

<b>Committee(s)</b>	<b>Dated:</b>
Education Board	17 June 2024
Policy and Resources Committee	11 July 2024
<b>Subject:</b> Review of funding to the Guildhall School of Music & Drama for Scholarships	<b>Public</b>
<b>Report of:</b> The Principal, Guildhall School of Music & Drama	<b>For Decision</b>
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### 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 2023/24. Members are asked to agree to continue the annual payment for the financial years 2024/25 and 25/26 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 2023/24, in particular noting Appendix II, which outlines how social mobility is embedded in Guildhall School's scholarships policy;
- Approve the grant continuation to 2024/25 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. This number is set to continue to grow as part of the School's strategic plan. 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 School awarded £3.7m in Scholarships (both fee and maintenance awards based on merit) for the 2023/24 Academic Year, and anticipates an even greater demand for support in 2024/25. In a highly competitive market place any Scholarship offer is an important one.

### **Proposal**

5. 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 2024/25 and 2025/26.
6. 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**

7. 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**

8. This paper reviews the Guildhall School's use of the £30,000 grant from the City's Cash for UK Scholarship support in 2023/24 and asks Members to approve the renewal of the grant for 2024/25 and 2025/26, subject to the receipt of a further impact report in June 2025.

### **Appendices**

- Appendix I Use and impact of the 2023/24 allocation & recommendations
- Appendix II (new) How social mobility is embedded in Guildhall School's scholarships policy.

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