

MAJOR GRANTS PANEL

Wednesday 30 November 2016

Present:-

Councillor Edwards (Chair)
Councillors Bull and Sutton

Apologies:

Councillor Leadbetter

Also Present:

City Arts and Events Manager, Principal Accountant (MH) and Democratic Services Officer (Committees) (SLS)

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MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 26 May 2016 were taken as read and signed by the Chair as correct.

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PERFORMANCE REVIEW OF SERVICE AGREEMENTS WITH STRATEGIC ARTS ORGANISATIONS

The City Arts and Events Manager presented the report on the 12 month monitoring for 2015/16, and an assessment of the delivery of the Service Level Agreements with the Strategic Arts Organisations. The report included the detail of:-

- those in receipt of three year funding from Exeter City Council to match three year National Portfolio Organisations' (NPO) funding from Arts Council England (ACE): Exeter Phoenix, Exeter Northcott, Bikeshed Theatre, Theatre Alibi, and Kaleider, and
- those in receipt of annual core funding from Exeter City Council awarded through an open application process annually. The organisations are: SpaceX, Double Elephant, le Navet Bete, Sound Gallery (2015/16 only) and Magic Carpet (2016/17 only).

The report also sought Members' support, in principle, that Exeter City Council should match the four year funding, dependent on Council budgets, for those organisations which were successful in the National Portfolio Organisations' funding from the Arts Council England. The City Arts and Events Manager advised that the four year funding term was much appreciated by the arts community and offered a level of financial stability in the medium term. She also responded to a Member's comment and agreed that the streamlining of the criteria, which had also simplified the application process, was equally appreciated.

RESOLVED to recommend to Executive that:-

- (1) the content of the monitoring reports for 2015/16 and progress towards delivery in 2016/17 be noted;

- (2) the final payment of funding for 2016/17 for the organisations listed in paragraph 1.1 of the report be approved;
- (3) a static level of funding from Exeter City Council for existing National Portfolio Organisations (NPO), Exeter Phoenix, Exeter Northcott, Theatre Alibi, Bikeshed Theatre and Kaleider for 2017/18 be approved, without the need to re-apply through the application process;
- (4) the balance of the major grants budget of £28,000 for 2017/18 be allocated via an open application process be agreed. The decision making process to be led by the Portfolio Holder for Economy and Culture, the Economy and Enterprise Manager and City Arts and Events Manager. The outcomes will be reported to the next meeting of the Major Grants Panel in February 2017;
- (5) in principle agreement, and dependent on Council budgets, to match four year funding of those organisations who are successful in the new round of National Portfolio Organisations' funding from the Arts Council England for 2018 – 2022 with the added proviso that the amounts payable by the City Council in that period may vary dependent on arts budgets, and
- (6) consideration be given to a review of the current Major Grants Budget in the event of increased numbers of successful applicants to the Arts Council England National Portfolio Organisations 2018 – 2022. This review to take place once the results of that funding was known in July 2017 and prior to any application to the City Council's Arts Core Funding for 2018/2019.

(The meeting commenced at 4.30 pm and closed at 4.45 pm)