

CORPORATE SERVICES AND ECONOMIC GROWTH OSC

REPORTS TO THE CABINET

9 APRIL 2019

Northumberland Cultural Fund to support Great Northumberland 2019

Wendy Scott, Cultural Development Manager, Active Northumberland presented the report to the Committee on 1 April 2019. Nigel Walsh, Service Manager - Culture, Heritage and Libraries, Active Northumberland was also in attendance to respond to comments and queries from members.

The proposals were to introduce an application process for a Northumberland Cultural Fund, which would be open for all Northumberland organisations and groups to apply for support as part of Great Northumberland 2019 (GN2019); an arts and cultural programme which would take place across Northumberland this summer.

Following the presentation, the Committee sought clarification and made comment as follows:

- members requested that the Committee receive a report later in the year which would examine the impact that the fund had had on the county's cultural programme prior to the introduction of a further scheme in 2020/21;
- as the fund is for revenue support it would not duplicate similar requests from the Community Chest, which is for capital projects, although officers will monitor applications for both funds;
- it was assumed that applicants had the necessary Basic Disclosure Checks (DBS) where appropriate, but officers will ensure that this was the case;
- the decision making panel will include members and officers;
- applications should be judged on the lasting impact they may have on the community and environment in which they were held;
- there was no minimum grant, although members were advised that a typical award would be around £1-2,000;
- members agreed that the applicant should demonstrate that the organisation had a legal structure to give assurance that any award would be properly managed, and
- long established events would have to demonstrate that the grant would be to support something new that would not be achievable without an award.

RESOLVED that the Cabinet be advised that the Committee supported the recommendations, subject to the comments above.

COUNCILLOR DAVID BAWN

CHAIRMAN