

Arun District Council

REPORT TO:	Housing & Wellbeing Committee – 25 January 2022
SUBJECT:	Arun Inspires Programme – Artswork Update
LEAD OFFICER:	Georgina Bouette, Wellbeing & Communities Manager
LEAD MEMBER:	Councillor Jacky Pendleton
WARDS:	All
CORPORATE PRIORITY / POLICY CONTEXT / CORPORATE VISION: IMPROVING THE WELLBEING OF ARUN: To plan services, resources, amenities, activities, and places to help our community thrive.	
DIRECTORATE POLICY CONTEXT: Work with key partners to ensure that we deliver council wellbeing services that are complementary to their own. Support the voluntary and community sector to provide services that help the most vulnerable in our community.	
FINANCIAL SUMMARY: This report recommends Members approve £30,000 per year to support the Arun Inspires Programme (phase two) for three years from April 2023 subject to satisfactory reviews and the availability of Council resources.	

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1. To review the work of Artswork in delivering the goals of the Arun Inspires programme and endorse £30,000 of funding to continue with phase two of the programme for three years from April 2023.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Housing and Wellbeing Committee approve funding of £30,000 per year to support the Arun Inspires Programme (phase two) in 2023/24, 2024/25 and 2025/26 subject to satisfactory reviews and the availability of Council resources.

2. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 2.1. The Arun Inspires Programme was established in 2019 to advance the cultural offer in Arun, particularly for children and young people. In January 2022 the Housing and Wellbeing Committee resolved to match fund the Arun Inspires Programme with Artswork for six months pending the outcome of a funding bid to Arts Council England. The Committee endorsed that future funding was subject to satisfactory reviews and the availability of funding. Appended to this report is an update and proposal from Artswork for the Committee to consider.

3. DETAIL

- 3.1. Arun Inspires is a cultural development programme focussed on children and young people. The Programme is delivered by Artswork, a charity dedicated to empowering children and young people through arts and culture. The Council has worked with Artswork since 2019 when the Arun Inspires Programme was launched with legacy funding from the Council's previous leisure provider (£250,000) and Artswork (£100,000).
- 3.2. In January 2022 the Housing and Wellbeing Committee approved £15,000 to fund Artswork for six months to complete phase one of the Arun Inspires programme. Artswork was awaiting the outcome of a funding bid to Arts Council England (ACE) to support phase two of the Arun Inspires programme. The Committee endorsed the work of Artswork and noted that future funding would be subject to satisfactory reviews, in line with Arun District Council's Priorities and the availability of funding.
- 3.3. Artswork successfully secured funding from ACE for three years from 2023, being awarded £40,000 per year for phase two of the Arun inspires Programme. Artswork is seeking a £30,000 contribution from Arun for three years to support the programme, to run concurrently with the ACE funding.
- 3.4. As requested by the Committee, Artswork has provided an update report on its activity and its proposals for phase two of the Arun Inspires Programme (Appendix A). The report highlights the projects Artswork has run in the district and the partnerships it has built to draw in financial and strategic support to raise the profile of arts for young people, local organisations and artists.
- 3.5. Artswork has also provided interventions to promote and foster improvements in the wellbeing of Arun's young people, particularly mental health which has been well received by both Active Sussex and NHS Sussex.
- 3.6. Embedded in the report are short video links which capture some of the projects delivered by Artswork and the impact they have had on young people, artists and local communities.
- 3.7. Phase two of the Arun Inspires programme will build on foundations laid to date and deliver on the following strands of work:
 - Youth voice and leadership developing places and communities in Arun
 - Creative skills, routes into employment and capacity building
 - Young peoples' mental health and wellbeing
 - Culture-led town centre regeneration
- 3.8. The report (Appendix A) describes how Artswork will develop and deliver on these strands of work and emphasises how these accord with Arun's Vision.

4. OPTIONS / ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED

- 4.1. Arun could provide a similar programme but would need to create a new position and recruit an appropriate individual. Artswork is a trusted ACE National Portfolio

Organisation working on a local, regional and national level. The Arun Inspires Programme is established and Artswork has developed a network of partners. Artswork has also secured ACE funding for three years to deliver phase two of the programme which would not be available to Arun without the involvement of Artswork. For these reasons the recommendation is to provide funding to Artswork.

5. CONSULTATION

5.1. None.

6. COMMENT OF THE INTERIM GROUP HEAD OF FINANCE/S151 OFFICER

7.1 A sum of £15,000 is included in the 2022/23 revenue budget to fund the Artswork project. Any decision to grant any funding beyond 2022/23 will be dependent on Members reviewing the work of the project to date and deciding if there is still support for the project.

7.2 The funding request approved for 2022/23 stated '*A proposal has been received from Artswork requesting core funding of £15,000 in 2022/23 and £30,000 for the following three years. Artswork will seek match funding should the Council provide funding.* As the recommendation was approved, the Council has given its in principle commitment to funding the project to 2025/26.

7. RISK ASSESSMENT CONSIDERATIONS

7.1. There is a risk that the Council may not have resources to continue the programme in years two and three. Artswork need to be cognisant of this risk and have mitigations in place to seek additional funding or to reduce the scope of the programme if Arun is unable to provide the current level of financial support.

8. COMMENTS OF THE GROUP HEAD OF LAW AND GOVERNANCE & MONITORING OFFICER

8.1. The grant monies referred to in this report, including the requested additional funds, are governed by an existing Grant Agreement that runs until the 2025/26 financial year and which contains the performance requirements set out in this report. No additional legal agreements are required to secure the additional funding requested above.

9. HUMAN RESOURCES IMPACT

9.1. None

10. HEALTH & SAFETY IMPACT

10.1. None

11. PROPERTY & ESTATES IMPACT

11.1. None

12. EQUALITIES IMPACT ASSESSMENT (EIA)

12.1. Artswork provides a fully inclusive range of activities.

13. CLIMATE CHANGE & ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

13.1. None

14. CRIME AND DISORDER REDUCTION IMPACT

14.1. The activities offered by Artswork can provide an outlet for young people and divert them from antisocial or criminal activities.

15. HUMAN RIGHTS IMPACT

15.1. None

16. FREEDOM OF INFORMATION / DATA PROTECTION CONSIDERATIONS

16.1. None.

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BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS:

Appendix A – Arun Inspires – Artswork Report and Proposal