

NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE COUNCIL

**LEISURE, ARTS AND CULTURE
CABINET MEMBER**

ARTS DEVELOPMENT GRANT AID

1. OBJECT AND KEY POINTS IN THIS REPORT

- 1.1 To consider an application for grant funding from the Waterside Artists' Co-operative.
- 1.2 Arts Development has received an application for grant funding from the Waterside Artists' Co-operative in support of the Ropewalk Contemporary Art and Craft.
- 1.3 This application needs consideration against the Arts Development Grant criteria and available funds.

2. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 2.1 The Waterside Artists' Co-operative is the voluntary sector group that manages the Ropewalk Contemporary Art and Craft facility in Barton-upon-Humber.
- 2.2 The Ropewalk Contemporary Art and Craft comprises of two galleries, a craft shop and twelve artist studios.
- 2.3 The Ropewalk is crucial to the opportunities that artists have to work in North Lincolnshire.
- 2.4 The Ropewalk offers subsidised studio rents as well as opportunities to exhibit and to deliver education workshops to schools and other groups.
- 2.5 Ropewalk Contemporary Art and Craft is one of two Art Council Regional Funded Organisations in North Lincolnshire.
- 2.6 An Arts Council Regional Funded Organisation has a three-year funding agreement with the Arts Council.
- 2.7 In January 2008 the Arts Council agreed to increase the Ropewalk's funding from £20,000 to £40,000 per year as part of their Regional Funded Organisation Review.

2.8 This uplift in funding was on condition that North Lincolnshire Council would also continue to support the Ropewalk.

3. OPTIONS FOR CONSIDERATION

3.1 To approve the grant of £5,000 for Waterside Artists' Co-operative

3.2 To approve a lesser grant for Waterside Artists' Co-operative.

3.3 To not approve the grant

4. ANALYSIS OF OPTIONS

4.1 The application received meets all the revised criteria in our grant aid scheme for assistance. There are sufficient funds in the Arts Development Grant Scheme to provide the amount recommended.

4.2 To approve the grant of £5,000 would mean that their planned programme of exhibitions and workshops could take place as proposed.

4.3 Offering grant support at a reduced level would jeopardise the funding the Ropewalk receives from the Arts Council.

5. RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS (FINANCIAL, STAFFING, PROPERTY, IT)

5.1 Financial

5.1.1 Arts Development has allocated £12,000 to this scheme for 2008/9. There is £9,000 remaining for 2008/9 to support voluntary sector art groups.

5.2 Staffing, Property and IT

5.2.1 There are no implications for staffing, property or IT.

6. OTHER IMPLICATIONS (STATUTORY, ENVIRONMENTAL, DIVERSITY, SECTION 17 - CRIME AND DISORDER, RISK AND OTHER)

6.1 There are no statutory, environmental, diversity or section 17 implications.

7. OUTCOMES OF CONSULTATION

7.1 The aim of the Arts Development Grant Scheme is to allow a closer working relationship to develop between North Lincolnshire Council's Arts Development Function and the arts voluntary sector. It is a condition of funding that the Arts Manager attends quarterly meetings with the Waterside Artists' Co-operative and works with them in their development.

8. RECOMMENDATIONS

8.2 That we offer £5,000 in support to Waterside Artists' Co-operative.

SERVICE DIRECTOR ASSET MANAGEMENT AND CULTURE

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Background Papers used in the preparation of this report : None

ARTS DEVELOPMENT GRANTS 2008/9

Arts Development Grants support voluntary sector art groups, which are considered important to the infrastructure of the arts provision in North Lincolnshire. The intention of funding these organisations is to work in partnership with them to:

- Ensure their development and sustainability
- Encourage best practise
- Ensure lack of duplication

In order to receive funding from Arts Development organisations have to be well managed, with a clear set of aims and objectives. They will need to show Arts Development the need for public sector funding and identify where the funding will be spent. They will have to achieve at least **four** of the criteria set out below:

Artistic

1. Offer opportunities for individuals¹ to see and experience work by professional artists
2. Offer opportunities for individuals¹ to work with professional artists

Economic

3. Attract visitors to the North Lincolnshire
4. Offer employment for local professional artists²
5. Improve skills for local professional artists²

Management

6. Aim to maximise funding, specifically by using North Lincolnshire Council's contribution to attract funding from other funding bodies
7. Aim to increase audiences for the arts/participation in the arts.
8. Aim to maximise resources through partnership working.

¹ Individuals can include: children, young people, and/or adults.

² Local professional artists includes all artists that live in North Lincolnshire and make their living by primarily working in and around North Lincolnshire.

ORGANISATION	Criteria Achieved	Details
Ropewalk Contemporary Art & Craft	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Offer opportunities for individuals to see and experience work by professional artists 2. Offer opportunities for individuals to work with professional artists 3. Attract visitors to the North Lincolnshire 4. Offer employment for local professional artists 5. Improve skills for local professional artists. 6. Aim to maximise funding, specifically by using North Lincolnshire Council's contribution to attract funding from other funding bodies 7. Aim to increase audiences for the arts/participation in the arts. 8. Aim to maximise resources through partnership working. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Ropewalk exhibits work by professional artists 2. The Ropewalk employs professional artists to deliver education workshops 3. The last survey took place 4 years ago. This survey showed that 60% of visitors came from East Riding and 10% came from Lincolnshire/Derbyshire. More recent anecdotal evidence exists. A new survey is due to take place later this year. 4. The Ropewalk employs professional artists to deliver workshops 5. The Ropewalk offers mentoring for new artists wishing to deliver workshops and offers training to develop new workshop skills when a need has been identified e.g. willow weaving 6. The Ropewalk maximises funding from the Arts Council and other sources. 7. The Ropewalk has increased its visitor numbers from 18,547 in 2004; 19,841 in 2005; 25,405 in 2006 to 33,633 in 2007. 8. The Ropewalk partners North Lincolnshire Council, Watersedge, Barton Arts, Barton Film Group, Insight Open Studios, ST-ART, etc.