

Chichester District Council

CABINET

8 December 2020

Cultural Grants Funding Agreement Extension Request

1. Contacts

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2. Recommendation

- 2.1 Cabinet recommends to Council that a one year extension of grant funding to the 31 March 2023, is awarded to both, Chichester Festival Theatre and Pallant House Gallery in line with Arts Council England funding.**

3. Background

- 3.1 In 2016, a formal review of funding for Chichester Festival Theatre (CFT) and Pallant House Gallery (PHG) was initiated to consider the future of the funding arrangements, under the heading of "Cultural Grants". Recommendations were presented to Overview and Scrutiny Committee in November 2016 and were approved by Cabinet in December 2016.
- 3.2 Annual funding of £187,500 for CFT and £130,000 for PHG for the years 2018 to 2022 was committed. The funding agreements are conditional upon the reporting to the satisfaction of the Council (acting reasonably) on annual activity and the Grantee continuing to receive Arts Council England (ACE) funding for the same period.
- 3.3 ACE National Portfolio Organisation (NPO) funding previously aligned to the council's funding agreement dates.

4. Outcomes to be Achieved

- 4.1 Due to the impact of Covid-19, ACE have confirmed an extension to their funding for a further year up to March 2023. Both CFT and PHG have therefore requested that the council also agree to a 1-year extension to the Council's funding agreement.
- 4.2 Should Council agree to extend the current level of funding to March 2023 this would support the organisations in planning for the next two years, to provide an arts and cultural provision for the district.

5. Proposal

- 5.1 To support CFT and PHG during this difficult time to ensure the continuation of the arts and cultural provision through the extension of the current funding agreement for one year until 31 March 2023.

6. Alternatives Considered

- 6.1 The other option available is not to offer the extension and undertake a full review during 2021-22 of the cultural funding currently being offered by the council to CFT and PHG. Previous Council funding has been conditional upon both CFT and PHG receiving funding from ACE. This extension of one year will allow the funding cycle of CDC and ACE to continue to align.

7. Resource and Legal Implications

- 7.1 The one year extension to the current funding agreement is a total cost of £317,500. The grant is built into the Council's base budget, and the 5 year financial plan and Future Services Framework do not assume any reduction to this.

8. Consultation

- 8.1 The two organisations have written to the Leader of the Council and the Cabinet Member for Community Services and Culture has been consulted.

9. Community Impact and Corporate Risks

- 9.1 Securing funding for an additional year will enable the theatre and gallery to continue and extend the work they do with the local community and targeted groups for the long recovery from the lockdowns as a result of covid-19.
- 9.2 We are working closely with both CFT and PHG who both have significant anniversary years in 2022 to develop a season to Celebrate Chichester's Culture and Heritage. This extension also allows this work to continue in advance of the funding review taking place.

10. Other Implications

	Yes	No
Crime and Disorder		X
Climate Change and Biodiversity		X
Human Rights and Equality Impact		X
Safeguarding and Early Help		X
General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR)		X
Health and Wellbeing		X
Other (please specify)		

11. Appendices

11.1 Appendix 1 – Chichester Festival Theatre Letter

11.2 Appendix 2 – Pallant House Gallery Letter

12. Background Papers

12.1 None