

HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL**Report**

Committee:	Culture, Communities and Rural Affairs Select Committee
Date:	10 September 2013
Title:	New Dimensions in Dance: Towards a Strategy for Investing in Dance Excellence, 2014-16
Reference:	5168
Report From:	Director of Culture, Communities and Business Services

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1. Executive Summary

- 1.1. The purpose of this paper is to seek Select Committee endorsement for the recommendation to Executive Member Culture, Recreation and Countryside (EMCRC) to approve the *New Dimensions in Dance* framework, which outlines a strategy for targeting Hampshire County Council's investment in dance activity, 2014-16 (appendix 1).

2. Background

- 2.1 Dance, as part of the wider arts and museums sector, has an important role in supporting social and economic wellbeing in Hampshire. The *Arts and Museums Strategic Plan, 2012-15 (Connecting Communities to Excellence)* reaffirmed the strategic importance of Dance to Hampshire County Council, and set the scene for a review to maximise the impact of investment into the future.
- 2.2 Currently investment in dance excellence is through 3 primary mechanisms:
- The Culture and Recreation Investment Fund grant aids Dance Up (formerly Hampshire Dance) and The Point
 - Annual Dance Bursaries Scheme, supporting local gifted and talented dancers
 - Wessex Dance Academy (WDA), targeting young people at risk
- 2.3 *New Dimensions in Dance* is the outcome of a review of this current investment within the strategic framework provided by *Connecting Communities to Excellence* and *Hampshire County Council Open for Business*. It has been informed by consultation with key dance providers and stakeholders operating in the Hampshire area and provides the strategic framework for investment in dance 2014-16. It follows on from the *New Dimensions in Music* strategic framework introduced in 2012.

3. New Dimensions in Dance: Summary

3.1 The County Council is keen to use its targeted investment to inspire innovation and creativity in the way dance providers engage with audiences and connect communities with excellence. We are interested in facilitating opportunities for residents and visitors to participate in dance experiences through a county-wide programme of activities, particularly those that emphasise the value of collaboration and partnership in terms of delivery.

3.2 The following priorities are identified, within the framework of *Open for Business*:

- Engage and encourage new audiences
- Develop skills and support professional development
- Make the most efficient use of resources

Further details on these priorities are provided in appendix 1.

3.3 To meet the aims and priorities of this strategy, the County Council will:

- Continue to support the aims of WDA and evaluate its impact to provide ideas for future development of the project, as a partnership between Culture, Communities and Business Services and Children's Services
- Create a new approach to investment in dance by consolidating the Culture and Recreation Investment Fund and Annual Dance Bursaries Scheme strands and inviting applications by open competition for a commissioned grant delivering against the priorities identified in 3.2 above.

Further details on these proposed actions, and wider commitments, are provided in appendix 1.

4. Finance Implications

4.1 The strategic framework proposes to consolidate the planned investment in dance over the 2014/15 – 2015/16 period as follows:

	2013/14	Apr-Sept 2014/15	Oct 2014 – Mar 2015	2015/16
The Point	£20,000	£9,800		
Dance Up	£20,000	£9,800		
Bursaries	£20,500	£7,600		
New Dimensions	-	-	£32,500	£53,730
Total	£60,500	£27,200	£32,500	£53,730

- 4.2 The allocations during 2014/15 assume a 2% reduction on grants and allow for a 6 month notice period of termination of current funding arrangements for The Point and Dance Up, assuming notice is given in by end March 2014.
- 4.3 The indicative allocations during 2015/16 assume a 10% reduction in grant allocation.

5 Next steps

- 5.1 If approved, the next steps will be to:

Confirm with Dance Up and The Point that they should apply for 6 months funding for 2014/15 according to the ordinary Cultural and Recreation Investment Fund criteria and timetable

October 2013: Invite submission of applications for New Dimensions in Dance commissioned grant, 2014-16 by open competition.

End Nov 2013: Deadline for applications

End Jan 2014: Preferred candidate(s) selected

End Mar 2014: Executive Member Culture, Recreation and Countryside approval

Successful candidate(s) notified and current Culture and Recreation Investment Fund recipients notified

October 2014: New Dimensions in Dance begins

6. Recommendation(s)

- 6.1 To endorse the recommendation to the Executive Member Culture, Recreation and Countryside to approve the *New Dimensions in Dance* framework, which outlines a strategy for targeting Hampshire County Council's investment in dance activity, 2014-16 (appendix 1), according to the timetable outlined in this report.

CORPORATE OR LEGAL INFORMATION:**Links to the Corporate Strategy**

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

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.)

Document

Location

None

IMPACT ASSESSMENTS:

1. Equalities Impact Assessment:

- 1.1. There should be no significant impact on protected characteristic groups other than potentially low impact, positive or negative, for reasons of age, disability, faith, race and gender as public provision resulting from the strategy may be slightly altered. Regular monitoring and evaluation of new provision will help to ensure that any positive impact is maximised and any negative impact minimised for any affected protected characteristic groups.

A further EIA will be carried out once the preferred candidate(s) has been selected which will support the recommendation report due to be submitted to the Executive Member for Culture, Recreation and Countryside in March 2014.

2. Impact on Crime and Disorder:

- 2.1. 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 may have a positive impact on crime and disorder through the continuation of interventions through dance for young offenders and other young people at risk of engagement with crime.

3. Climate Change:

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