

## HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

### Decision Report

<b>Decision Maker:</b>	Culture, Communities and Rural Affairs Select Committee
<b>Date:</b>	26 April 2012
<b>Title:</b>	Hampshire Arts and Museums Grants Strategy
<b>Reference:</b>	3868
<b>Report From:</b>	Director of Culture, Communities and Business Services

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### 1. Executive Summary

1.1. The purpose of this paper is to:

- Provide an update regarding the development of dance, music visual arts and theatre planning within the context of the Arts and Museums Strategic Plan, 2012-15: Connecting Communities with Excellence
- Provide an update regarding strategic discussions with Whitchurch Silk Mill, Hampshire Museums and Galleries Trust and Solent Sky.
- Following comments from the Select Committee, the report asks the Executive Member to approve the updated Visual Arts Strategy (appendix 1) and the awarding of grant aid under the Organisational Change Fund 2012/13 for St Barbes Museum (Lymington Museum Trust).
- The report also seeks approval for the awarding of grant aid under the Organisational Change Fund 2012/13 for The Point, Eastleigh Borough Council, and the commissioning of new Music provision as per the attached brief (appendix 2)

### 2. Background

2.1 During the period, July 2011- January 2012, a review of the arts and museums provision of Hampshire County Council was undertaken. On 20 January 2012, the Executive Member approved a new Arts and Museums Strategic Plan, 2012-15: Connecting Communities with Excellence. This document outlined Hampshire County Council's intention to review its strategy for investing in dance, music, touring theatre and visual arts excellence during 2012/13. It is intended that this work will

inform future grant investment under the new Culture and Community Grants Programme from 2013/14 onwards.

### **3. Connecting Communities with Excellence: Dance**

- 3.1 Dance is one of the most democratic, popular and fast growing creative activities in the UK. Our draft vision is that by 2015, residents and visitors to Hampshire will have the opportunity to experience high quality dance performance and participate in dance in a range of settings easily accessible across the county. It is proposed that Hampshire County Council's role during this period will be to support, via the Culture and Communities Grants Programme, the development of a collaborative centre of excellence that champions this vision, building upon existing dance infrastructure. We will lead the work of the Wessex Dance Academy and advocate the role for dance in relation to Healthy and Safe Communities agendas.
- 3.2 Hampshire Dance Trust and The Point at Eastleigh are the two primary dance excellence organisations in the county and are clear candidates as the nucleus of a collaborative centre of excellence. Initial discussions have been held with both organisations, individually and collectively around the development of a county strategy, and both are willing participants in this process. An initial review of these organisations' respective strengths indicates clear complementarities, and confirms value in piloting a collaborative approach during 2012/13 with the option of consolidating into the Culture and Recreation Investment Fund from 2013/14.
- 3.3 Hampshire County Council awarded Hampshire Dance Trust an Investment Fund grant for 2012/13 for £20,000. The intention is for Hampshire Dance to focus this investment on support for dancers to achieve full potential and create innovative opportunities for young people and adults to participate in dance. This work will build on existing activity to engage in further collaboration with The Point.
- 3.4 The Point at Eastleigh will submit an application to Hampshire County Council as a new applicant under the Organisational Change Fund by 18 April for c. £15,000 to focus on developing dance opportunities for the community to participate in high quality dance experiences and the commissioning and presenting of work of national and international significance which develops new audiences through the Creation Space Model.
- 3.5 Hampshire County Council Arts and Museums, including Wessex Dance Academy, will work with The Point and Hampshire Dance to engage the wider county dance sector and the Arts Council-funded SE Dance to refine our strategic approach to dance excellence during summer 2012. The pilot work outlined in 3.3 and 3.4 plus these wider strategic discussions will inform recommendations for the County Council's investment from 2013/14 onwards via the Grants Programme.

**4. Connecting Communities with Excellence: Music**

4.1 Music is a powerful creative sector with strong economic, community and health value for Hampshire residents. For over twenty five years Hampshire County Council's primary cultural grants investment in this area has focused on the work of the Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra concert programme, presented at the Anvil and other locations in Hampshire. During the Arts and Museums strategic review it was recognised that the music making and presenting ecology in Hampshire and its environs is complex and involves a range of sectors. It was agreed that the County Council would take this opportunity to review current investment and invite new music partnerships that demonstrate clear benefit in connecting Hampshire communities with excellence in a modern strategic context.

