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| EIA Reference Number | 79 |
| Service, policy, or strategy | Annual Core Funding process for regularly funded Arts and Heritage organisations |
| Element(s) assessed | Introduction of a new decision making framework |
| Names of Assessors | Finance Officer, Auditor, Contracts officer |

Consider:

Was discrimination or disadvantage identified?

| Yes | No |
|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |

Was the service promoting equality?

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|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
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Could the service be improved in promoting equality?

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|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|

Are the customers' needs understood and met?

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| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
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Is there good evidence and/or reasoning to support the decisions on whether groups are/aren't affected?

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|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
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Does the summary report properly reflect the key findings of the assessment?

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|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
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Is the summary report clear and easy to understand?

| | |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
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If improvements have been identified, do they reflect and deal with the key findings?

| | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | N/A. |
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The decision is to: **Validate** **Not validate**

The reason/s for the decision are: *please give details below*

Validation given – information correct

Not validated – decision not to proceed as EIA incorrect

Not validated - screening error

Not validated – research/consultation error

Not validated – improvement error

Signed

Designation
Corporate Director

Name
Karen Brimacombe

Date
26 May 2011

Briefing Note

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|--|---|
| Name of service, policy, or strategy being considered | Annual Core Funding Process for Regularly Funded Arts and Heritage Organisations |
| Element(s) being considered | Introduction of a new Decision Making Framework |
| Date of meeting | 9/3/2011 |
| Name of assessors | Finance Officer, Auditor, Contracts Officer |

The Assessment

From 2012/13 it is proposed to adopt a new scoring system/funding criteria in relation to the professional arts and heritage organisations currently in receipt of annual core funding. Changes will bring the process into line with other council schemes, clarify funding decisions and performance monitoring and broaden potential applicants.

Assessment Findings

The new decision making framework will introduce a change to the current funding and monitoring process.

Justification

As there is a potential impact on organisations a scoping/screening EIA is considered appropriate.

Summary Report

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|---|---|
| <i>Name of service, policy, or strategy</i> | Annual Core Funding Process for Regularly Funded Arts and Heritage Organisations |
| <i>Element(s) being assessed</i> | Introduction of a new Decision Making Framework |
| <i>Date of assessment</i> | 9/3/2011 |
| <i>Name of assessors</i> | Finance Officer, Auditor, Contracts Officer |

The Assessment

The borough council currently provides annual core funding to a number of professional arts and heritage organisations within the borough, which meet council priorities. The borough council has long-standing relationships with these regularly funded organisations (RFOs) and within the current system and budget allocation there is no flexibility to offer funding outside these arrangements.

From 2012/13 it is proposed to adopt a new decision making framework (DMF) for core funded arts and heritage organisations, which will bring the process into line with other council schemes, clarify funding decisions and performance monitoring and broaden potential applicants.

Professional organisations will be assessed against a range of criteria, using a balanced scorecard approach. New performance monitoring will also be introduced. This will ensure that the council is more consistent in how it awards grant funding and should help to broaden those organisations able to access funding in the longer term.

Consultation and Research

Consultation has been undertaken with the Sport and Community teams who have already introduced similar systems. Discussion has also taken place with Hampshire County Council, which joint funds many of the organisations and operates its own balanced scorecard approach to funding. Prior to the introduction of the DMF in 2012/13 there will be on-going consultation with the existing RFOs as well as other non-funded professional organisations from the cultural sector.

Assessment Findings

The introduction of the new decision making framework should provide opportunities for new applicants to access council funding and support, and will therefore be more inclusive. It is anticipated that there will be benefit to the wider community and voluntary/amateur arts sector as they are users of cultural facilities and their programmes.

Actions Arising

None.