
To: Leadership Board

On: 14 September 2016

Report by: Director of Development and Housing

Heading: Culture, Heritage and Events Fund

1. Summary

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to seek approval from the Leadership Board for the award of grants selected from the second round of 2016 Culture, Heritage and Events Fund applications.
 - 1.2 The Culture, Heritage and Events Fund has been designed to act as a significant building block in the development of Paisley's bid to become UK City of Culture in 2021. The total fund amount of £500,000 is intended to support relevant activities to support the bid from April 2016 and up to year 2021. This is the second of three rounds in 2016. A further three will be planned for 2017, during the UK City of Culture bidding period which is a critical time to demonstrate that the fund is unlocking creative potential and building cultural capacity in Renfrewshire.
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2. Recommendations

- 2.1 It is recommended that the board:
 - i. note the high level of interest again generated in this second round of the Culture, Heritage and Events fund;
 - ii. approve the grant awards as recommended by the Paisley 2021 Partnership Board, as detailed in Section 4 of this report to the total value of £128,396;
 - iii. note the status of the additional projects supported by delegated authority during at the first round of applications;

- iv. Note the need for the development and approval of a bespoke application form – specific to the Culture, Heritage and Events Fund - that supports the description and outputs of cultural and creative projects;
 - v. Approve an amendment to the CHEF guidelines that will advertise the next funding round in December as outlined in paragraph 6.3.
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3. Background

- 3.1 The Economy and Jobs Board of 18 November 2015 approved the establishment of a Culture, Heritage and Events Fund. The fund was launched on 8 February 2016 and applications were encouraged from individuals, businesses and networks that would help to develop capacity to support the ambitions of Paisley's UK City of Culture 2021 bid. The fund has been publicised via the Bid's creative and cultural networks, Creative Scotland website and social media channels. The deadline for submissions for the second round of grants was 1 August 2016.
 - 3.2 Potential applicants received guidance on the aims, objectives and outcomes required to be successful for grant funding. Furthermore a clear evaluation framework was set out to allow assessment of applications received. These guidelines are attached as an appendix to this report.
 - 3.3 The key objectives of the fund are to:
 - increase the number of people taking part in creative activity in Renfrewshire;
 - increase opportunities for young people to develop their creative ambition;
 - stimulate the local economy;
 - realise the potential contribution creativity can make to education, social inclusion and quality of life;
 - strengthen and broaden the network of people developing exciting cultural and creative projects and events in Renfrewshire;
 - increase the number of people visiting Renfrewshire; and
 - raise the profile of Renfrewshire throughout the UK.
 - 3.4 The total fund amount of £500,000 is intended to support relevant activities to support the bid from April 2016 and up to year 2021. Three grant application rounds have been planned in 2016 and a further three in 2017, during the UK City of Culture bidding period which is a critical time to demonstrate that the fund is unlocking creative potential in Renfrewshire. The total amount of funds committed to projects to date is £217,830.
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4. Second Round Grant Recommendations

- 4.1. Thirty six applications were received by the deadline date of 1 August 2016. The total value of requested grants to the second round of grants was £309,096. A specially convened assessment panel met on 18, 23 and 24 August 2016 to conduct an assessment of applications, and following consultation with the Paisley 2021 Partnership Board, 18 grant applications are recommended for approval in this round.

4.2 Recommended Grant Applications

Name	Project Description	Amount
CREATE Paisley	21 young people from all around Renfrewshire will be supported to create art pieces (film, photo, digital, poetry) to represent their vision for Paisley2021. Young volunteers and Create staff members will support them in a workshop, culminating an exhibition & online showcase.	£4,595
Lochwinnoch Arts Festival –	Deliver 12 "Come and Try" workshop events throughout the festival - including poetry, screen printing, penny whistle, drawing, film and dance .	£1,800
Brick Lane Studios album live launch	Create an album based on Paisley's past, present or future. Artists will have free rehearsal time, song writing workshops, recording time and will perform at an album launch	£6,365
Brick Lane Battle of the Bands	A battle of the bands contest involving local schools	£4,680
Linwood Youth Voice	Commission EMMS to make a film from interviews of past club members to document the history of the group. Will be premiered at an event in PTH	£4,500
Ydance	Cross-curriculum lessons and creative dance classes in schools based on a local historic building of the children's choice. Will culminate in two performances and an exhibition at JTH as part of Inspired.	£13,350
Karen Hanvidge Ceramics	Twice weekly ceramic workshops for children in Paisley. Will include tile making, plant pot, paisley pattern project etc. Participants will be encouraged to explore the museum and take inspiration from the exhibits	£3,668
Mandy McIntosh	A new public artwork (sculpture) at Wellmeadow to represent the Slug in the Bottle story	£22,000

