

## **Item: 7**

**Education, Leisure and Housing Committee: 5 June 2019.**

**Visual Artist and Craft Maker Awards Scheme.**

**Report by Executive Director of Education, Leisure and Housing.**

### **1. Purpose of Report**

To consider continuation of the Visual Artist and Craft Maker Awards Scheme.

### **2. Recommendations**

The Committee is invited to note:

#### **2.1.**

That the devolved Visual Artist and Craft Maker Awards Scheme has operated since 2014, supporting 31 visual artists and craft makers with a combined total allocation of £21,090.

#### **2.2.**

That the Scheme is reviewed both locally and nationally, most recently with Creative Scotland and regional partners in April 2019, who concluded that the type and scale of the Scheme supported the development of visual artists and craft makers.

#### **2.3.**

That Creative Scotland has confirmed continuation of the Scheme in 2019 to 2020, although it is unclear at this time whether this will continue beyond 2020 due to an ongoing review of the organisation's funding model.

#### **2.4.**

That, should the Council support the Scheme in principle for a further three years, Highlands and Islands Enterprise has indicated that it is likely to continue to invest in continuation of the Scheme.

#### **2.5.**

That the 2019 to 2020 Scheme will include two Recent Graduate Bursary Awards of £500 each.

**It is recommended:**

## **2.6.**

That, subject to external funding being secured, the Council, through the Arts Development Service, should continue to manage a Visual Arts and Craft Makers Awards Scheme, with a maximum budget of £7,000 to disburse annually, for a period of three financial years from 2019 to 2022.

## **3. Awards Scheme**

### **3.1.**

A Visual Arts and Craft Makers Awards Scheme was funded for many years by Creative Scotland (formerly the Scottish Arts Council). Until 2013, the Scheme was administered in Orkney on Creative Scotland's behalf by HI-Arts. In 2013, HI-Arts ceased to operate as an organisation, and Orkney artists and craft makers no longer had access to the Scheme. This was highlighted by the Orkney Arts Forum as presenting a significant loss to Orkney visual artists and makers.

### **3.2.**

In September 2014, the Council agreed to support a devolved pilot scheme in Orkney. Creative Scotland supported the scheme with £3,000 that was matched by £1,000 from Highlands and Islands Enterprise and £1,000 from the Arts Development budget.

### **3.3.**

In February 2016, the Council agreed to continue to manage, for a further three years, a Visual Arts and Craft Makers Awards Scheme, with a maximum budget of £5,000 to disburse in financial year 2016 to 2017 through the Arts Development Service. It was agreed that the Scheme would be reviewed following the 2018 to 2019 allocations.

### **3.4.**

Creative Scotland has confirmed that it will continue to fund the scheme in 2019 to 2020. However, it is unclear if the funding will continue beyond this time due to an ongoing review of the organisation's funding model. Highlands and Islands Enterprise has stated once again that it is more likely to invest in the continuation of the Scheme if a 3-year programme is given support, in principle, by the Council.

### **3.5.**

The addition of the Recent Graduate Bursary Awards was agreed as a positive development at the national Visual Arts and Crafts Makers Awards Scheme meeting. The statistics show that recent graduates are less successful in the award due to a lack of professional record and by being in competition with more experienced artists. The regional partners agreed that retaining creative talent was a priority and that ring-fenced funding would help young artists to continue developing. It was thought that 'up to 3 years outside of education' would be an appropriate eligibility criteria.

### **3.6.**

Subject to approval, a total of £7,000 will be allocated in the 2019 to 2020 financial year. Creative Scotland's contribution increased to £4,000 in 2018 to 2019. The awards will be advertised in Summer/Autumn 2019, with a deadline in October. There will be a second deadline in February, consistent with other regional deadlines. Awards will be allocated competitively, with no lower limit, and an upper limit of £1,500, which would only be allocated in exceptional circumstances. The Scheme will operate on a similar timeline in following years subject to external funding.

### **3.7.**

The assessment panel for the awards currently includes:

- The Arts Officer.
- Head of Strengthening Communities at Highlands and Islands Enterprise.
- A previous award recipient from the visual arts or craft sector.

### **3.8.**

Recommendations would continue to be submitted to the Executive Director of Education, Leisure and Housing, who has delegated authority to determine the Awards.

## **4. Equalities Impact**

An Equality Impact Assessment has been undertaken and is attached as Appendix 1 to this report.

## **5. Corporate Governance**

This report relates to governance and procedural issues and therefore does not directly support and contribute to improved outcomes for communities as outlined in the Council Plan and the Local Outcomes Improvement Plan.

## **6. Financial Implications**

### **6.1.**

There would be a cost to the Council of £1,500 to run the Visual Arts and Craft Makers awards Scheme for financial year 2019 to 2020. This represents 21% of the potential maximum total budget of £7,000, which would be match funded by Creative Scotland and Highlands and Islands Enterprise. The Council contribution would be sourced from the Arts Development budget.

### **6.2.**

On the basis that the recommendations to this report refers to the allocation of resources in future years, it should be noted that this would still be subject to an appropriate annual Committee budget being made available as part of the Council's annual budget setting process.

## **7. Legal Aspects**

### **7.1.**

In terms of the Local Government and Planning (Scotland) Act 1982, section 14, the Council shall ensure that there is adequate provision of facilities for the inhabitants of their area for recreational, sporting, cultural and social activities including in terms of section 17, and has the power to make such contributions as will promote music, theatre, opera, ballet and the other arts.

### **7.2.**

The Visual Arts and Craft Makers Awards Scheme would fall under the gambit of this statutory power.

