

Committee(s): Education Board	Dated: 05/02/2024
Subject: Updating the list of Cultural and Creative Learning Partners	Public
Which outcomes in the City Corporation's Corporate Plan does this proposal aim to impact directly?	3, 7 & 10
Does this proposal require extra revenue and/or capital spending?	No
If so, how much?	N/A
What is the source of Funding?	N/A
Has this Funding Source been agreed with the Chamberlain's Department?	N/A
Report of: Director of Community and Children's Services Department	For Discussion + Decision
Report author: James Tibbles, Cultural & Creative Learning Coordinator, Community and Children's Services Department	

Summary:

This report presents Members with key information relating to the existing relationships developed by the Education Strategy Unit (ESU) with Cultural and Creative Learning (CCL) partners who receive core funding from the City of London Corporation (CoLC), or are located in the Square Mile.

The report also asks Members to approve the update to the list of Cultural and Creative Learning Partners that are eligible to apply for financial support from the CCL budget for the academic year 2024/25 to deliver specific projects on behalf of pupils. As part of the recommendations, the report also proposes that schools should be able to apply to the School Visits Fund to visit any partner on the updated list.

Recommendations:

Members are asked to:

- Approve the new criteria and list of CCL partners, so that all the partners listed in **Appendix 1** are eligible to access financial support from the CCL budget for specific projects for children, based on an evaluated bidding system which Members approve.
- Approve updating the list of cultural destinations in the School Visits Fund portfolio to include all the partners in the new list.

Background:

1. The Education Board has oversight over the Cultural and Creative Learning Strategy 2019-23. The strategy commits to ensuring that every cultural institution in the City is a learning institution and every educational institution in the Family of Schools is a cultural institution; learners at all stages should have high quality exposure to creative industries to make informed career

choices, including careers in the arts, cultural, and hybrid sectors. These strategic goals require sustained partnership working between schools, and between schools and cultural and creative organisations, so that curriculum and progression pathways are enriched and informed by artists and creative industry professionals.

2. The City of London Corporation (CoLC) has a rich and varied set of cultural partners, all of whom attract new visitors to the City. Some of these partners are located within the Square Mile; other partners are located outside this locality but are funded by the CoLC.
3. The School Visits Fund currently provides grants for trips to 18 destinations, all of which are core-funded by the CoLC. This list was agreed by the Culture Mile Learning Steering Group in 2018 when the fund was first set up. The ESU has a strategic relationship with nine other partners that are not currently in the School Visits Fund portfolio.
4. In 2023, 27 partners were invited to apply for financial support from the CCL budget for projects running in the academic year 2023/24.
5. Dr Johnson's House has requested to join the list of partners to qualify for the School Visits Fund portfolio and be eligible for financial support from the CCL budget. Dr Johnson's House is located in the Square Mile and offers educational workshops for students of all ages.
6. Gresham College, of which the CoLC is a founding sponsor, has requested to join the list of partners for the School Visits Fund. The college has a dedicated Schools' Outreach Officer who is responsible for improving the educational provision of the college for school-aged children.
7. Temple Bar London, whose charitable objectives include Education in respect of the architecture and history of the City of London, has agreed to join our portfolio of partners. The premises of the trust are in the City of London, and it has a dedicated Education and Outreach Officer.

Current Position

8. Following the handover of the School Visits Fund from Culture Mile Learning to the ESU in June 2023, the ESU recommends that now is an opportune time to review the eligibility criteria for cultural partners to be included in our portfolio of destinations.
9. Next month in March 2024, the ESU will begin taking applications for financial support from the CCL budget. Ratifying the updated list of partners will ensure funding is available to support a wider range of projects and encourage a more competitive round of bidding for the academic year 2024/25.
10. The updated list will expand the range of opportunities available to school-aged children from disadvantaged backgrounds and ensure the CoLC continues to be an accessible, world-leading destination for cultural and creative learning.
11. To achieve this, the report suggests the following criteria for updating the list of Cultural and Creative Partners.

Partners must be:

- I. Core-funded by the City of London Corporation **or** have premises located in the Square Mile;
 - II. **And** have a dedicated learning lead or team, whose main purpose is to facilitate the learning and development of school-aged children on school trips or through dedicated projects.
12. Core-funded is taken to mean any partner that receives financial support for basic “core” organisational costs, such as salaries, equipment, utilities.
13. The new criteria would clarify eligibility for the ESU to include new partners who meet the criteria in CCL opportunities in the future.

Proposals

14. In considering the above, the report asks Members to choose one of the following options:
- I. Approve the new criteria to allow all new eligible partners to join the portfolio of cultural partners for **both** the School Visits Fund and access to funding from the CCL budget.
 - II. Keep the existing list of CCL partners who are eligible for financial support from the CCL budget and include only those in the portfolio of partners for the School Visits Fund. This option would exclude any prospective partners who have recently requested to join.
 - III. Keep all activity as usual, maintaining the separate lists of CCL partners and the School Visits Fund portfolio. This option would exclude any prospective partners who have recently requested to join.

Corporate & Strategic Implications

15. If approved, updating the list of CCL partners will ensure that Members continue achieving the strategic goal that every cultural institution should be a learning institution by widening access to cultural experiences in the City of London. Revising the criteria for CCL partnerships will enable more world-leading institutions to cultivate the creativity, skills and knowledge of the next generation in line with the CoLC’s Education, CCL and Skills strategies.

Conclusion

This report has presented Members with key information relating to the existing relationships the ESU has developed with CCL partners who receive core funding from the CoLC and/or who are located in the Square Mile.

The report has asked Members to approve the recommendation to update the list of CCL partners who are eligible to apply for financial support from the CCL budget for the academic year 2024/25. As part of the recommendations, the report also proposes that schools should be able to apply to the School Visits Fund to visit any partner on the updated list.

Appendices: Appendix 1: (Table of Cultural & Creative Learning Partners)

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Appendix 1: Table of Cultural & Creative Learning Partners

This table provides an overview of the proposed updated list of cultural partners. The new criteria in the report **Updating the list of Cultural and Creative Learning Partners** would allow all partners in this table to:

1. Apply for funding from the Cultural and Creative Learning budget for projects taking place for the academic year 2024/25 and have access to financial support in any future initiatives.
2. Be listed on our portfolio of destinations for the School Visits Fund.

Current School Visits Fund Destinations	CCL Project Partners currently not on the list for the School Visits Fund	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Barbican • Barbican Library • Billingsgate Roman House and Baths • The Charterhouse • Epping Forest • Guildhall Art Gallery • Guildhall Library • Guildhall School of Music and Drama • Hampstead Heath • Keats' House • New London Architecture • London Metropolitan Archives • London's Roman Amphitheatre • London Symphony Orchestra • The Monument • Museum of London • Museum of London Docklands • Tower Bridge • West Ham Park 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bank of England Museum • Barts Heritage • Small Business Research and Enterprise Centre • Goldsmiths' Centre • London Mithraeum Bloomberg Space • Museum of the Order of St John • St Paul's Cathedral • Salter's Institute 	
	Partners that currently do not have access to any funding from the Cultural and Creative Learning Fund	
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr Johnson's House • Gresham College • Temple Bar London