

Decision Pathway Report



PURPOSE: Key decision

MEETING: Cabinet

DATE: 21 January 2020

TITLE	Cultural Investment programme – Imagination funding		
Ward(s)	<i>Citywide</i>		
Author:	Elise Hurcombe	Job title:	Senior Arts Officer
Cabinet lead:	Cllr Cheney	Executive Director lead:	Stephen Peacock
Proposal origin: <i>BCC Staff</i>			
Decision maker: Cabinet Member			
Decision forum: <i>Cabinet</i>			
Purpose of Report:			
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> To note the applications received for the Cultural Investment programme ‘Imagination Funding’ 2020-22. To seek approval of the new portfolio of 12 organisations for Imagination Funding for 2020 – 2022 and agree their annual funding allocation as detailed in Appendix 1. To note the priorities of the portfolio will be in line with the corporate strategy, the city's cultural strategy and most importantly the known budget position for the next 2 years. 			
Evidence Base:			
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 50 Imagination grant applications were received for the Culture Investment programme. Amount requested: £2,455,131 over the 2 year period 2020/22 break down details is in attached Appendix A1 As agreed in the previous report that went to Cabinet in December 4th 2017 - the Mayor’s commitment to make Arts and Culture accessible to all, instigated by the cabinet lead for Culture and following on from the Scrutiny Inquiry day we have, in partnership with the city, redeveloped a cultural strategy for the city- Bristol’s Cultural Futures. In order to support this new strategy and align our process with it and the new corporate strategy for BCC we have renewed our Cultural Investment Programme (formerly known as the Key Arts Provider, Community Festivals and Creative Seed funding). There was an overall reduction in funding available to support the city’s arts and cultural sector from current levels, as detailed below. Applications were assessed against clear criteria - articulated in the funding prospectus See link to documents in background section. The key dates of assessment. Closed for application 30th July, w/c 15th October officer panel first stage discussion, 29th October Cross Party Panel final recommendations. The recommendations for the funds that have been agreed by cross party/ independent panel on the 29th October – Attached Appendix A1 is an overview of the reach of the new funding in the ward map Appendix A2 			
Cabinet Member / Officer Recommendations:			
That Cabinet			
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Approves the recommendations for the allocation of Imagination grant funding for 2020-22 to the organisations as specified in Appendix A1. Authorises the Executive Director Growth and Regeneration in consultation with the Cabinet Member Deputy Mayor – Finance, Governance and Performance to award the funding as approved. 			
Corporate Strategy alignment:			
Guidance and fund criteria for all strands of CIP are aligned to the Corporate vision ‘In which everyone benefits from			

the city's success and no-one is left behind' and strategic 5 year commitment: 'we will be a leading cultural city, making culture and sport accessible to all'. Applications assessed against Imagination criteria and put forward for funding demonstrate reach into priority neighbourhoods, embedded partnerships with community, health and well-being partners, and score highly for building a sustainable sector which will be less dependent on BCC funding in the future.

City Benefits:

The development of Bristol's Cultural Futures and the alignment of our internal processes and policies linked to Culture are all about increasing access to arts and culture and delivering on the corporate priorities.

We have ensured that health and wellbeing are seen as a key output of our cultural provision and are encouraging our partners to address these through the strategy, our policies and our funding decisions. The new Cultural Investment Programme is linked to the savings proposals outlined in the MTFP. The cultural investment programme has a priority to increase equality and celebrate diversity. Equalities officers are part of the assessment panel. We also have seen more applications from broader diverse groups than in previous years and more applications, this is due to how we have shared the opportunity and held open launch sessions and within that 121 advice sessions.

Consultation Details:

1. As agreed in the previous report that went to Cabinet in December 4th 2017- DIY Arts Groups, Bristol Festivals and current Key Arts Providers (KAP) were consulted about the Cultural Investment Programme. The input from DIY arts, festival forum and the current KAP lead to the development of the three stream approach and much strong criteria being developed. Groups wanted a 3 tier funding structure that enabled growth and progression from one to the other. We have created a process of application that was clearer and open to enable a wider breath of applicants to apply. **This has been applied to the new funding process.**
2. During this decision making process the recommendations have been presented to a cross party panel and independent chair on the 29th October 2019. All political parties were invited to attend.

