
COMMUNITY GRANT SCHEME – GENERIC BUDGET 2018/19

Report by Service Director of Customer & Communities EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

19th June 2018

1 PURPOSE AND SUMMARY

- 1.1 This report recommends an application for funding from the Community Grant Scheme (CGS) Generic Budget.**
- 1.2 The purpose of the application from Borders Youth Theatre is to contribute towards the cost of running a two week performance project for young Borderers aged 8-25. This includes 12 days of devising and rehearsing at Langlee Community Centre and 3 days of performances at Traquair House, Paxton House and The Haining. The performance piece will be - A Tale of Beatrix Potter and will include up to 40 performers.
- 1.3 Borders Youth Theatre operates Borders wide and runs weekly workshops across 5 towns which see over 150 participants from the ages of 8-25 years. The organisation has been successful in generating some income from box office ticket sales and the regular fundraising which helps towards their sustainability. A grant of £3,220 will assist with the cost of this stand alone, performance project.

2 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 I recommend that the Executive Committee approves a grant of £3,220 to Borders Youth Theatre.**

3 BACKGROUND

- 3.1 The Community Grant Scheme (CGS) can provide either projects grants for new or developing work or support grants for groups facing temporary financial difficulty. Full details of the scheme can be found on our website at https://www.scotborders.gov.uk/info/20076/community_grants_and_funding/261/community_grant_scheme
- 3.2 The CGS generic budget can provide grants to groups who are constituted as working Borders-wide. It can also provide grants to groups who are non-Borders based but who deliver projects which provide direct benefits to identified groups in the Borders.

4 APPLICATION FOR APPROVAL

4.1	APPLICANT:	Borders Youth Theatre
	PROJECT:	The Tales of Beatrix Potter
	REF NO:	101001552672
	TOTAL PROJECT COST:	£10,050
	GRANT REQUEST:	£3,220
	GRANT RECOMMENDATION:	£3,220

- (a) Over their 29 year history, Borders Youth Theatre have delivered and evaluated many successful projects which has enabled them to build a body of evidence which supports the value of their charity. Borders Youth Theatre is volunteer led so many 'unpaid hours' and lots of fundraising goes into the organisation to help it sustain itself. They also facilitate intensive holiday projects in which young people design and deliver live theatre for the community, over the past 12 months they have reached audiences of over 500 people. Many of the group's participants have assisted needs, are rurally isolated, not in formal education or 'coping with' mental health issues. The group demonstrate partnership working by engaging with Live Borders, Creative Learning, VOMO, NHS Borders, Police Scotland and Youth Borders.
- (b) This Grant request is to contribute towards the cost of running a two week performance project which will also fund 7 full bursary places plus an additional 10 places at a 50% discount for young people from low income families. The project will improve access for 16 young people who live in places that are rurally isolated by providing a free minibus to rehearsals and performances. This project will provide many young people a new opportunity to work on stage design, lighting and sound and costumes for the live performance.
- (c) After discussion and consultation with Live Borders, Creative Learning, Youth Borders and Langlee Community Centre and continual conversation with their Youth Membership, this project was identified to provide experiences tailored to their needs during the holiday period. Many of the young people will come from rural parts of the Borders but it will also give some of the young people from Langlee, which is a high SIMD area, a chance to engage in an enriching drama experience.

- (d) The group have secured match funding from Live Borders (£1k) and The Gannochy Trust (£1k) and will provide £4,830 themselves towards the project in cash and in kind contribution to cover: staffing and project coordination costs, marketing & admin, trainee expenses and contingency for assisted needs.
- (e) It is recommended to award £3,220.

5 BUDGET INFORMATION

Base Budget : £10,000

c/f from 2017/18: £11,176

Total Budget: £21,176

Awards made to date:

The Learning Space SCIO £5,000

The Bridge £5,000

Available budget 19.06.18: **£11,176**

6 IMPLICATIONS

6.1 Financial

There is sufficient funding in the CGS Generic Budget to cover the recommendation contained in this report. Approval of this grant will leave a balance of £7,956 for 2018/19.

6.2 Risks and Mitigations

There are always risks when awarding sums of money to any external organisations. However mitigations would include the various checks and controls we put in place plus the knowledge we have of the organisations and the people involved in the grant applications.

6.3 Equalities

- (a) This application has been assessed in terms of how the organisation addresses equalities. All organisations have their own Equality Opportunities Policies and it is believed that there is no adverse impact due to race, disability, gender, age, sexual orientation or religion/belief arising from the proposals in this report.
- (b) This application addresses the needs of disadvantaged groups of young people in the Borders community.

6.4 Acting Sustainably

There is believed to be a positive social impact to the request from Borders Youth Theatre. The grant will assist in reducing both social and reduce rural isolation for participants from low income families and for those who are unable to access public transport.

6.5 Carbon Management

There are believed to be no carbon management issues with the request from Borders Youth Theatre.

6.6 Rural Proofing

This report does not relate to new or amended policy or strategy and as a result rural proofing is not an applicable consideration.

6.7 Changes to Scheme of Administration or Scheme of Delegation

There are no changes to be made to either the Scheme of Administration or the Scheme of Delegation as a result of the proposals contained in this report.

7 CONSULTATION

- 7.1 The Chief Financial Officer, the Monitoring Officer, the Chief Legal Officer, the Chief Officer Audit and Risk, the Service Director HR, and the Clerk to the Council have been consulted and their comments have been incorporated into the final report.

Approved by

Jenni Craig

Service Director of Customer & Communities

Signature

Author(s)

Name	Designation and Contact Number
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Background Papers: None

Previous Minute Reference: None

Note – You can get this document on tape, in Braille, large print and various computer formats by contacting the address below. Claire Penny can also give information on other language translations as well as providing additional copies.

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