

Committee(s): Education Board – for decision Policy & Resources Committee – for decision	Dated: 3 December 2021 16 December 2021
Subject: Review of funding to the Guildhall School of Music & Drama for scholarships	Public
Which outcomes in the City Corporation’s Corporate Plan does this proposal aim to impact directly?	3, 7, 8
Does this proposal require extra revenue and/or capital spending?	N (represents a continuation of existing funding)
If so, how much?	£30,000 pa
What is the source of Funding?	City’s Cash
Has this Funding Source been agreed with the Chamberlain’s Department?	Y/N
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 2021/22. Members are asked to note the report on the use of funds in 2021/22 and to agree to continue the annual payment for the financial years 2022/23 & 23/24.

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 2021/22;
- Approve the grant continuation to 2022/23 and 2023/24 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 awarded £3.465m in Scholarships (both fee and maintenance awards based on merit) for the 2021/22 Academic Year, and anticipated a similar level of need in 2022/23. In a highly competitive market place any Scholarship offer is an important one.

Proposal

6. This report requests that the City Corporation approves the renewal of the 2-year funding commitment to the School of £30,000 p.a. for scholarships for the financial years 2022/23 and 2023/24.
7. 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

8. 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

9. This paper reviews the Guildhall School's use of the £30,000 grant from the City's Cash for UK Scholarship support in 2021/22 and asks Members to approve the renewal of the grant for 2022/23 and 2023/24, subject to the receipt of a further impact report in Autumn 2022.

Appendices

- Appendix 1 – Use and impact of the 2021/22 allocation & recommendations

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