Background Documents:

Link to Arts funding page where you will find the Cultural Investment Programme prospectus and guidance notes: <https://www.bristol.gov.uk/museums-parks-sports-culture/arts-and-culture-funding>

Previously funded organisations map:

<https://bcc.maps.arcgis.com/apps/MapSeries/index.html?appid=d31acfce0114fcd899a9b10a8918999>

Revenue Cost	<u>Overall budget for all three Funds</u> 2018-2021 £3,113,840 <u>Break down</u> 2018/19 £825,960 2019/20 £825,960 2020/21 £825,960 2021/22 £635,960	Source of Revenue Funding	<i>general fund contribution cost centre 11179</i>
Capital Cost	£N/A	Source of Capital Funding	N/A
One off cost <input type="checkbox"/> Ongoing cost <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		Saving Proposal <input type="checkbox"/> Income generation proposal <input type="checkbox"/>	

Required information to be completed by Financial/Legal/ICT/ HR partners:

1. Finance Advice: The Cultural investment programme annual budget for 2020/21 is currently estimated at £825,960 of which an annual sum of £217,571 is to be allocated towards the grants mentioned in this report. A member of the Finance team was part of the evaluation panel that reviewed the bids; as a result, we are satisfied with the shortlist of those recommended for funding.

There are no new financial implication resulting from this report, and there is a planned reduction in the overall funding planned for 2021/22 which has already been built into the MTFP. The Grant will need to be administered in

line with BCC grant policy.
 The remaining funds are already programmed to be spent on 2 other funding streams within the Cultural Investment Programme i.e. Originators and Openness, as well as the work on the management and strategic development of the funds.
 Cabinet approval is being sort to ratify the recommendations of the assessment team.

Finance Business Partner: Kayode Olagundoye, Interim Finance Business Partner, Growth and Regeneration, 18/12/19

2. Legal Advice:

Procurement

Provided these are genuine grants and not contracts for services, they will not give rise to procurement issues under the Public Contracts Regulations 2015. Client officers will need to seek legal assistance to ensure the arrangements are grant agreements.

Equalities

The Council must comply with the requirements of the Public Sector Equality duty when making any decisions. The duty requires the decision maker to consider the need to promote equality for persons with “protected characteristics” and to have due regard to the need to i) eliminate discrimination, harassment, and victimisation; ii) advance equality of opportunity; and iii) foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and those who do not share it.

In order to do this the decision maker must have sufficient information about the effects of the proposed decision on the aims of the Duty. The Equalities Impact Assessment is designed to assist with compliance with this duty. Its purpose is to assess whether there are any barriers in place that may prevent people with a protected characteristic using a service or benefiting from a policy.

State Aid

Whenever the Council gives a benefit to a third party, there is a risk that benefit may constitute State aid, which is prohibited (unless it falls under one of the available exemptions). Legal advice will need to be sought to ensure that no part of the funding to any third parties constitutes State aid (or alternatively falls under one of the available exemptions, e.g. de minimis).

Legal Team Leader: Husinara Jones, Team Leader/Solicitor 13 December 2019

3. Implications on IT: “No anticipated impact to IT Services”

IT Team Leader: Simon Oliver

4. HR Advice: ‘There are no HR implications evident’

HR Partner: Celia Williams, HRBP 13.11.2019

EDM Sign-off	Stephen Peacock	20 th November 2019
Cabinet Member sign-off	Cllr Cheney and Cllr Craig	28 th November 2019
For Key Decisions - Mayor’s Office sign-off	Mayor’s Office	19 th December 2019

Appendix A – Further essential background / detail on the proposal	YES
Appendix B – Details of consultation carried out - internal and external	NO
Appendix C – Summary of any engagement with scrutiny	NO
Appendix D – Risk assessment	NO
Appendix E – Equalities screening / impact assessment of proposal	YES
Appendix F – Eco-impact screening/ impact assessment of proposal	NO
Appendix G – Financial Advice	NO
Appendix H – Legal Advice	NO

Appendix I – Exempt Information	NO
Appendix J – HR advice	NO
Appendix K – ICT	NO