

Decision under Delegated Powers

Officer Requesting Decision

Kevin Stanley – Leisure Contract and Business Manager

Officer Making the Decision

Sylvia Wright – Head of Leisure and Culture

Recommendation

To approve the renewal of the Service Level Agreement (SLA) between Charnwood Borough Council and Charnwood Arts for the period of 4 years from 1st April 2022 to 31st March 2026


Reason

To ensure that the current SLA with Charnwood Arts is renewed so that the Council's funding commitment to the organisation for the delivery of arts-based activity in the borough is maintained.

Authority for Decision

Section 8.1 of the Council's Constitution delegates authority to heads of service to take such action as may in his or her opinion be necessary or appropriate in connection with all operational management matters for those functions and service areas for which he or she has responsibility and persons and/or property for which he or she and his or her service has responsibility (items (i) and (ii) on page 8-1).

Decision and Date


14.10.2022

Background

A Service Level agreement (SLA) with Charnwood Arts has existed between then and the Council for many years. The Council has a commitment to the support of the arts by way of annual funding to Charnwood Arts.

The service offered through this Agreement will contribute towards the Council's Strategic Aims and Objectives, in particular "Healthy Communities" and "A thriving Economy" set out within the Council's Corporate Strategy 2020 – 2024.

The work of Charnwood Arts provides opportunities for participation in social, leisure and cultural activities that engage with all communities, nurturing our young people and celebrating the rich cultural mix of the Borough.

Charnwood Arts is a registered charity and a company limited by guarantee and managed by a voluntary Management Committee. The Councils SLA with Charnwood Arts enables them to retain its Arts Council status allowing it to draw down funding.

Charnwood Arts has NPO status (National Portfolio Organisation) with Arts Council England (ACE), which is subject to review and agreement annually on a three-year funding cycle. (This is currently being reviewed and may become a four-year funding cycle in the next round from 2023 onwards). It is important to note that for Charnwood Arts to have NPO status the work of Charnwood Arts is required to be a priority for the Council in the delivery of its community arts programme. This SLA reflects this relationship and the linkages with the museum and Council stakeholders in the delivery of corporate objectives.

Charnwood Arts were successful in receiving £134,183 in ACE funding for 2022-23, c8 times the Council grant of £17,100.

Comments from Legal Services

Previously legal services have provided advice on elements of the SLA document which have been incorporated into the document, the 2022 – 2026 SLA remains unchanged from the previous agreement other than the level of funding has been reduced.

Comments from HR

Not required

Financial Implications

The Council has made provision within its 2022-23 budgets for the funding of Charnwood Arts to the sum of £17,100 within T190 D0832 budget.

Risk Management

Risk Identified	Likelihood	Impact	Risk Management Actions Planned
If funding is withheld, the artistic capacity of Charnwood Arts will be limited with potential positive	Low	Med	The SLA clearly states the relationship between the Council and Charnwood Arts and has adequate safeguards built in to ensure the Council is receiving good value for money against its

Risk Identified	Likelihood	Impact	Risk Management Actions Planned
impacts reduced			funding.

Key Decision: No

Background Papers: Copy of new Service Level Agreement

