COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE LEVY NEIGHBOURHOOD FUND

New Diorama (ref. 19693)

Amount requested: £181,000 Amount recommended: £181,000

Purpose of grant request: Artists in City: The legacy of the successful NDT Broadgate project, this investment secures NDT's long-term future in City, supporting and connecting independent artist communities.

Type of cost: Revenue

Ward(s) benefitting: All wards with particular focus on Bishopsgate, Aldersgate,

Cripplegate and Lime Street.

The Applicant

New Diorama is a registered charity established in 1979 that has operated as a theatre and artist development hub since 2010. Based in Camden, New Diorama is internationally recognised for supporting the UK's best performance companies and artists and is the current winner of *The Stage's Fringe Theatre of the Year Award 2022*. New Diorama's work focuses on three areas - supporting and developing independent artists/companies, identifying, and investing in diverse new talent, organisational development and partnerships to advance the strength of the UK's independent arts sector. Commissioning high quality performances, emphasising opportunities for artists from excluded and under-represented backgrounds to maximise their artistic ambitions, including through tours and transfers. Engaging audiences and communities, including access to cultural opportunities in schools and working with elderly isolated residents.

Background and detail of proposal

In 2021, the CILNF supported New Diorama to open NDT Broadgate contributing £154,640 for a new creative and development hub in the City – established to offer a completely free space, as well as supporting independent artists, helping to drive their recovery in the year post lockdown. NDT Broadgate was very well received by key stakeholders – supported over 3,000 freelance artists helping to build and develop new skills. Commissioned five new projects that reached local audiences as well as digital audiences – enlivened the City as a place of creativity for residents, visitors and workers. Developed lasting connections with various organisations and networks, developing learning and potential long-term connections with independent creatives.

New Diorama is seeking £181,000 from the CILNF across two years towards the total project cost of £362,000 to support their "Artists in the City" work. The majority of the CILNF award is earmarked as a contribution towards artist commission costs. This project aims to build on the success and appetite of NDT Broadgate. The focus of this project will be three-fold – making the City the heart of New Diorama's

creative commissioning, establishing an annual artist development programme, sustaining and expanding a partnership network of key City organisations.

Each year, four innovative early-career theatre companies will be awarded a £30,000 development commission based in the City: connecting offers of free space, mentoring and development support from British Land, GSMD, Barbican and rehearsal space Theatre Deli. An annual knowledge skills intensive workshop for 40 artists living or working in the City (including wider digital sessions), promoting artists' roles as SME entrepreneurs. Building on NDT Broadgate partners and festival *The Knot* (with Black-led co-curators Uproot), invited guests across business communities will enable exploration of innovation, technology and growth to upskill artists and feed cross-sector collaboration. A two-year horizon for partnership development, beginning with GSMD, Culture Mile, Barbican and British Land - all of which are committed to long-term relationships to connect existing infrastructure with diverse independent artists, feeding community programmes, public performances and projects enlivening local places. Developing new structures and relationships cocurating commissions and development programmes, exploring new opportunities, and facilitating local networking.

This proposal is rooted in partnership-working across the City's communities, businesses, and cultural institutes. By NDT connecting them with the creative communities, focusing on creating structures and networks to facilitate new opportunities, directly led by local demand. Key organisations such as British Land and GSMD have fed into planning; alongside discussions with Culture Mile, with the anticipation that the formation of the Business Improvement District from April 2023 will instigate new projects, with NDT positioned to establish the partnerships and artist networks to respond to those needs. This project is intended as a move towards NDT having a permanent role within the City, supporting a growing independent artist community with the ambition that this work will continue beyond the end of this project – a central part of this activity will be creating the partnerships and grow the funding relationships that will sustain this work beyond this grant period. A performance measurement breakdown has been submitted, with an expected beneficiary reach of 6,462 people across the two years.

Funding for the remaining aspects of the project is being sought from additional funders, with applications currently being considered, plus utilising some of NDT's free reserves and the Theatre Tax Relief due from HMRC. Member consultation across benefit wards has been sought and is positive.

