



Belfast City Council

Report to: Development Committee

Subject: Culture and Arts Funding

Date: 16 September 2009

Reporting Officer: Marie-Thérèse McGivern, Director of Development, ext 3470

Contact Officer: [Shirley McCay, Head of Economic Initiatives](#) ext 3459

Relevant Background Information

To provide an update to the Committee on Culture and Arts funding schemes:

Multi Annual Fund

The total value of the Multi Annual Fund 2009/2010 is £690,360. Sixteen organisations receive a Multi Annual Funding package towards carrying out their work and creating programmes of arts or heritage activities which benefit people living, working or visiting Belfast. A breakdown of the organisations receiving support is attached as [Appendix 1](#). The programme is currently in year 2 and the Tourism, Culture and Arts Unit are due to conduct a mid term evaluation in October 2009.

Annual Fund

The total value of the Annual Fund 2009/2010 is £298,847. The programme was opened on 10 November and closed on 19 December 2008. 37 organisations received funding. A list is attached as [Appendix 2](#). A mid term evaluation of the programme is due to begin in October 2009. The Annual Fund 2010/2011 is due to be opened for applications on the 9 October and to close on the 20 November 2010.

Community Festivals Fund

The total value for the Community Festivals Fund 2009/2010 is £154,600. The scheme is delivered on a quarterly basis and communities receive grants between £2,500 and £10,000. An external consultant was appointed to manage the assessment and evaluation process. The Tourism, Culture and Arts Unit moderate all applications and the Director has delegated authority for approvals.

The first tranche of the Community Festivals Fund opened on 9 January and closed 20 February 2009 for Festivals taking place between 1 April–30 June 2009. 24 applications were received of which 6 were successful, with £32,000 awarded overall.

The second tranche of the fund opened on 6 March and closed 17 April 2009 for Festivals taking place from 1 July-30 September 2009. 30 applications were received of which 10 were successful, with £45,958 awarded overall.

The third tranche opened on 5 June and closed 17 July 2009 for festivals taking place between 1 October and 31 December 2009. 11 applications were received and are currently being assessed.

The fourth tranche is due to open on Friday 4 September and close 16 October 2009 for festivals taking place between 1 January and 31 March 2010.

An operating budget of 10% i.e. £15,460, has been set aside for the administration of the scheme.

Development and Outreach Initiative

The Development and Outreach Initiative aims to build capacity and boost cultural activity in communities with weak cultural infrastructure through a partnership approach. It is aimed at the top 50% Super Output Areas. The budget for 2009/2010 is £165,000 and the Committee approved 13 partnership projects in April 2009. These are attached as Appendix 3. Partner meetings to review progress are ongoing.

Creative Legacies

Creative Legacies is a £350,000 enhanced Development and Outreach programme that aims to contribute to the development of Belfast as a shared cultural space. Arts and community organisations were invited to establish partnerships and submit proposals for an 18 month Programme of Activity aimed at Super Output Areas and marginalised communities. The deadline for quotations closed on Monday 24 August for programmes taking place from October 2009 to December 2010. 27 proposals were submitted. There will be ten projects awarded funding of £25,000 each. These proposals are being assessed at present and will be presented to the Good Relations Steering Group for approval.

A part time Public Arts and Community Co-ordinator, has been appointed under the Creative Legacies to support implementation of the programme and will be in post from 1 October 2009. Geraldine Wilkins has successfully tendered to be the external evaluator and the Community Arts Forum has been successful in their tender to carryout research.

Rolling Programme

The Rolling Programme supports innovation in Arts and Heritage. Grants are available for individual organisations of £500 to £3000. The Director has delegated authority to approve applications. The total budget for 2009/2010 is £29,000 and £7200 has been awarded. A breakdown of applicants is attached as Appendix 4.

Resource Implications

The Multi Annual Fund, Annual Fund, Community Festivals Fund, Development and Outreach Initiative and Rolling Programme are all included in the Tourism, Culture and Arts Unit Business Plan for 2009/2010 and delivered within the approved budget and resources for 2009/2010.

The Creative Legacies Programme is funded through Peace III.

Recommendations

It is recommended that

- Members note the contents of the above report
- Agree to open the Annual Fund 2010/2011 for applications in November 2009.

Decision Tracking

A further update will be provided to the Committee in February 2010 including approval for Annual Fund applicants 2010/2011.

Time line: February 2010 Reporting Officer: Shirley MCay

Documents Attached

- Appendix 1 Multi Annual Fund Organisations 2009/2010
- Appendix 2 Successful Annual Fund organisations 2009/2010
- Appendix 3 Development and Outreach partners
- Appendix 4 Successful Rolling Programme projects 2009/2010 (to date)

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