

**Decision Session - Cabinet Member for
Culture, Leisure and Tourism**

10 March 2015

Report of the Assistant Director (Communities, Culture & Public Realm)

Service Level Agreements with Leisure and Culture Organisations

Summary

1. This report is brought to the Cabinet Member to seek approval for three year funding agreements to 31 March 2018 with Accessible Arts & Media (AAM), the National Centre for Early Music (NCEM), and Friends of St Nicholas Fields.

Background

2. In accordance with best practice recommended by the Department of Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS) we have previously negotiated a three year partnership funding agreements with our significant cultural organisations in York. Accessible Arts & Media, the National Centre for Early Music, and Friends of St Nicholas Fields have been recipients of a previous agreement which finished this month. This report proposes renewed funding support for 2015–2018.

Funding offer

3. The funding agreements proposed are:
 - Accessible Arts & Media - £9,400 p.a.
 - National Centre for Early Music - £8,146 p.a.
 - Friends of St Nicholas Fields - £23,008 p.a.
4. The proposed service level agreements are attached at Annexes 1 to 3.

Council Plan

5. The actions set out in the report contribute to the Building Stronger Communities priority in the Council Plan 2011-15 by:

- Encouraging and enabling vulnerable and disadvantaged residents to engage with the wider community through positive and affirmative opportunities
- Supporting the voluntary sector; providing volunteering opportunities and the chance to gain new skills.

Implications

6. **Financial** - Budget Council in February 2014 agreed a £200k saving in funding to voluntary organisations from 2015/16. Accordingly a reduction in the region of 4% has been made in the funding offered to the three organisations. In compliance with the York Compact best practice guidance, notice of this reduction was given to the organisations in November, 2014.
7. **Equalities** – this funding support enables the most vulnerable sections of the community to access art and media opportunities and to gain new skills in this sector.
8. There are no Legal, Property, Human Resources, Crime and Disorder, or Information Technology implications arising from this report.

Risk Management

9. The level of risk associated with this proposal is “Acceptable”.

Recommendation

10. The Cabinet Member is asked to approve the three funding agreements set out in paragraph 3 and the associated service level agreements set out in the annexes.

Reason: To increase the wellbeing and quality of life of York residents.

Annexes

- 1 – Service Level Agreement: National Centre for Early Music
- 2 – Service Level Agreement: Accessible Arts and Media
- 3 – Service Level Agreement: Friends of St Nicholas Fields

Contact Details

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	Report Approved	✓	Date	25 February, 2015
Specialist Implications Officer(s): N/A				
Wards Affected:			All	✓
For further information please contact the author of the report				

Background Papers:

None

Abbreviations in report and annexes:

AAM- Accessible Arts and Media

AGM- Annual General Meeting

BACS- Bankers' Automated Clearing Services

CRB- Criminal Records Bureau

CYC- City of York Council

DCMS- Department for Culture, Media and Sport

EGM- Extraordinary General Meeting

NCEM- National Centre for Early Music

NPO- National Portfolio Organisations