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| Committee(s) | Date(s): |
| Education Board | 18 March 2021 |
| Policy and Resources Committee | 8 April 2021 |
| Subject: Review of funding to the Guildhall School of Music & Drama for Scholarships | Public |
| Report of: The Principal, Guildhall School of Music & Drama | For Decision |
| Report authors: Group Accountant, Guildhall School Head of Development, Guildhall School | |

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 demonstrates the impact of the funds on the School and on the scholarship recipients in 20.21. Members are asked to agree to continue the annual payment for the financial years 2021/22 & 22/23 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:

- Review and approve as satisfactory the submission of the School's impact report on the use of the £30,000 grant in 20/21;
- Approve the grant continuation to 21/22 on the basis of this satisfactory submission.

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.

Current position

3. 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.
4. The Covid-19 pandemic and Brexit has had a negative impact on recruitment from the EU and around the world, making the need for Scholarship funding greater than ever. While the grant from the City is clearly targeted at students from the UK and will be a significant support to them, having this will enable the

School to free up funds from other donors to support other students in genuine need.

5. The School awards Scholarships of over £3m to students in both fee and maintenance awards based on merit. In a highly competitive market place any Scholarship offer is an important one.

Proposal

6. This report requests that the City Corporation approves the continuation of the 2-year funding commitment to the School of £30,000 p.a. for scholarships for the financial year 2021/22 following the submission of the impact report for 2020/21 (Appendix 1) as previously agreed by the Education Board in 2020.
7. After this further one year of funding, it is proposed that the payment is reviewed again in the context of the City Corporation's education priorities at that time.
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 Guildhall School's use of the £30,000 grant from the City's Cash for UK Scholarship support in 2020/21 and asks Members to agree to release the previously agreed grant for 2021/22, having received a satisfactory impact report on 2020/21. Next year the payment will be reviewed again within the wider context of the City Corporation's education offering.

Appendices

- Appendix 1 – Use and impact of the 2020/21 allocation & recommendations

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