Financial Information

Income and expenditure were reduced significantly in 2021 due to lockdown. Turnover for 2022 and 2023 includes NDT Broadgate and an expansion of staff to support project delivery and executive leadership. The organisation is building healthy reserves which also consist of a designated creative and resilience reserve to help them to whether the turbulence of the next few years. There are no financial concerns regarding this organisation.

Year end as at 31 October 2022	2021 Signed Accounts £	2022 Forecast £	2023 Budget £
Income & expenditure:			
Income	616,415	1,202,364	1,080,389
Expenditure	(572,861)	(1,198,548)	(1,082,372)
Surplus/(deficit)	43,554	3,816	(1,983)
Reserves:			
Total restricted	50,756	2,000	2,000
Total unrestricted	144,446	197,018	195,035
Total reserves	195,202	199,018	197,035
Of which: free unrestricted	133,076	185,648	183,665
Reserves policy target	63,472	63,472	63,472
Free reserves over/(under) target	69,604	122,176	120,193

Recommendation

NDT Broadgate have a demonstratable track record of delivery and are well-positioned to build on the work they have achieved over the past year to support artists and creative art projects. Officers received a comprehensive evaluation report for the last CILNF funded project detailing the impact and legacy of the work. This is a well-constructed proposal, and it is clear collaboration is at the heart of this project, with wide benefit to the community and futureproofing built into aspects of this work. Your officer recommends full funding as set out below:

£181,000 over two years (£90,400; £90,600) towards Artists in the City-supporting and connecting independent artist communities.

COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE LEVY NEIGHBOURHOOD FUND

The Corporation Church of St Paul in London (ref. 19018)

Amount requested: £362,044

Amount recommended: £362,044

Purpose of grant request: To support the fit-out costs of a free-to-enter memorial space at St Paul's Cathedral, with wellbeing support - delivering hope and resilience for people of all faiths and none.

Type of cost: Capital & Revenue

Ward(s) benefitting: All Wards

The Applicant

The Corporation Church of St Paul in London (St Paul's) is an historic and central part of the City of London. Before Covid-19, St Paul's received 1.9 million visitors per annum, with thousands more using their outside spaces. Around 5,000 people attended their services weekly, with over 50,000 adults and children participating in their public learning programme and Music Outreach initiative. St Paul's plays an important ceremonial role in the City and much of the Cathedral's public programming is delivered in partnership with the Corporation, including Culture Mile, City Open House Day and free access on Lord Mayor's day. The work of St Paul's is supported by over 50 Livery companies.

Background and detail of proposal

The applicant is seeking funding to contribute towards the fit-out costs (£300,000) for a new memorial space that has been created in the Middlesex Chapel at St Paul's Cathedral. This is the first redevelopment of its kind in 150 years at the Cathedral and will provide a flexible memorial space that is free for everyone to enter, regardless of faith. The applicant is also seeking a contribution over two years towards the staffing costs and training in mental health awareness for a pastoral team that will support visitors to this memorial space (£34,190; £27,854).

In response to Covid-19, St Paul's have a focus on attracting visitors who may not have previously engaged with the cathedral and on improving the mental wellbeing of communities. A focal point of this work is the creation of the 'Remember Me' memorial in the Middlesex Chapel, which is intended to provide solace for thousands of people over the coming years. This memorial space was born out of the loss experienced by over 16,000 people who have contributed their stories to an online platform of remembrance hosted by St Paul's which is dedicated to those who died of Covid-19. The work that the CILNF is being asked to fund will transform the Middlesex Chapel into a memorial space that can provide a physical home for the

stories of loss and remembrance currently held online by St Paul's. This space will be flexible in design, so that it can also become a space in which to mark other global or local events of significance. The applicant does not require any RIBA permissions to conduct this work and have already secured the internal approvals necessary from the Church of England to make the proposed changes to the Middlesex Chapel. St Paul's have already raised £2.7m to pay for the necessary building works and are now seeking a contribution from the CILNF for the fit-out costs of this space, budgeted at £1.2m of which they have already raised c.£700k.