## **8. Contact Officers**

Wilfred Weir, Executive Director, Education, Leisure and Housing, extension 2433, Email [wilf.weir@orkney.gov.uk](mailto:wilf.weir@orkney.gov.uk).

Peter Diamond, Head of Education (Leisure, Culture and Inclusion), extension 2436, Email [peter.diamond@orkney.gov.uk](mailto:peter.diamond@orkney.gov.uk).

Clare Gee, Cultural Services Manager, extension 2716, Email [clare.gee@orkney.gov.uk](mailto:clare.gee@orkney.gov.uk).

Antony Mottershead, Arts Officer, extension 2406, Email [antony.mottershead@orkney.gov.uk](mailto:antony.mottershead@orkney.gov.uk).

## **9. Appendix**

Appendix 1: Equality Impact Assessment.



## Equality Impact Assessment

The purpose of an Equality Impact Assessment (EqIA) is to improve the work of Orkney Islands Council by making sure it promotes equality and does not discriminate. This assessment records the likely impact of any changes to a function, policy or plan by anticipating the consequences, and making sure that any negative impacts are eliminated or minimised and positive impacts are maximised.

<b>1. Identification of Function, Policy or Plan</b>	
Name of function / policy / plan to be assessed.	Visual Artists and Craft Makers
Service / service area responsible.	Education, Leisure and Housing
Name of person carrying out the assessment and contact details.	Antony Mottershead – Arts Officer, Email <a href="mailto:antony.mottershead@orkney.gov.uk">antony.mottershead@orkney.gov.uk</a> , Ext 2406
Date of assessment.	3 May 2019
Is the function / policy / plan new or existing? (Please indicate also if the service is to be deleted, reduced or changed significantly).	Existing

<b>2. Initial Screening</b>	
What are the intended outcomes of the function / policy / plan?	To support Orkney based visual artists and craft makers through a small grant scheme.
Is the function / policy / plan strategically important?	No
State who is, or may be affected by this function / policy / plan, and how.	Orkney based artists and craft makers could potentially benefit from the funding which focuses on skills and professional development.
How have stakeholders been involved in the development of this function / policy / plan?	Feedback is gathered from successful applicants that enables us to evaluate the effectiveness of the scheme. Creative Scotland and other regional grant administrators meet to ensure the

	application criteria is up to date and aim to make the grants as accessible as possible.
Is there any existing data and / or research relating to equalities issues in this policy area? Please summarise. E.g. consultations, national surveys, performance data, complaints, service user feedback, academic / consultants' reports, benchmarking (see equalities resources on OIC information portal).	VACMA performance data collected and analysed by Creative Scotland shows that young artists/graduates are having difficulty successfully applying for the awards because they are yet to establish significant bodies of creative work and are in direct competition with well-established creative practitioners. The graduate bursaries have been added to the awards scheme for this reason.
Is there any existing evidence relating to socio-economic disadvantage and inequalities of outcome in this policy area? Please summarise. E.g. For people living in poverty or for people of low income. See <a href="#">The Fairer Scotland Duty Interim Guidance for Public Bodies</a> for further information.	(Please complete this section for proposals relating to strategic decisions).
Could the function / policy have a differential impact on any of the following equality areas?	(Please provide any evidence – positive impacts / benefits, negative impacts and reasons).
1. Race: this includes ethnic or national groups, colour and nationality.	No
2. Sex: a man or a woman.	No
3. Sexual Orientation: whether a person's sexual attraction is towards their own sex, the opposite sex or to both sexes.	No
4. Gender Reassignment: the process of transitioning from one gender to another.	No
5. Pregnancy and maternity.	No
6. Age: people of different ages.	The addition of the graduate bursary for anyone 3 years outside of education is likely to have a positive differential impact on young adults.
7. Religion or beliefs or none (atheists).	No

8. Caring responsibilities.	No
9. Care experienced.	No
10. Marriage and Civil Partnerships.	No
11. Disability: people with disabilities (whether registered or not).	The application process through Creative Scotland offers a range of support and alternative formats to meet the needs of all applications based on their accessibility requirements. Both Creative Scotland Officers and OIC Arts Officer can offer one-to-one support to applicants.
12. Socio-economic disadvantage.	No
13. Isles-proofing.	VACMA applicant information sessions are organised as far as possible at times that allow Isles residents to travel to them. This same information can be offered on the phone or via a VC type arrangement.

### 3. Impact Assessment

Does the analysis above identify any differential impacts which need to be addressed?	No
How could you minimise or remove any potential negative impacts?	The actions contained at 11. & 13. are attempts to minimise the potential negative impacts.
Do you have enough information to make a judgement? If no, what information do you require?	Yes

### 4. Conclusions and Planned Action

Is further work required?	Yes
What action is to be taken?	OIC are committed to encouraging applications from all areas of our community and to promote the support for the application process from Creative Scotland in terms of accessibility and inclusion. These commitments will be further highlighted through the promotion of the awards.
Who will undertake it?	Arts Officer
When will it be done?	In tandem with promoting the awards ahead of the first deadline in October 2019.

How will it be monitored? (e.g. through service plans).

Through the end of project reporting submitted to Creative Scotland.

Signature:



Date: 3 May 2019

Name: ANTONY MOTTERSHEAD

(BLOCK CAPITALS).

Please sign and date this form, keep one copy and send a copy to HR and Performance. A Word version should also be emailed to HR and Performance at [hrsupport@orkney.gov.uk](mailto:hrsupport@orkney.gov.uk)