

# Cultural Recovery Fund and Service Planning Update - Cultural Services

Culture and Visitor Economy Overview and  
Scrutiny Committee – 17 November 2020

Michael Cross – Head of Arts



SOUTH  
KESTEVEN  
DISTRICT  
COUNCIL



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DISTRICT COUNCIL

# Cultural Recovery Fund

SKDC was granted £230,000 from Arts Council England following a successful bid to the government backed scheme

The primary purposes of the fund are:

1. Protect jobs
2. Restart performances
3. Create work for freelancers

SKDC's successful bid reflected all these priorities as part of a phased programme of work, as restrictions and local considerations allow.

STAMFORD • GRANTHAM • BOURNE • THE DEEPINGS

# Cultural Recovery Fund

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- The fund also supports the impact of losses sustained by Cultural Services through the period October 2020-March 2021
- SKDC's bid identified a three-phase approach to resuming services
- Phase 1 - limited access by regular hirers to deliver classes and workshops
- Phase 2 – further extension of programme to include limited access to auditoria and potential for hybrid events
- Phase 3 - return to a recognisable programme but with social-distancing restrictions still in place

*No set timeframe to deliver work.*

*Subject to restrictions and local infection rates.*



# Cultural Recovery Fund

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## Challenges

- Not all hirers feel able to return to their normal schedule
- Limits around the number of attendees to sessions
- Limit of suitable spaces available to deliver work – larger spaces best placed to facilitate sessions
- Stewarding and safety measures – control of numbers, movement around the buildings, safe preparation of spaces, test and trace measures, risk assessment
- Social-distancing measures limit access to auditoria – circa 42 seats in Stamford and circa 50 seats in Grantham (movement of audience around spaces, start times, finish times, queuing systems, preparation time between events)
- Business continuity – potential for self-isolation issues, deep cleaning



# Cultural Recovery Fund

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## Actions

- Redeployment of staff returning from furlough
- Phase 1 operations suspended with introduction of November lockdown
- The postponed event programme was to include exhibitions in Grantham and Craft Fairs in Stamford through November and December, Sunday Lunch programme suspended at Bourne Corn Exchange
- e-Newsletter “**Arts @ Home**” – publication and distribution continues
- SK Creatives Networking Meetings to be convened every 8-10 weeks
- Online programme to be carried into New Year schedule
- Discussions continue around further potential of hybrid events with pay-per-view and limited in-house attendees during filming
- Refurbishment works progress in Stamford and Bourne
- Progress and timeline for movement to Phase 2 and Phase 3 remains fluid



# Cultural Services Action Plan

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The Cultural Services Action Plan will include the following key actions:

- Develop and support a cultural/creative sector network programme of events and activities in order to increase participation
- Support the creation of cultural/creative sector Community Interest Companies across SK to maximise investment from external creative sector funding bodies
- Support the provision of a programme of skills training and professional development for cultural/creative sector practitioners
- Through the Cultural Strategy create a strong, cohesive and inclusive Cultural Service, reinforcing South Kesteven District Council's role as the district's leading creative sector organisation, with the appropriate resources and skills to achieve this



# Cultural Services Action Plan

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- Review and improve the Arts, Events and Festivals programme, in order to provide a joined-up, mutually beneficial, district-wide programme of activity, working in partnership with local, regional and national organisations
- Support Visitor Economy initiatives through the promotion and delivery of an attractive and diverse cultural offer for residents and visitors, increasing participation and engagement
- Continue to build on the work of the SK Community and Voluntary Sector during Covid-19 by mobilising and supporting ongoing volunteer work
- Develop partnerships with stakeholders supporting initiatives for physical and mental wellbeing



# Cultural Services Action Plan

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- Utilise innovative funding sources such as LotterySK, an updated SK Community Fund and The SK Covid appeal to support voluntary and cultural sector work within the District
- Successfully deliver the Cultural Programme for the Grantham Heritage Action Zone project
- Support the cultural development of high streets in Bourne, Deepings and Stamford by applying lessons learnt from the Future High Street Fund and accessing other external financial investment
- Attract and encourage diverse cultural/creative sector businesses to be established and successful in SK and work proactively with cultural/creative sector businesses to ensure they can operate safely through the Covid-19 recovery phase and beyond



## **Guidance from Culture and Visitor Economy OSC Members**

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**Members are invited to recommend priority areas for delivery of the proposed Cultural Services 2021-22 Action Plan programme**

**Members are invited to recommend any additional areas of potential activity and review by Cultural Services during the 2021-22 Action Plan programme**

