

**Derbyshire County Council**

**Meeting with Cabinet Member – Health and Communities**

**10 September 2013**

**Report of the Strategic Director Cultural and Community Services**

**DERBYSHIRE DANCE ARTISTS' NETWORK**

**1. Purpose of the report:**

To request the Cabinet Member – Health and Communities approves the continuation of support for the Derbyshire Dance Artists' Network and the recruitment of a new freelance Co-ordinator on a 'contract for services' basis.

**2. Information and analysis**

- 2.1 The Derbyshire Dance Artists' Network was set up in 2007 with funding from the Derbyshire Arts Partnership (Derbyshire County Council and all eight district and borough authorities) and Arts Council England. The principal aim of the Network is to support Derbyshire dance artists through training, advice and information, networking opportunities and peer support as outlined in the background papers.
- 2.2 The first phase of work was completed in 2011, with the completion of the original grant funding. Dance artists had been offered specialist training in work with older people; dance with babies and young children; and work with people with disabilities. Monthly technique classes were held with expert teachers in a range of dance styles from across the country. Annual residencies were held at, Déda, a dance development organisation, regularly funded by the Arts Council, located in Derby City. This venue provided Derbyshire dance artists the opportunity to work with nationally renowned companies.
- 2.3 The local authorities agreed to continue to fund the Network, at a reduced level of activity. For the last two years there have been quarterly technique classes; the annual residencies have continued; and the Co-ordinator updates the dance pages on the artderbyshire website and sends regular e-newsletters with information, advice, job and commission opportunities and training news to dance artists. The Dance Network now has more than 200 members.
- 2.4 The current Co-ordinator is leaving this role at the end of 2013 and it is proposed to recruit a new part-time freelance Co-ordinator (1.5 days per

month) to continue to manage the Network, following normal County Council procurement regulations.

**3. Financial considerations:**

An annual budget of £4,000 covers the Co-ordinator's fees, the quarterly technique classes and an annual residency. This is made up of contributions from district and borough councils amounting to £2,000, plus £2,000 from the approved arts budgets. Any other costs would be raised from alternative sources e.g. bids to Arts Council.

**4. Other considerations:**

In preparing this report the relevance of the following factors has been considered; legal, prevention of crime and disorder, equality of opportunity; and environmental, health, human resources, property and transport considerations.

**5. Background papers**

**Derbyshire Arts Partnership Update**

Meeting with Cabinet Member – Cultural and Community Services 11 December 2007

**Derbyshire Arts Partnership Update**

Meeting with Cabinet Member – Cultural Services 22 April 2008

**Derbyshire Arts Partnership Update**

Meeting with Cabinet Member – Leadership and Culture 7 December 2009

**Derbyshire Dance Development Plan**

Meeting with Cabinet Member – Leadership and Culture 15 February 2010

**6. Key Decision:**

No

**7. Call-in:**

Is it required that call-in be waived for any decision on this report?

No

**8. Strategic Director's recommendation:**

That the Cabinet Member – Health and Communities agrees to:

1. Continue support for the Derbyshire Dance Artists' Network

2. The recruitment of a new freelance Co-ordinator on a 'contract for services' basis.

**Martin Molloy**  
**Strategic Director**  
**Cultural and Community Services**