

Main Grants 2017-18 report

Name of organisation	Sydenham Arts
Date of meeting	13 September 2016
Names and positions of attendees	Helen Gower – Director of Sydenham Arts (left post in Aug 2016) Ron Warshow – Director of Sydenham Arts (current) Andy Thomas – Cultural Development Manager, London Borough of Lewisham Nancy Stridgen – Cultural and Community Development Officer, London Borough of Lewisham

Group Name: Sydenham Arts	Total	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4						
Total funding received 2015-16	£7,500	N/A	2,500	2,500	2,500						
Total funding to be received 2016-17	£10,000	2,500	2,500	2,500	2,500						
Outcomes	1. People of all ages learn new skills in a variety of art forms 2. Improved sense of place for Sydenham as a vibrant creative hub, with local access to high quality inspirational arts events 3. Arts participation has increased, including among young and older people, people with a disability, low income groups and those who normally don't engage with the arts 4. Improved well-being of the participants from the whole community attending festival events and workshops 5. Increased economy in the local area, due to participants attending events through the festival										
	Outputs:	2015-16 Target	2015-16 Q2	2015-16 Q3	2015-16 Q4	2015-16 Total	% Achieved	2016-17 Target	2016-17 Q1	2016-17 Q2	% Achieved TD
1. Free participatory workshops led by professional artists and practitioners Numbers of Workshops	10	5	5	5	5	50%	4	5			125%
1a. Numbers of people attending workshops	200	102	102	102	102	51%	200	265			132%

1b. Number of young people attending workshops	90	45	45	45	45	50%	90	178		197%
1c. Numbers of older people attending workshops	70	35	35	35	35	50%	70	15		21%
2. Number of participatory art events	50	35	47	48	48	96%	20	23		115%
2a. Number of people accessing events	6000	3298	5941	5978	5978	99%	2000	2699		135%
2b. Number of young people accessing events (under 25)	1098	198	443	446	445	41%	250	535		214%
2c. Number of older people accessing events 60+	2029	1154	1904	1932	1932	95%	250	970		388%
2d. % of BAME people attending events	30%	13%	25%	20%	20%	67%	30%	30%		100%
2e. % of people that have not participated in the arts in the last year attending events	30%	20%	20%	20%	20%	67%	30%	16%		533%
2f. Number of participants that feedback that access to the festival has had a positive impact on them	2121	1121	2748	2748	2748	130%	75%	75%		100%
2g. Number of participants that feedback that access to the festival has had a positive impact on their community	70%	63%	63%	83%	83%	119%	70%	69%		98%
3. Number of volunteers working on the festival	90	53	73	76	76	84%	25	49		196%
3a. % of volunteers that feedback that volunteering had a positive impact on them	90%	83%	90%	83%	83%	92%	90	100%		111%
3b.% of volunteers that feedback that volunteering had a positive impact on their community	70%	67%	67%	67%	67%	96%	70%	100%		143%
4. Numbers of Twitter followers	2500	1845	1949	2110	2110	84%	2200	2241		101%
4a. Number of Facebook likes	2000	1542	1637	1761	1761	88%	1800	1809		105%

1. Remove funding from under-performing groups/those performing least well

Have you achieved at least 90% of the agreed reporting outputs and outcomes in all quarters since the start of the programme?

90% of outputs were not achieved within the 2015/16 time period. Please see information on mitigating factors for 2015/16 and change of funding model of the organisation below.

96% of outputs have been achieved in quarter 1 of 2016/17 though and some substantially overachieved:

- **Output 1b 197% above target for young people attending workshops Q1 16/17.**

Sydenham Arts (SA) reached 6157 people in the 2015/16 period and as an organisation have changed from solely operating as an annual festival into a year round arts organisation programming performances, workshops and participatory arts.

Young People

Events and workshops have taken place in 5 Lewisham Primary Schools and 4 Secondary Schools and a relationship has been worked on with **TNG Youth Club** which allowed 178 young people and their families to take part in the 'Speak your mind' poetry workshop in Q1 2016. Outputs were low in 2015/16 for this section as time was needed for relationships and ways of working to be embedded.

Have you achieved all of the wider outcomes outlined in the initial grant application?

The organisation did not reach the output targets that had been set due to reasons below. It is considered that **outcomes** were met as 6157 people have been exposed to Sydenham Arts and the targets around numbers of participatory arts events and people accessing events were met.

SA's ability to engage with people without them travelling to a venue, e.g. **High Street Happenings** on Sydenham High Street and Flash Mob performances, evidence that the work is impacting on a wide proportion of local people that do not traditionally engage with the arts.

Quarter 1 figures for 2016/17 are overachieving targets and plans for the year ahead are robust and show learning from the financial risks taken in 2015/16. SA plan to move away from a reliance on bid writing and developing relationships with Trust and Foundations and will work on funding from individual donors and businesses. The board are also considering the opportunity that the physical move to the Sydenham Centre will allow.

