



Belfast City Council

Report to:	Development Committee
Subject:	Culture & Arts Funding
Date:	13 January 2010
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Relevant Background Information

Members will be aware that the Council distributes a range of funding to culture and arts organisations. Due to the need for organisations to plan their programmes, the Council endeavours to award funding as early in the financial year as possible. Therefore both the Community Festivals Fund and the Development and Outreach Programme will reopen in January and close in February. No funding applications will be approved prior to ratification of the 2010/2011 budget estimates.

Key Issues

The Community Festivals Fund will invite applications from organisations which are planning community festivals to take place between 1 April and 30 June covering activities such as exhibitions, family days, historical talks and concerts. Grants range from a minimum of £2,500 to a maximum amount of £10,000.

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 programme will run from May 2010 to May 2011 and approximately 13 partnerships will receive support.

Application forms and guidance notes are available to download from www.belfastcity.gov.uk/funding.

Resource Implications

- £79,000 has been included in the budget estimates for the Community Festivals Fund in 2010/2011, which includes 15% towards administration costs. The Department of Culture, Arts and Leisure's contribution will be at least £77,000. This is the final year of a three year agreement between BCC and DCAL.
- £165,000 has been included in the budget estimates for the Development and Outreach Fund 2010/2011. This is the same level as 2009/2010 and it is anticipated that 13 partnerships will be supported.

No funding applications will be approved prior to ratification of the budget estimates 2010/2011.

Recommendations

It is recommended that Members:

- note the contents of this report in relation to the Community Festivals Fund and Development and Outreach Fund applications.

Decision Tracking

There is no decision tracking attached to this report as it is for notation only.

Key Abbreviations

DCAL – Department of Culture, Arts and Leisure