

Overview: Portsmouth Creative Industries / New Theatre Royal Portsmouth :Annex 1

Project Description

This submission builds on the design feasibility funded by PUSH in 2009/10 to which it awarded 700K. This project will form the basis of a planning application which will be submitted in January. Subject to planning funding is in place to proceed with the enhanced creative campus and theatre project in summer 2011 the project is due to be completed in 2013.

The vision for the overall project is to deliver what might be considered to be the equivalent of a teaching hospital for the Arts and Creative Industries – this new proposal seeks to include an additional element, a ‘Creation Centre’, in the planned development to enhance outcomes. Overall, it will provide a first class performance venue for the community and support a range of high quality creative industry training and business start up opportunities. NTR will be one of the key hubs in the creative industry workforce development network PUSH has just received £50 000 Learning and Skills Improvement Service funding to establish.

Project ambitions include the provision of physical facilities which enable amongst other things:

- Skills Development across creative industries at levels 2 and above
- New foundation degree programmes for creative practitioners
- Much improved DDA access to existing Theatre
- Significant increase in community engagement in the arts
- Support for entrepreneurship and new business start ups in the creative sector.

Key outputs also include: 10 incubation companies; 85 gallery exhibitions by 2013; 100% increase in CIBAS referrals from across Hampshire.

The current funding of £21.5m will secure the delivery of the creative campus and the basic theatre refurbishment. However an additional £2m (including £500k from PUSH) would enable the proposed Creation Centre to proceed when the project goes on site. The potential for community engagement, collaboration with FE on the delivery of level 2 and above training initiatives, and the production capabilities of the Theatre will be constrained if this element of the project is not included – a full outline of expected benefits is below. The cost of including this creation centre at a later stage in the project phase is likely to be an additional £1m

The Proposed PUSH funding of £500k, alongside developer contribution of £500k and reclaimed Vat of £500k (arising from a restructuring of the funding of the project) mean that with PUSH support the Creation Centre can be introduced into the project. A Further £500k in equipment savings will also be required but these can be accommodated without jeopardizing project objectives

Funding Required: £500K.

Existing project has secured funding of £23m to from University of Portsmouth, New Theatre Royal (NTR) and Heritage Lottery Fund, alongside £700k from PUSH. Currently a 2m funding gap exists for the enhanced project including the 'Creation Centre'. It is proposed this is filled with £500k PUSH funding, £500k from sale of space to site developer, £500k reclaimed VAT from restructuring of procurement and £500k savings. If the project is supported by PUSH the Creation Centre will be delivered as part of the project due to go on site 2011. .

Summary of expected outputs/outcomes from New Theatre Royal's Director

The planned Creation Centre will provide:

- 1 Enhanced space to permit the NTR to become a regional centre for learning in offstage skills training and heritage crafts (level 2 and 3)
- 2 A production space for new creatives. NTR will play a major role in developing the MADE IN PORTSMOUTH brand – to nurture and provide opportunities for creative businesses to develop in the city. In 2010 we initiated a programme of Associate Artists (4 professional companies plus 2 emerging companies that will be mentored by NTR and the Associate Artists) This will expand with the Creative Centre as for them the major attraction is a space to develop their work and therefore more performing arts businesses will be developed. It would also offer 'incubation space' for companies to develop their artistic work (supported by in-house marketing and other advice).
- 4 A community space to allow the local community to interact with professional companies, to host a workshop programmes for schools/colleges, and a home where a 'junior' company would be mentored by the more well established associate companies. It would allow these young people to learn theatre skills – technical/artistic/administrative/marketing – thus complementing the City's ambitions to develop creative businesses.
- 5 A Centre for the development of volunteers – in partnership with the University and other theatres we propose to explore accredited learning and CPD for corporates and volunteers providing both a source of funding and increased opportunities for volunteering.
- 6 A Centre for heritage digital stories. NTR is and will create Living Memories – stories from the past which we have turned into pieces of theatre/film/dance/music. Each year NTR will explore a key heritage moment/event/place for Portsmouth and the community will create new work