Main Grants 2017-18 report

Name of organisation	**Teatro Vivo**
Date of meeting	Thursday 1st September
Names and positions of attendees	Sophie Austin, Artistic Director Becky Burchell, Trustee Petra Marshall, LBL Community Resources Manager Pippa Taylor, LBL Grants & Resources Officer

Group Name:	**Total**	**Q1**	**Q2**	**Q3**	**Q4**
Total funding received 2015-16	£26,000	N/A	£8,666	£8,666	£8,668
Total funding to be received 2016-17	£34,666.67	£8,668	£8,668	£8,668	

Outcomes:

1. ***Strong Cohesive Communities - Neighbourhoods***

i) Using a creative approach to develop meaningful collaborations between organisations across all 18 wards that will inspire positivity within the community. Harness the skills and experience of local residents by inviting them to respond creatively to their neighbourhood through participating in or attending free Lewisham Late events.

Identify gaps in the provision for local people in their neighbourhood and come up with solutions that bring together organisations, and people to strengthen the community. Deliver a programme of Lewisham Late events and Usherette sessions that take place throughout the borough.

ii) Facilitating involvement for residents in issues which affect their lives: Communities including, but not exclusive to, older people, younger people, unemployed and families are invited to engage in what is happening in their neighbourhood to improve community cohesion

iii) Addressing gaps in participation by inviting community members of any age over 18 or under if accompanied by an adult to free workshops, work in progress sharings and other events connected to our artistic programme. These events will invite participants to improve their imaginations, literacy and communication skills and make new friends in a sociable atmosphere.

iv) Strengthening local area partnerships: Community members of any age over 18 or under if accompanied by an adult are offered free Lewisham Late events at venues in their local neighbourhood. Inviting them to an affordable social event on their doorstep where there is a lack of arts provision

2. ***Widening Access to Arts & Sport***
i) Increasing Participation & Nurturing talent: Provide opportunities for people of all ages to engage with the arts as active participants and to explore their creativity and acquire a new skill.
ii) Increase the awareness and enhance the reputation of Lewisham as a place to spend leisure time
iii) Capitalise on funding and other support opportunities from regional and national bodies

Outputs 2015/16:	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**
18x3 hour Usherette sessions across ward areas – in first 9 months	18	1	3	8	**12**	**66%**				
2 x Lewisham Late Events	2	0	1	1	**2**	**100%**				
WATAS 2 x work in progress sharing (development programmes, linked with artistic programme)	2	1	1	0	**2**	**100%**				
WATAS 6 x community chorus workshops	6	2	2	2	**6**	**100%**				
Development of 2 theatre projects – 14 days of R&D in the borough	*14*	*3*	*4*	*7*	*14*	***100%***				
Raise funds for future projects - no details given	*n/a*	*n/a*	*n/a*	*n/a*	*n/a*	*n/a*				
Outputs 2016/17:										
26x3 hour Usherette sessions across ward areas in 2016/17							26 + 6 (32)	8		**100%**
5 x Lewisham Late Events in 2016/17							5	1		**100%**
WATAS – 10 performances of 1 major project in 2016/17							10	0		**100%**
WATAS – 2 x work in progress sharing (development programmes, linked with artistic programme) in 2016/17							2	1		**100%**
WATAS – 8 x community chorus workshops - in 2016/17							8	4		**133%**
Development of 3 theatre projects – 20 days of rehearsal in the borough							*20*	*5*		***100%***

Development of 3 theatre projects – 16 days R&D in the borough							*16*	*8*		***100%***
Raise funds for future projects x 10 applications in next 12 months							*10*	*2*		***100%***

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?

It is envisaged that in 2016/17, Teatro Vivo will fulfil all their outputs, including compensation for a minimal shortfall in one output from 2015/16.

2015/16 Outputs:
Usherette sessions (output 1) – there was a delay in the uptake of these sessions as Council Officers and Teatro Vivo formulated a process of working together, given the new nature of this project. To compensate for the loss of sessions in 2015/16, the sessions were added to the 2016/17 target.

2016/17 Outputs:
Q1 targets meet or exceed the targets given. The performance target (no. 3) falls under quarter 3 of the year which is why no outcomes have been achieved as yet; Teatro Vivo confirmed that they are on track to exceed this target.

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

Teatro Vivo are very successful at engaging with the community and gathering evidence under circumstances that challenge standard engagement and data collation, for example, at large borough wide events such as People's Day and Ward events.
They are quick in the turnaround of information, reporting back on these events to the Council Development Officers, their Grants Officer and any other group engaged in any singular event. This particularly assists the Development Officers in their assembly work.

As part of the Widening Access to the Arts funding, through the Community Chorus and Work in Progress sharing, Teatro Vivo have actively sought partnerships with community organisations who they have not worked with in the past. They work to bring the audience of that community group, their own audience base and a new audience that they engage on the day of an event, together. All of these events are free so that there are no barriers to the community participating. The events include numerous sing alongs, *Much Ado in Forest Hill* a promenade production and *Dream Fairies Den* in Mayow Park.

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?

