



## Officer Decision Record

### 1. Subject and details of the matter (to include reasons for the decision)

In June 2019, NELC accepted a £3.2m grant award from Department for Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS) through Arts Council England (ACE), as part of their Cultural Development Fund (CDF). In June 2020, a revised proposal to Arts Council England was submitted to review the existing programme and extend delivery through to 31 March 2023. This was subject to an Officer Decision Record covering the whole CDF programme (governance, 4 strands, risks, project plan and budget).

This Officer Decision Record relates to one element of the Creative Programme.

#### **Creative Programme**

It is envisaged there will be a mixed creative programme with strong ambition and scale of quality. This may include building upon existing events or commissioning of new events, festivals, activities, and installations. The total budget for the Creative Programme will be £700k for the grant period to 31 March 2023.

#### **Creative Europe programme**

Magna Vitae (a National Portfolio Organisation) will be a partner in an ambitious €4m investment Creative Europe project as one element of the Creative Programme.

Magna Vitae are part of a multi-national partnership led by Freiburg based Pan Optikum, a world leading outdoor theatre company. The People Power Partnership (PPP) is an international participative multi-discipline theatre project led by young adults capturing 14 partners in 11 countries and will provide a unique opportunity for North East Lincolnshire to participate in a programme of this scale, building new

networks, creating distinctive work and supporting the wider cultural infrastructure of NEL.

Over the course of the 4-year programme, a minimum of 8 young people will be recruited to participate in the programme. This programme will be memorable, life-changing and place-shaping by providing opportunities for young adults to participate in a collaborative creative programme, supporting emerging leaders and improving international connections for our place. Supported by the PPP, the young adults will work on artistic content, programming and production for their spectacular large-scale street theatre performance which will be premiered in Grimsby town centre in September 2021. Performances will be based on the themes chosen by the young adults and consequently will be unique to each place, its people, and their perspectives on society. There will be a full production of all performances in Freiburg, Germany, and further performances in Grimsby and two additional European cities by 2024.

The total monies for this are £130k from the Creative Programme budget and a further £60k from the Professional Support budget. This will provide match funding into the €4m programme which is subsequently distributed amongst the partners to enable the programme to run.

## **2. Is it a Key Decision as defined in the Constitution?**

No this is not a key decision.

The decision is in accordance with the delegations established in relation to the CDF programme through the Cabinet approval of 5 June 2019 (Cabinet Decision Notice DN7). As a result of Covid-19, the Director of Health and Wellbeing transferred the responsibility of decision making for the Cultural Development Fund with effect from 22 April 2020 to 31 December 2020 to the Director of Economy and Growth as constitutionally permitted.

## **3. Details of Decision**

To approve the progression of the CDF programme to:

- Finalise the contract to be entered into with Magna Vitae for the Creative Europe programme, in accordance with grant conditions and to ensure that all actions necessary and ancillary there to be completed.

The decision is in accordance with the delegations established in relation to the CDF programme through the Cabinet approval of 5 June 2019 (Cabinet Decision Notice DN7). As a result of Covid-19, the Director of Health and Wellbeing de-delegated the responsibility of decision making for the Cultural Development Fund with effect from 22 April 2020 to 31 December 2020 to the Director of Economy and Growth.

**4. Is it an Urgent Decision? If yes, specify the reasons for urgency Urgent decisions will require sign off by the relevant scrutiny chair(s) as not subject to call in.**

No.

**5. Anticipated outcome(s)**

Approval of these activities will contribute to the delivery of the Grimsby Creates (CDF) programme as specified in the funding agreement with the Arts Council. Benefits and impacts will be realised within Grimsby and the wider borough as follows:

Grimsby's residents are proud of their shared heritage, look forward and have the opportunity to participate and enjoy creativity and culture.

Grimsby has a strong network of ambitious creative organisations and individuals who have places to develop and showcase their work and are connected locally, nationally, and internationally.

Grimsby's vibrant culture contributes to the social and economic prosperity of Lincolnshire.

Grimsby's creative individuals and organisations have well-established funding sources from private and public investors.

