

Cambridgeshire Culture Investment Strategy 2018-21

Introduction

Cambridgeshire Culture (CC) has a financial resource created from the sale of works from the Schools Art Collection that may be used to further the opportunities for cultural education available in schools. Careful use of this funding in the past has enabled support for individual small-scale projects, countywide initiatives and leveraging investment from other sources to extend the resource.

The redevelopment of Cambridgeshire Culture has created a more strategic body with the opportunity to support, shape and influence a cohesive cultural plan across the county and the investment strategy going forward should reflect this.

Use of the funding requires approval by Cambridgeshire County Council's (CCC's) Children and Young People's Committee as Cambridgeshire Culture is accountable to CCC.

There are opportunities to collaborate with other strategic partners with investment funding for activity and projects such as Festival Bridge.

Proposed investment strategy criteria

1. Use of funding to support the Cambridgeshire Culture strategy for 2018-21. Investment should be made towards activity that achieves one or preferably more of the strategy objectives.
2. Cambridgeshire Culture should consider requests for support in the context of the strategy and the known routes for application for funds from other sources and signpost to these where required.
3. Cambridgeshire Culture will invest up to a maximum of 50% but normally at a lower level to extend the use of the resource as far as possible.
4. Cambridgeshire Culture should invest time and resources to develop partnerships that can enable additional financial resource towards its objectives or to increase the funds available for the long-term through appropriate mechanisms.

Expressions of interest process

Expressions of interest can be considered from any appropriately governed and constituted body that wishes to seek investment for a project that can contribute to Cambridgeshire Culture objectives. If this is from a body represented on or by Cambridgeshire Culture, declarations of interest should be made and such bodies will not take part in discussions or recommendations by the investment Panel, a subgroup of the Cambridgeshire Culture Board. Expressions of interest will be considered by 18th November each year and organisations that meet the criteria for investment will be asked to provide further information in support of their application, including a business or project plan and full expenditure and income budget together with a covering letter detailing how the project will contribute to Cambridge Culture's published objectives.

The deadline for these applications to Cambridgeshire Culture for support will be 18th December each year.

The Panel will expect to see in the plan evidence of all necessary partnerships including specific settings and schools already identified, costs and funding and appropriate levels of oversight particularly in regard to safeguarding, financial management, appropriate evaluation and clear and measurable project goals.

Cambridgeshire Culture may also request applications for specific programmes of work it identifies annually to achieve its objectives, will provide a brief for the work as part of the expressions of interest distribution and the same process will be followed.

The awarding Panel will be made up of Board members with experience of making and/or scrutinising projects and grants and investment partners. Panel members will be expected to serve for a minimum of two terms (autumn and

spring) and to contribute to the assessment/evaluation and decision-making on all expressions of interest and applications. They will seek input from other partners and colleagues in relation to the strategic purpose of applications and the fit with existing programmes prior to making recommendations and will signpost applicants as necessary to ensure dialogue and joint working is achieved.

The Panel will make recommendations for approval at the relevant Board meeting during the January to March period, for investments being made during the next financial year (April 1st annually).