

Committee(s)	Dated:
Education Board Policy and Resources Committee	5 March 2020 19 March 2020
Subject: Review of funding to The Guildhall School Trust and the Guildhall School of Music & Drama for Scholarships	Public
Report of: The Chamberlain	For Decision
Report authors: Group Accountant GSMD	

Summary

This report reviews the City Corporation's payment of £30,000 per annum to the Guildhall School of Music and Drama (the School), as part of the implementation of the City Corporation's Grants Service Based Review. This payment has historically been used to fund scholarships. This report asks Members to agree to continue the annual payment for the financial years 2020/21 and 2021/22, and to review the payment again in two years' time in the context of the City Corporation's wider education offering.

Recommendations

Members are asked to:

- Agree to continue the City Corporation's payment of £30,000 to the School to fund scholarships for the 2020/21 and 2021/22 financial years subject to the School reporting back annually to the Education Board on the numbers of scholarships awarded and the impact of the grant.
- Agree to review the payment again after a further two years' funding in the context of the City Corporation's education priorities at the time.

Main Report

Background

1. A one-off grant payment of £30,000 for 2005/06 was approved by the Finance Grants Sub-Committee in May 2005 to The Guildhall School Trust (the Trust) (Charity No. 1082472, Company No. 04041975) to go towards the cost of UK and EU bursaries. A £30,000 payment has been made annually for scholarships since then, into the School's account via journal payment, rather than the Guildhall School Trust's account.
2. The annual payment has been used for scholarships, going into the School's scholarships account and was awarded as an unrestricted award to help attract the best artists to the School and London.

The City Corporation's Service Based Review

3. In March 2016, as part of the implementation of the City Corporation's Grants Service Based Review, the Policy and Resources Committee agreed that the responsibility for all on-going funding commitments from the Finance Grants Sub-Committee would be transferred to the most appropriate Committee and that the recipient Committee be requested to review each commitment. In this instance, the administration of the City Corporation's grant to the Trust for UK and EU bursaries was transferred to the Education Board. This grant (which is now paid directly to the School) will not be paid in future until it has been reviewed by the

Education Board and subject to a budget allocation by the Policy and Resources Allocation Sub-Committee.

Current position

4. The environment in which the School operates has changed significantly since 2005. Tuition fees for home students are now three times higher at £9,250 and the School has closer to 1,100 FTE when compared to around 800 in 2005. The School's competitors are in a position where they can offer both full fee and maintenance scholarships in order to attract and secure the best talent.
5. With Brexit likely to impact on recruitment from the EU, the need for Scholarship funding is greater than ever.
6. The School awards Scholarships of just over £2m to students in both fee and maintenance and awards based on merit. In a highly competitive market place any Scholarship offer is an important one.

Proposal

7. This report proposes that the City Corporation continues to make a payment to the School of £30,000 p.a. for scholarships for the financial years 2020/21 and 2021/22. After a further two years' of funding, it is proposed that the payment is reviewed again in the context of the City Corporation's education priorities at that time. This will allow for the effects of Brexit on enrolments to the School to be analysed which may also inform a decision on future funding.
8. It is also proposed that the School reports back annually to the Education Board on the number of Scholarships awarded and the impact of the £30,000 grant.

Implications

9. As the £30,000 payment is made from the City's Cash Finance account, and would continue to be made out of that account, there are no financial implications for the Education Board's budget.

Conclusion

10. This paper reviews the City Corporation's payment of £30,000 per annum to the School, as part of the implementation of the City Corporation's Service Based Review. It asks Members to agree to continue the annual payment, which has historically been used to fund scholarships for high achieving students, for the financial years 2020/21 and 2021/22, after which the payment will be reviewed again within the wider context of the City Corporation's education offering.

Appendices

- Appendix 1 – Number of scholarships awarded by the Guildhall School of Music & Drama per annum since 2011.
- Appendix 2 – Use and impact of the 2019/20 allocation

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