



# Cabinet (Resources) Panel

## 24 March 2015

<b>Report title</b>	Arts Council Funding Agreement	
<b>Decision designation</b>	AMBER	
<b>Cabinet member with lead responsibility</b>	Councillor Elias Mattu Leisure and Communities	
<b>Key decision</b>	Yes	
<b>In forward plan</b>	Yes	
<b>Wards affected</b>	All	
<b>Accountable director</b>	Dr Keren Jones, City Economy	
<b>Originating service</b>	City Economy	
<b>Accountable employee(s)</b>	Keren Jones, Tel Email	Service Director, City Economy 01902 555410 Keren.Jones wolverhampton.gov.uk
<b>Report to be/has been considered by</b>	N/A	

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### Recommendation(s) for action or decision:

The Cabinet (Resources) Panel is recommended to:

1. Delegate authority to the Cabinet Member of Leisure and Communities and Strategic Director Place to enter into a funding agreement with the Arts Council in relation to the National Portfolio Funded contemporary arts and crafts programme at The Art Gallery and Bilston Craft Gallery 2015-18 .

## **1.0 Purpose**

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to grant authority for the Portfolio Holder for Leisure and Communities and the Strategic Director Place to sign off the funding agreement between the Wolverhampton City Council and the Arts Council of England as part of the funding agreement by the 27 March 2015.

## **2.0 Background**

- 2.1 In July 2014 we were granted funding of £383,256 to fund a programme of contemporary art and craft at the Art Gallery and Bilston Craft Gallery for the period April 2015-March 2018. This funding is granted to organisations in the UK that are considered to represent some of the best arts practice in the world, and the bidding is highly competitive.
- 2.2 As part of our funding agreement the Council is required to produce strategy documents in relation to our programme, audiences and our commitment to equality. These are required in a standard format to meet the Art Council England's grant conditions.
- 2.3 The Collections and Programme Manager has drafted three key strategy documents in consultation with the Arts Council and these have been agreed and signed off through an IEDN on the 9 February 2015:
- Programme Plan
  - Audience Development Strategy
  - Equality Action Plan

These documents are included as appendices 1, 2 and 3. The documents outline our approach to engaging audiences over the next three years and to presenting a high quality programme ensuring that our work is inclusive. Each document has clear SMART objectives and methods of monitoring our work through quantitative data are demonstrated. These have been developed with colleagues in Culture, Arts and Heritage and we are confident that they are achievable within the current financial climate. This recommendation is for sign off of the final funding agreement which references these strategy documents and our commitment to deliver on these targets over the next 3 years.

## **4.0 Financial implications**

- 4.1 By entering into this funding agreement, Wolverhampton City Council will receive £383,256 of funding from the Arts Council to fund a programme of contemporary arts and craft across 2015/16 to 2017/18. This funding is provided on the basis that Wolverhampton City Council will provide mainline match funding of £237,424 over this period. The approved 2015/16 revenue budget for Culture, Arts and Heritage currently provides £84,000 of this match. The requirements for match funding in 2016/17 and 2017/18 can only be met if this budget is maintained going forward noting that this will reduce the scope the service has for meeting savings targets over this period.

[ES/04032015/W]

## **5.0 Legal implications**

- 5.1 Wolverhampton City Council will be required to enter into a funding agreement with the Arts Council of England, covering the period 2015-18.

[RB/02032015/L]

## **6.0 Equalities implications**

- 6.1 An equalities action plan has been produced as part of the funding agreement. The projects will have positive equalities implications.

## **7.0 Environmental implications**

- 7.1 An environmental plan was produced as part of the funding agreement. Data collection will be collated as part of delivery in relation to environmental performance and reducing carbon emissions.

## **8.0 Human resources implications**

- 8.1 The funding contributes to staffing costs of a number of posts.

## **9.0 Corporate landlord implications**

- 9.1 There are no corporate landlord implications.

## **10.0 Schedule of background papers**

- 10.1 Green Decision