4.2 In 2011 The Department for education and the Department for Culture, Media and Sport published the 'Henley' review *Music Education in England*. This comprehensive review made some 36 recommendations. Recommendation 14 is pertinent in the context of this report it reads

“Schools, Local Authority Music Services, Arts Council England client organisations and other recognised delivery organisations should work together to create Music Education Hubs in each Local Authority Area. These hubs should have ring-fenced central government funding to deliver Music Education in each area following an open, advertised bidding process. ....It is anticipated that there would be a lead organisation. This lead organisation would be directly funded to undertake the leading role in each Hub.”

Hampshire Music Service has bid to become a lead Hub and their application includes potential partnership with a range of music providers in the County and its hinterland.

4.3 The County Council is interested in securing an investment opportunity in support of a partner or partnership with a strong ambition for excellent music making and presenting in Hampshire. The draft brief for this new 3-year commission is attached for approval (appendix 1) with grant funding values proposed as follows:

2012-13: £20,000

2013-14: £70,000

2014-15: £70,000

It is proposed that the tender is issued in late May with submissions by end of Summer 2012. Officer recommendations will be made for the new commission as part of the 2013/14 grant report in December 2012. Pilot and development activity would start from January 2013, with a full year programme of activity from April 2013 onwards.

4.4 Hampshire County Council awarded Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra an Investment Fund grant for 2012/13 for £54,300. The intention is for BSO to focus this investment on

- o Symphonic and Ensemble Concert provision

- Rusty and Not so Rusty musicians project
- Community Tea Dances
- Mini BSO Interactive Family Concerts for Under 12s
- Music education in schools using BSO Resonate ensembles.

**5. Connecting Communities with Excellence: Touring Theatre and Participation**

5.1 The Arts and Museums Strategic Plan, 2012-15, outlined Hampshire County Council's intention to advocate a collaborative approach involving key touring and participatory theatre agencies working in the county, including Nuffield, Forest Forge and Proteus. It also identified the Nuffield as having flagship status in recognition of its role as the primary centre of excellence in theatre and participation working with Hampshire residents. An exploratory meeting has already been held by County Council officers with these 3 organisations, and they will meet collectively along side representatives from venues in mid April. This will kick start the work they will do that will result in proposals for collaboration in relation to 2013/14 grant submissions. The Nuffield will take a leadership role in this work.

**6. Connecting Communities with Excellence: Visual Arts**

6.1 As part of the Arts and Museums strategic review, it was proposed that the current Visual Arts Strategy, approved November 2009, would be reviewed and updated to reflect recent changes in the Hampshire visual arts landscape. The proposed revisions are attached as Appendix 1 for approval by the Executive Member.

6.2 The primary amendments relate to an increased emphasis on:

- the relationship between heritage and contemporary visual arts in the vision (all art genres are radical, innovative and contemporary at their inception and a connectivity between historic and modern can be a powerful mediator in understanding contemporary art)
- the importance of working in partnership with a wider range of existing public gallery venues, including Flagship and Community Museum temporary exhibition galleries
- working in partnership with cultural agencies in Portsmouth and Southampton, including the Hampshire-Solent Alliance, to share work, introduce efficiencies and benefit from collective public impact

6.3 In terms of previous County Council cultural grants investment, ArtSway has been a major visual arts recipient over the last ten years, In 2012/13 this amount is £17,300. This funding has supported their work in promoting the contemporary arts and delivering an education and outreach programme for young people and hard to reach groups in South West Hampshire. In January 2012 the Executive Member approved a recommendation to de-invest in ArtSway from 2013/14 onwards due to a

lack of a coherent business plan and strategy post removal of Arts Council National Portfolio Organisation funding from April 2012.