See above

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

Teatro Vivo have found that local businesses come forward readily to connect with Usherettes and Lewisham Late events, linking in through Twitter as well as on the day. They have actively sought the promotion that being linked to Teatro Vivo's events can give them having seen the work funded by the grant. Local groups have directly approached Teatro Vivo based on their knowledge of the service they are providing. The groups include VAL, Manor House Library, Friends of Forest Hill and CHART.

Teatro Vivo's programmes are needed so that residents of Lewisham who cannot attend the traditional meetings, such as assembly meetings, can make their voice heard. Two examples of this engagement are young people who do not wish to come to meetings but will talk to someone who approaches them in the street and parents who cannot attend evening meetings due to childcare restraints but take their family along to People's Day.

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.

There are no significant areas of savings for Teatro Vivo as their work is cost efficient due to the peripatetic nature of the organisation, for example they do not work out of an office, utilising shared spaces enabling staff to work from a variety of places with a variety of people.

What alternative funding streams are you already pursuing?

Teatro Vivo are well educated about the funding environment and have recently strengthened their Board with a new member who has specific fundraising experience.

Teatro Vivo have actively pursued an ongoing relationship with Arts Council England (ACE), with their original officer leaving they have connected with an officer who they were put in touch with by a Council Officer.
They also brought the Great Places Scheme (ACE) to their Officer's attention and are keen to be part of this funding bid.

Received funding from:

- Arts Council, Grants for the Arts for production *The Residents*.
- Forest Hill Society raised additional funds to work with Teatro Vivo (£3k)
- Greenwich University
- The Story Museum

Applied to:

- Goldsmith's Trust for production *The Residents*.
- Royal Victoria Hall

And are now in the process of applying to/ building relationships with:

- Deptford Community Trust
- SELCHP
- Esmee Fairbairn / SpaceHive
- Art Council England
- Foyle Foundation
- Garfield Weston
- Heritage Lottery Fund
- Steel Foundation
- Tower Hamlets Council

Teatro Vivo noted that having a base of funding from the Council gave weight to applications, as other funders could see that the organisation was successful in obtaining larger sums of funding, managing those funds and the expectations that comes with this level of funding.

Are there any other funding streams that you can identify that the council can support you to access?
Teatro Vivo and Officers identified the following support that could be provided for funding applications: - feedback on written applications prior to them being sent to funders. - supporting statements from the Council as part of applications submission. Evaluation – Officers discussed Teatro Vivo's desire to produce evaluative work from the programmes they are running to strengthen applications. It was discussed that Officers could put Teatro Vivo in touch with alternative support, for example promotion to groups who could further support the company's work such as businesses or sponsors, funders the Council has relationships with, developers etc. An Officer has already put Teatro Vivo in touch with the Council Regeneration team.

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?
Due to the unique nature of the work carried out by Teatro Vivo there is no potential to merge resources with other groups. Of note is the support provided to Teatro Vivo from the Albany, who support them with space and collaborative work. Officers are exploring local storage space for Teatro Vivo's costumes & props.

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?
Teatro Vivo once again expressed their interest in being part of a Great Places Scheme (ACE) bid and believes Lewisham should be proud of how, as a borough, we work with arts organisations. Officers also mentioned the possibility of the London Borough of Culture, an initiative from the GLA and Teatro Vivo were keen to be part of this if Lewisham pursued it.

What support might you need to move these suggestions forward?
As above

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?
Teatro Vivo noted a concern around the risk to the artistic core of what they produce. Officers discussed that a pro-rata cut would have an equal affect across both funding streams.

Have you modelled this cut and developed an action plan for its implementation?
Teatro Vivo have begun to think about the impact a reduction in the grant would have and would seek to work with Officers to determine how this would affect their overall outcomes and outputs.

Conclusion

Any other comments / areas discussed
Evaluation Teatro Vivo have identified a need to use the material they have collated through the Lewisham funded programmes, to produce evaluative work that supports three areas of outreach to: 1. New funders 2. Relationship with Lewisham Council 3. Members of the public It was agreed that both a film and written report would cover all the required audiences. A Trustee with relevant experience has offered to write an evaluation for the organisation and Officers will link Teatro Vivo with relevant film making professionals.

Conclusion and recommendation
Teatro Vivo were funded for their artistic programme and to successfully establish a model of work that could reach the community and voices of Lewisham in a different way to the current approaches undertaken by the Council. The delivery of outputs is of a high standard, with the organisation fulfilling their targets. There are no opportunities for significant financial savings or mergers. **Therefore, it is recommended that Teatro Vivo receive a pro-rata cut.**

Equalities groups disproportionately impacted by recommendations			
Ethnicity:		Pregnancy / Maternity:	
Gender:		Marriage & Civil Partnerships:	
Age:		Sexual orientation:	
Disability:		Gender reassignment:	
Religion / Belief:			
Commentary and potential mitigations:			
Teatro Vivo's programmes are open to all of Lewisham's residents and they proactively engage with local organisations to ensure that the work reaches all parts of the community; therefore it is not considered that any equalities groups will be disproportionately impacted.			