Abhinaya Dance Academy	Taster dance sessions in Renfrewshire with the goal of getting people engaged in a new cultural activity and establishing regular classes	£9,990
Paisley YMCA	40-week digital music making and film project to young people living in Renfrewshire. Develop short videos to be screened on number of platforms, create soundscapes and form bands with non traditional instruments	£8,178
Nil by Mouth	Workshops across six Renfrewshire primary schools to foster positive relationships between pupils, culminating in a Guinness World Record Attempt involving all participants	£800
Project Z	Project exploring Paisley's venue town heritage and punk subcultures. Interviews will be conducted with residents and stories shared in a graphic novel	£3,100
Project Ability	22 visual art workshops over six months - pupils at Mary Russell school will learn about economic, cultural and historical importance of Renfrewshire's textile industry	£2,000
Paisley Poems	Establish a literary magazine which will feature poems and poets with a connection to Paisley	£920
Renfrewshire Witch Hunt 1697	Develop a visitor attraction in a High Street property which will be an interactive experience both in the unit and spilling out on to the street	£9,450
Renfrewshire Community Gospel Choir	Launch of what will hopefully become an annual concert, showcasing the Gospel Choir and also featuring the Jimmy Blair Accordion Orchestra and other young Paisley musicians	£4,000
ConFAB	A large scale, high quality production exploring the identities of women in Renfrewshire historically and in the present day. Will involve a large local community choir and young professional performers.	£24,000
Elderslie Community Council	A feasibility study to establish the connections to William Wallace and develop an appropriate way to acknowledge this locally	£5,000
TOTAL		£128,396

- 4.3 Funding decisions are based on the criteria set out in the report approved by the Economy and Jobs Policy Board on 18 November 2015:
- best strategic fit with the fund objectives, themes and criteria
 - value for money and leverage of additional funding and/or resources
 - event viability, quality of programme, management, marketing and promotion
 - public benefit/audience
 - legacy opportunities
- 4.4 Subject to Board approval, the Bid team will now correspond with all applicants to provide feedback and where appropriate to encourage future applications.
- 4.5 Details of unsuccessful applicants in this round can be provided on request.

5. Update on Additional Projects Supported by Delegated Authority (Round 1)

At the Leadership Board of 29 March 2016 delegated authority was given to progress a number of projects subject to satisfactory completion of the assessment process. The following five projects have now been approved.

Applicant	Project Info	£	Status
Renfrewshire Tapestry Group Visual Art	Create a permanent artwork for the burgh of Renfrewshire which will involve local residents, schools, community groups and the wider community.	£9,800	Assessment Team are in discussions with applicant regarding part funding
Taudevin & Hurley Projects Theatre	Half play, half gig about being female. Will rehearse and preview in PTH before embarking on a tour. Community workshops will take place during the tour.	£2,000	Programmed as part of The Spree. Offer letter issued
The Tannahill Project (Neil Paton) Music	Write, record and perform an original suite of music inspired by the poetry of Robert Tannahill. Using the poems as spoken word alongside the music.	£16,342	
Live Music Now Scotland Music	Create a new piece of music inspired by memories of the work and culture of Paisley's mills as recalled by older people.	£10,000	Offer letter issued to applicant

H-Arts Theatre	Fund part of an international theatre exchange.	£5,000	Offer letter issued to applicant
	Total	£43,142	

6. Revisions to CHEF Application Guidelines

- 6.1 There have now been two rounds of funding deadlines which have resulted in observations and feedback from numerous applicants and assessing officers about how the application process can be simplified. Approval is sought to make adjustments to the guidelines and application form in advance of the next funding deadline. In particular to:
- 6.2 Introduce a bespoke application form – rather than use the current generic Council grant form – so as to make it easier for applicants to detail the specifics of their proposed cultural project and to describe their track record and their capacity to deliver their proposed initiative.
- 6.3 Amend the guidance to highlight that applications are encouraged in particular from communities that are underrepresented in the applications received to date e.g. BME communities and to draw attention to the specific art forms and types of cultural activities in which more applications are welcome – such as projects that bring professional artists to work in community settings; projects that demonstrate the building of cultural capacity such as training courses in cultural production, research visits and imaginative use of digital in the delivery of projects – these amendments are suggested in order to align the outcomes of the fund with Department of Culture Media and Sport and Creative Strategies that have been published since the fund was established.

7. Spend to Date

The Board are asked to note the overwhelming interest in the Culture, Heritage and Event Fund since it was initiated. The combined number of applicants over the first two funding rounds has been 108 – from communities, businesses and cultural organisations in Renfrewshire and across Scotland. This amounts to a total funding request so far of £1,280,000 of which 34 projects have been supported, amounting to £217,830 committed funds to date which leaves £282,170 available from the £500,000 approved by the Economy and Jobs Board in 2015.

Implications of the Report

1. **Financial** – The Jobs and Economy Board approved the establishment of a £500k fund over the period to 2021. The applications are subject to the Council's new grant conditions which were revised and will be implemented April 2016.

2. **HR & Organisational Development - None**
3. **Community Planning – Community Care, Health & Wellbeing** - The Culture, Heritage and Events projects will have a positive effect on wellbeing.

Jobs and the Economy – The City of Culture programme aims to deliver positive economic impacts.
4. **Legal – None**
5. **Property/Assets – None**
6. **Information Technology - None**
7. **Equality & Human Rights** - The recommendations contained within this report have been assessed in relation to their impact on equalities and human rights. No negative impacts on equality groups or potential for infringement of individuals' human rights have been identified arising from the recommendations contained in the report the projects and criteria have been developed to provide opportunities across equality groups.
8. **Health & Safety – N/A**
9. **Procurement – N/A**
10. **Risk** – risks relating to events arising from this fund will be assessed at a project level.
11. **Privacy Impact – N/A**

List of Background Papers

- (a) Economy and Jobs Policy Board of 18 November 2015 report Culture, Heritage and Events Fund
- (b) Leadership Board of 29 March 2016 report Culture, Heritage and Events Fund.

The foregoing background papers will be retained within Development & Housing Services for inspection by the public for the prescribed period of four years from the date of the meeting.