**6. Details of any alternative options considered and rejected by the officer when making the decision**

Option 1 - Do Nothing. The Council would not be fulfilling its requirements to deliver the CDF programme in Grimsby. We would not be able to link creativity, culture and

heritage with the visitor economy and improve our engagement in arts and culture particularly for young adults. This option is not recommended.

Option 2 – Seek alternative activities to deliver the CDF programme. We need to be able to develop the local creative sector to deliver the ambition of quality and scale within the programme and offer local creatives the opportunity to collaborate internationally and with the local community. Alternative activities may not present the same opportunities within the timescales for this programme. This option is not recommended.

## **7. Background documents considered**

The Cultural Development Fund (CDF) programme was approved by Cabinet on 5 June 2019.

<https://www.nelincs.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/2018/05/Cabinet-Minutes-5th-June-2019-1.pdf>

The revised programme was approved by an Officer Decision Notice on 12 June 2020 under delegated authority by the Director of Economy and Growth and Portfolio Holder for Tourism, Heritage and Culture.

## **8. Does the taking of the decision include consideration of Exempt information? If yes, specify the relevant paragraph of Schedule 12A and the reasons**

No.

## **9. Details of any conflict of interest declared by any Cabinet Member who was consulted by the officer which relates to the decision (in respect of any declared conflict of interest, please provide a note of dispensation granted by the Council's Chief Executive)**

None.

## **10. Monitoring Officer Comments (Monitoring Officer or Deputy Monitoring Officer)**

The CDF programme has been, and will continue to be, supported by Legal Services colleagues. The activities listed in this decision record are in line with the Cabinet decision of 5<sup>th</sup> June 2019 and approved delegations. The Council will be concerned to

ensure that all terms and conditions of the grant funding are adhered to. The proposal illustrated above appear to be consistent with the expectations of the funder.

**11. Section 151 Officer Comments (Deputy S151 Officer or nominee)**

A total commitment of £190k is proposed to be covered from CDF revenue grant funding.

**12. Human Resource Comments (Strategic Workforce Lead or nominee)**

There are no direct HR implications contained within this ODR.

**13. Risk Assessment (in accordance with the Report Writing Guide)**

This a major project for NELC and partners to deliver which has the opportunity to show that North East Lincolnshire is 'Open for Culture'. Given the scale of the funding, there are significant opportunities to develop new creative partners, empower and support local creative entrepreneurs and, in collaboration with initiatives such as the Heritage Action Zone, develop vibrant, interesting and engaging green space in the town centre. This is a complex project and as such there are many risks which need to be managed. These include developing a creative programme which engages local audiences and developing a sustainable model for the continuation of programme following the end of the grant. The activities listed in this decision record contribute to minimizing these risks.

A detailed project plan is in place to ensure key milestones are met and the programme team are working closely with Arts Council England to ensure successful delivery of this grant funded programme.

**14. Decision Maker(s):**

Name: Clive Tritton

Title: Director Economy and Growth

Signed: REDACTED

Dated: 12/10/2020

**15. Consultation carried out with  
Portfolio Holder(s):**

Name: Councillor Callum Procter

Title: Portfolio Holder Tourism,  
Heritage and Culture

Signed: via email

Dated: 12/10/2020

**16. If the decision is urgent then  
consultation should be carried out  
with the relevant Scrutiny  
Chair/Mayor/Deputy Mayor**

Name: N/A

Title: N/A

Signed: N/A

Dated: N/A

## APPENDIX 1 – EMAIL APPROVAL

From: Cllr Callum Procter (NELC) <Callum.Procter@nelincs.gov.uk>  
Sent: 16 October 2020 10:34  
To: Sandra Hullett (NELC) <Sandra.Hullett@nelincs.gov.uk>  
Cc: Rebecca Hodgson (NELC) <Rebecca.Hodgson@nelincs.gov.uk>  
Subject: Re: FW: ODR CDF Creative Europe

Hi sandie

Has my full approval

Thanks  
Callum

Sent with Sophos Secure Email