If no to either of the above:

- what are the mitigating factors?
- what plans are in place for improving performance?
- what progress has been made against actions agreed with your Development Officer?

Sydenham Arts (SA) had an income of £98K year to date (October 2016), whereas their forecast budget was £136K. Outputs for 2015/16 were based on the larger sum being achieved.

The £7.5K contribution to Sydenham Arts for their work in Lewisham for 2015/16 can't be quantified in outputs in isolation from other funding for the organisation, therefore outputs are reliant on other funding sources.

It was discussed that the 2015/16 budget was over reliant on donations from Trusts and Foundations that did not already have a relationship with the organisation. SA also traditionally received 'Grants for the Arts' funding from Arts Council England, which was not received in this time period.

It was discussed that the financial model of the organisation has been changed for 2016/17 with further work focusing on donations from businesses and individuals. Extra work in this area allowed the organisation to finish without debt at the end of the summer festival period.

It is considered that outcomes were met in the time period as 6157 people have been exposed to Sydenham Arts and the targets around numbers of participatory arts events and people accessing events were met.

What local support/evidence of need can you identify for the work you are undertaking?

The organisation stated that there is a mixed demographic in the Sydenham area which includes many low income households with people that do not benefit from access to the arts.

Sydenham Arts has a universal reach into Sydenham Community Library, schools and more recently to the TNG youth club, therefore reaching a proportion of children and young people, their families and older people that do not traditionally benefit from engaging with the arts.

It was also expressed that the demographic of Sydenham is changing currently and that Sydenham Arts works to offer high quality arts experiences to the full mix of local community members. SA also offers opportunities for residents that arise from engagement in the form of signposting further opportunities and volunteer training.

2. Negotiate reductions and seek alternative funding streams

Are there any proposals that you can put forward that will deliver significant saving against current expenditure? This can include capital investment to change your delivery/business model.

It was stated that a reduction of core staffing hours replaced by a hire of facilitators for individual projects was being explored by the board currently.

What alternative funding streams are you already pursuing?

Sydenham Arts board are currently looking at the following funding streams:

- Friends of Sydenham Arts
- Businesses

- Individuals of High Net Worth
- L&Q
- Sydenham High School
- Advertising in quarterly newsletters
- Benefactors with annual subscriptions

Are there any other funding streams that you can identify that the council can support you to access?

Lewisham officers will support the organisation with contacts for Lewisham Homes and information on Local Assemblies.

3. Work with groups to consider mergers or asset sharing

Are there any organisations doing similar work to you in the borough who you may consider sharing resources or merging with? Who have you considered/approached?

SA have no assets but are considering the potential for sharing space in the Sydenham Centre when they relocate to this building. It was stated that there are no appropriate organisations to merge with at this time.

Are there other groups in the local area that you could share resources with even if they are delivering a different type of service? Again, who have you considered/approached?

SA partners with local organisations including C3 and the Sydenham Society but there are no organisations currently that are appropriate to merge with.

What support might you need to move these suggestions forward?

N/A

4. Pro-rata reductions across all groups

What would a 25% cut in your grants look like in service delivery terms? What are the wider impacts?

The organisation stated that there are currently no financial replacement for a 25% cut of Lewisham funding. Impact currently would be reduction in participatory workshops for residents.

Have you modelled this cut and developed an action plan for its implementation?

The organisation has not modelled a cut at this point, but it was stated that work would be carried out to raise funds via the Friends of Sydenham Arts and donations from businesses and individual benefactors.

Conclusion

Any other comments / areas discussed			
Conclusion and recommendation			
<p>The organisation did not achieve all outputs due to outside sources of funding not being achieved (please see mitigating circumstances in report above). It is considered that outcomes were met due to large participation numbers and that robust funding plans are being adopted for the 2016/17 budget. 96% of outputs have been achieved in quarter 1 of 2016/17 some substantially overachieved, and outputs are expected to be met in this year.</p> <p>SA has no assets but are considering the potential for sharing space in the Sydenham Centre when they relocate to this building shortly.</p> <p>This organisation has reacted well to challenging circumstances in the 2015/16 year and are working through robust plans for future, on target provision.</p> <p>It is recommended that Sydenham Arts receive a pro-rata cut.</p>			
Equalities groups disproportionately impacted by recommendations			
Children and Young People, Older Adults			
Ethnicity:		Pregnancy / Maternity:	
Gender:		Marriage & Civil Partnerships:	
Age:		Sexual orientation:	
Disability:		Gender reassignment:	
Religion / Belief:			
Commentary and potential mitigations:			
<p>Sydenham Arts provides generic services and there will therefore be no disproportionate impact on any of the equalities groups</p>			