

## SOUTH CAMBRIDGESHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

**REPORT TO:** Portfolio Holder  
**AUTHOR:** Arts Development Officer

29 September 2006

### ARTS CAPITAL GRANT AID 2006-2007

#### Purpose

1. To recommend capital grant aid for Wysing Arts Centre, Bourn, for the completion of phase 1 of major building works.

#### Effect on Corporate Objectives

Village Life	Whilst not directly addressing this year's priority for affordable homes the proposal sets out to facilitate a more attractive living and leisure environment for residents.
Sustainability	<p>The proposal relates indirectly to the development of quality of design at Northstowe and urban fringe developments, a priority for 2006-2007, in as much as Wysing facilities and artists can contribute to the public art strategy for these developments.</p> <p>The values and principles that underpin the arts and sustainable development are synonymous given both are dependent upon public engagement and participation and both concern quality of life issues. As such, they also reflect the importance of the social, economic and environmental well being of local communities.</p>
Partnership	The partnership between the Council and a wide range of other supporters, including Arts Council England, East, the business community, and charitable trusts, is crucial to the success of this venture.

#### Background

2. This report refers to phase 1 of the building works at Wysing Arts Centre as referred to in the Chief Executive's report to Cabinet dated 10 February 2005 (see attached) which endorsed the project.
3. The Council's contribution of £205,000 for phase 1 was included in the Capital Programme for the period 2001-2005. In 2002-2003 the organisation was awarded £60,000. A further £70,000 was committed in 2003-2004. The balance of £75,000 was awarded in 2004-2005.
4. The total budget for the capital scheme (including phase 2) is now estimated to be in the region of £3,000,000.
5. The other principle funders of the project are the Arts Council of England (£905,000), local donors and trusts and charities.
6. Wysing Arts Centre is now within £40,000 of the £1,500,000 required for phase 1 of the works and is working to raise this before contractors start work in October 2006.

7. The portfolio holder for community services visited the venue on Monday 18 September and met the director and assistant director of the centre.

### **Proposal**

8. The proposal is to earmark a grant of £20,000, representing 50% of the shortfall, in order to facilitate the completion of works.

### **Financial information**

9. The current balance of the Arts Capital budget for 2006-2007 is £82,000.

### **Recommendation**

10. That the portfolio holder recommends to Cabinet an award of £20,000 towards the cost of phase one of works at Wysing Arts Centre, subject to the organisation securing £20,000 of funding from other sources by the end of October 2006. This takes the total grant award for phase one to £225,000.

**Background:** Portfolio Holder meeting with staff of Wysing Arts Centre with Arts Development Officer in attendance.

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