

**DERBYSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL**

**MEETING WITH CABINET MEMBER, HEALTH AND COMMUNITIES**

**17 March 2015**

**Report of the Strategic Director, Health and Communities**

**ARTS GRANTS 2015/16**

**1 Purpose of the report:**

To seek approval from the Cabinet Member, Health and Communities for the allocation of grants to nine community arts groups in Derbyshire and a grant to Live & Local to provide a rural and community touring scheme across Derbyshire in 2015/16.

**2 Information and analysis:**

2.1 All applicants for County Council community arts grants are required to fill in an application form each year, describing their activities and the use to which they will put the grant. Applicants are also required to submit the following documents with the request form:

- Constitution
- Equal opportunities policy
- Protection policy for children, young people and vulnerable adults.
- Grievance and disciplinary procedures
- A plan for the next 3 years, showing the projected arts development work, including targets and key activities and highlighting their organisation's contribution to Made in Derbyshire 2015
- Budget for the coming year, showing how the County Council grant will contribute to the work

2.2 The Head of Arts monitors the funded organisations each year and holds review meetings with organisations on an annual basis (sometimes jointly with Arts Council England). Each funded organisation is required to provide an annual report on their activities, with clear evaluation of the work.

There are three key criteria which a group must meet in order to receive funding:

- That the group is a not-for-profit organisation, set up to provide community arts work in Derbyshire.
- That the group's work covers a significant area of Derbyshire (usually one or more districts).

- That the County Council does not normally provide more than 35% of the group's total funding.

### 2.3 Funding applications and recommendations:

Organisations	Requested	Awarded 2014/15	Recommended for 2015/16
Buxton Festival	£6,000	£5,723	£5,723
Orchestras Live	£6,377	£6,339	£6,377
First Movement	£24,925	£24,925	£24,925
Fleet Arts	£18,006	£18,006	£18,006
High Peak Community Arts	£27,000	£18,006	£18,006
Junction Arts	£15,200	£15,200	£15,200
Learning Through Arts	£26,000	£16,028	£16,028
People Express	£17,000	£16,323	£16,323
Wash Arts	£10,000	£3,642	£3,642
<b>Totals</b>	<b>£150,508</b>	<b>£124,192</b>	<b>£124,230</b>

Community arts groups, like many other parts of the voluntary and community sector, are facing increasing reductions in their budgets and this is reflected in some applications seeking an increase in funding. However, as the available budget has not increased, it is recommended that all of the groups receive the same grant aid as last year. The only exception is the cost of the subscription to Orchestras Live, which is based on the county's population, so the sum increases slightly each year.

- 2.4 The Live & Local rural and community touring scheme was set up in Derbyshire in 2002 to deliver high quality professional arts performances in village halls and other community venues. Rural touring is an important part of the arts provision in the county, it gives people access to artistic experiences that would otherwise be beyond their reach. Local events are particularly valuable for those without their own transport, or with limited means, and for the elderly, the young and the disabled. The shows change and enrich people's lives and have the greatest impact in the local community. Rural touring also creates new markets for performers; and promoters gain skills in marketing and confidence in working with their local communities.
- 2.5 Live & Local has now been approved to continue as a National Portfolio Organisation, which means it has secured Arts Council England funding through to March 2018. It is recommended, therefore, that Derbyshire continue to work with Live & Local to provide rural touring in the county and supports them with a grant of £13,600 in 2015/16. District and Borough Councils in Derbyshire are also committed to continued financial support for the scheme.

### **3 Financial considerations:**

As identified in the body of the report. The arts grants are taken from the arts budget and are allocated on a quarterly or yearly basis and are monitored by the Health and Communities Department's Business Services Section.

Live & Local will continue to provide a rural touring programme, with a grant of £13,600, from the arts budget. The County Council will also act as a channel for district and borough council funding of approximately £17,000.

### **4 Equal opportunities considerations:**

All community arts activity, including rural touring, support inclusion, works with the most disadvantaged groups and seeks to ensure that all local people have opportunities to participate, regardless of age, background or rural isolation.

### **5 Other considerations:**

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

### **6 Background papers:**

Meeting with Cabinet Member, Health and Communities, 2 April 2014, Report of the Strategic Director, Health and Communities, Expenditure of Community Arts Budget 2014/15

### **7 Key decision:**

No.

### **8 Call-in:**

Is it required that call-in be waived for any decision on this report? No.

### **9 Officer's Recommendations:**

That the Cabinet Member, Health and Communities approves:

1. The allocation of funding to nine community arts groups in Derbyshire as detailed in the body of the report.
2. The allocation of a grant of £13,600 to Live & Local as the provider of a rural and community touring scheme

**David Lowe**  
**Strategic Director, Health and Communities**