delivery in association with the funding provided by the Council. For the 2019-20 financial year all organisations in receipt of revenue funding were asked to support the development of student placements and careers events to assist the development of the local creative sector including, where appropriate Apprentices.
- 3.4 It is anticipated that the SLAs for 2020-2021 will request specific elements of the organisations in order to support the delivery of the Council's key priorities and strategic aims.

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 period so of budget reductions. The continued provision of funding both acknowledges the strategic importance of these organisations but also the role this funding provides in leveraging in financial support from other national funders such as Arts Council England and the National Lottery Heritage Fund.

5. Integrated impact assessment

- 5.1 An Integrated Impact Assessment is attached.

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 can met from existing budgets. Any decision to reduce the 2020/21 budget at the Full Council meeting in February 2020 will change this position.

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

Appendices:
Appendix 1: 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

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Signed by:
Cabinet Member for Culture and City Development