Should the applicant be able to secure the funding necessary, they anticipate being able to open the memorial space in August 2023. St Paul's has a longstanding partnership in place with the Daily Mail newspaper: a partnership that has supported the fundraising campaign and will provide a lot of publicity for the opening of this space. It is anticipated that this memorial space will be a significant driver of footfall into the City as people come from all over the UK to visit this new space dedicated to the lives lost to Covid-19.

The other key element of this ask for funding is the pastoral care and support that will be present at the memorial space. St Paul's has an existing adult learning team and the need for this pastoral care has been identified through their work on mental health over the years: as is common with many places of worship, regardless of faith, the space that they provide for contemplation and reflection can often draw people who are in need of emotional support. St Paul's recognised this many years ago and as a result, their chaplains and vergers are all trained to provide pastoral care. With the opening of this new memorial space, it is anticipated that the need for pastoral care at the cathedral will increase and so the applicant is seeking support from the CILNF to fund this additional provision. St Paul's has partnerships in place with charities such as Mind to ensure that the care and support they can provide at the Cathedral meets an externally recognised standard. Whilst this provision is important, St Paul's recognises the limitations in support that they can provide through ad-hoc pastoral care and the cathedral has forged good links with mental health and care organisations to whom they can signpost people in acute need. The in-situ pastoral care will be complemented by a digital wellbeing toolkit providing music, advice and spiritual (non-proselytising) content.

It will be difficult to evidence the depth of the impact on City communities of this work. Given that the memorial space is open and free to all, as is the pastoral care and digital wellbeing toolkit, it is not possible (and arguably not appropriate) for St Paul's to capture detailed personal information about every individual that finds benefit from this provision. The monitoring framework proposed by St Pauls to track the outcomes of this funding will only be able to capture relatively rudimentary data based on footfall at the memorial, though there is an intention to capture more detailed data from feedback about the digital wellbeing toolkit.

Financial Information

The impact of the pandemic on the finances of St Paul's has been significant: this is an organisation that relies heavily on visitor numbers to drive income. The applicant cut their staff numbers by 25% in 2021 to reduce expenditure, whilst their income was bolstered by a £3m grant from the Cultural Recovery Fund. They are forecasting quite a significant leap in income for 2022 as they have benefitted from

better-than-expected visitor numbers in 2022. The budget for 2023 remains cautious and predicts a deficit for 2023, albeit one that can be absorbed comfortably in their current financial position.

St Paul's operates a reserves policy that states the free reserves target is to be equivalent to six months operating expenditure with flexibility to go as low as holding three months in reserves. Whilst they ate significantly into their reserves during the pandemic, the upward trajectory of their income is very reassuring and the applicant faces no immediate financial danger.

The applicant has stated that they will subsume the ongoing revenue costs for the pastoral care elements of this application into their annual running costs from 2024 onward.

Year end as at 31 August	2021 Signed Accounts £	2022 Forecast £	2023 Budget £				
				Income & expenditure:			
				Income	7,322,000	11,190,028	10,523,519
Expenditure	(9,504,000)	(11,925,775)	(11,975,163)				
Gains/(losses)	1,869,000	0	0				
Surplus/(deficit)	(313,000)	(735,747)	(1,451,644)				
Reserves:							
Total endowed	7,703,000	7,703,000	7,703,000				
Total restricted	12,966,000	13,157,238	12,370,280				
Total unrestricted	24,959,000	24,032,015	23,367,329				
Total reserves	45,628,000	44,892,253	43,440,609				
Of which: free unrestricted	4,841,000	3,914,015	3,249,329				

Recommendation

Funding this application will provide valuable support to an institution of huge national significance that is located within the City. The provision of this all-faiths memorial space in the City would serve as a congregational point and community asset. The additional pastoral care will help drive greater benefit behind the purpose of the physical infrastructure being put in place. This is an application that meets the purposes of the CILNF and is perfectly suitable for funding.

£362,044 over two years (£334,190; £27,854) to support the fit-out costs of a free-to-enter memorial space at St Paul's Cathedral, with wellbeing support delivering hope and resilience for people of all faiths and none.