- 6.4 The Gallery at St Barbes Museum has been recognised as a flagship Visual Arts venue in the Arts and Museums Strategic Plan, 2012-15. This is in recognition of the strong and innovative national programme of visual arts exhibition currently delivered. It also reflects the potential of this organisation to explore and develop the relationship between heritage and contemporary visual arts, and in the future provides an option to continue important arts development work with young people and hard to reach groups in the southwest Hampshire area.
- 6.5 It is proposed that the Gallery at St Barbes Museum receives specific grant investment from the Culture and Communities Organisational Change Fund during 2012/13 of £15,000 to develop its Visual Arts presentation role in partnership with Hampshire County Council. And from 2013/14 onwards that this role, potentially also including arts development, be considered within the framework of the Culture and Recreation Investment Fund. St. Barbes was awarded £15,000 in January under the Centres of Cultural Activity grant in recognition of its important heritage learning and engagement role in the New Forest and South West Hampshire area. This additional £15,000 grant proposal relates specifically to its emerging role as a major flagship exhibitions gallery venue with its growing contribution towards delivering the County Council's Visual Arts Strategy (as outlined in the attached document and the County Council's Arts and Museums Strategic Plan, 2012-15 approved in January 2012).

## **7. Update Whitchurch Silk Mill, Hampshire Museums and Galleries Trust and Solent Sky**

- 7.1 Officers are holding meetings with senior officers and, where relevant, Board members from these organisations to take forward strategies for review in each case. A further report on progress will be provided in Autumn 2012.

## **8. Recommendations**

That the Select Committee recommends to the Executive Member for Culture and Recreation that:

- The update regarding the development of dance, music visual arts and theatre planning within the context of the Arts and Museums Strategic Plan, 2012-15: Connecting Communities with Excellence is noted
- The update regarding strategic discussions with Whitchurch Silk Mill, Hampshire Museums and Galleries Trust and Solent Sky is noted
- Approval is given to the updated Visual Arts Strategy (appendix 1) and the awarding of grant aid under the Organisational Change Fund 2012/13 for St Barbes Museum (Lymington Museum Trust).

- Approval is given to the awarding of grant aid under the Organisational Change Fund 2012/13 for The Point, Eastleigh Borough Council, and the commissioning of new Music provision as per the attached brief (appendix 2)

**CORPORATE OR LEGAL INFORMATION:**

**Links to the Corporate Strategy**

<b>Hampshire safer and more secure for all:</b>	yes
Corporate Improvement plan link number (if appropriate):	
<b>Maximising well-being:</b>	yes
Corporate Improvement plan link number (if appropriate):	
<b>Enhancing our quality of place:</b>	yes
Corporate Improvement plan link number (if appropriate):	

**Other Significant Links**

<b>Links to previous Member decisions:</b>		
<u>Title</u>	<u>Reference</u>	<u>Date</u>
Renaissance SE Hub		17/07/2008
Renaissance SE	920	10/09/2009
Hampshire Arts and Museums Service – Planning for the Future	1637	08/07/2010
Hampshire Arts and Museums Service – Planning for the Future	2154	17/11/2010
Hampshire Arts and Museums Service – Planning for the Future		28/01/2011
Hampshire Arts and Museums Service – Planning for the Future		08/03/2011
Hampshire Arts and Museums Service – Planning for the Future	2994	08/07/2011
Hampshire Arts and Museums Service – Planning for the Future	3374	04/11/2011

**Section 100 D - Local Government Act 1972 - background documents**

**The following documents discuss facts or matters on which this report, or an important part of it, is based and have been relied upon to a material extent in the preparation of this report. (NB: the list excludes published works and any documents which disclose exempt or confidential information as defined in the Act.)**

<u>Document</u>	<u>Location</u>
None	

## **IMPACT ASSESSMENTS:**

### **1. Equalities Impact Assessment:**

- A high level Equalities Impact Assessment (EIA) has been undertaken. It identified that the proposed changes to the grants are intended to have a positive impact and advance equality by creating a more open and transparent funding programme.

### **2. Impact on Crime and Disorder:**

The County Council has a legal obligation under Section 17 of the Crime & Disorder Act 1998 to consider the impact of all the decisions it makes on the prevention of crime. The proposals in this report have no impact on crime and disorder.

### **3. Climate Change:**

1. How does what is being proposed impact on our carbon footprint / energy consumption? Not applicable
2. How does what is being proposed consider the need to adapt to climate change, and be resilient to its longer term impacts? Not applicable