



Scottish Arts Council

CFO name: Edinburgh International Book Festival	Reference number (GMS): G200801042		
Lead officer's recommendation			
<p>Summarise your reasons for assessing the application as you have (drawing out the strengths and weaknesses of the proposal and highlighting any specific risks):</p> <p>The Edinburgh International Book Festival (EIBF) has a clear vision for mature expansion and consolidation of its core audience, whilst building on its strengths to expand plans in the fields of internationalism and education. The budget shows incremental increases not only in expenditure to fund these plans, but in consolidated and new income streams to maintain and strengthen its solid financial base. Rather than seeing the EIBF as being a victim of its own success and reducing its funding, the opportunity should be seized to support it as it uses its worldwide reputation and respect to strengthen core operations and expand its reach towards children, young people and the rest of the world.</p> <p>The current Chair, the Director and her team have overseen phenomenal growth and success in recent years, and it is a testament to their energy, vision and commitment that they choose not to rest on their laurels. EIBF represents a paradigm of the outstanding social, cultural, and economic returns provided by public investment in the nation's Literature. Public subsidy per capita for every visitor to Charlotte Square amounts to a staggering fifty pence; even <i>without</i> taking into account the immeasurably profound cultural enrichment EIBF brings to the life and well-being of Scotland, such a statistic should be viewed with the humility and gratitude it deserves.</p>			
Assessment:	High x	Medium	Low
<p>Areas of concern:</p> <p>Identify areas of concern drawn from the assessment which will inform the funding agreement for 2006/7 and future agreements / 12 month development plan (as applicable)</p> <p>Scottish Arts Council Literature Advisor: <i>However, some new activities are proposed: mounting an autumn season and, more ambitiously, introducing international writers not yet published in this country and launching a translations series. While commending the boldness of these latter initiatives, I believe they need to be carefully dovetailed with (at the very least) firm publishing plans, and will therefore depend for success on the development of the proposed Centre for Literary Translation and participation by named publishers. This is likely to be slow burn.</i></p>			

Development issues:	
New developments detailed in PC7 ¹ would form the basis of future funding agreement targets.	
Lead Officer:	Date:
Print name: Aly Barr	

Decision and authorisation			
CFO name: Edinburgh International Book Festival		Reference number (GMS): G200801042	
Stage 2: Head of Department recommendation within the context of the sector ecosystem			
Category for support	Essential	Important	Partial
	x		
Based on the lead officer's assessment and match with the department ecosystem, summarise your reasons for assessing the application as you have (drawing out the strengths and weaknesses of the organisation and highlighting any specific risks). Identifying development areas.			
As per Officer's assessment			
Decision authorised:			
Head of Department		Date 2 December 2005	By 11 November 2005
Print name: Dr Gavin Wallace			

Stage 3: Head of Department recommendation within the context of the Corporate Synthesised scenario			
CFO name: Edinburgh International Book Festival		Reference number (GMS): G200801042	
Category for support	Foundation		
<p>The Edinburgh International Book Festival represents a paradigm of the outstanding social, cultural, and economic returns provided by public investment in the nation's Literature, and it occupies a paramount position in the wider cultural life of Scotland as one of the nation's most outstandingly successful arts organisations. An uplift in core funding is essential to allow EIBF to continue to build upon its prodigious achievements in the context of it now operating very close to full capacity, and to avoid the risk of stasis.</p>			
<p>Recommendation authorised:</p> <p>Head of Department Print name: Gavin Wallace, Head of Literature</p>			<p>Date 14 February 2006</p> <p>By 14 February 2006</p>

Stage 4: Group Heads			
Recommendation and authorisation			
CFO name: Edinburgh International Book Festival		Reference number (GMS): G200801042	
Category for support	Foundation		
<p>Agree with the recommendation for Foundation status with and proposed increase in grant for 07/08</p>			
<p>Decision authorised:</p> <p>Group Head Print name: Jim Tough</p>			<p>Date 14.02.06</p> <p>By 14 February 2006</p>

Stage 5: Creative Arts Committee			
Recommendation and authorisation			
CFO name: Edinburgh International Book Festival		Reference number (GMS):	
Category for support	Foundation		
Agreed as per Managers/Group Heads recommendations			
Committee Chair Print name: Jane Jeffrey (Vice Chair)		Date 24 February 2006	

Stage 6: Council			
Decision			
CFO name: Edinburgh International Book Festival		Reference number (GMS):	
Category for support	Foundation		
Approved Foundation funding as per Managers/Group Heads and Committee recommendation			
Chairman Print name: Richard Holloway		Date 28 February 2006	

¹ PC7 Literature is at the very heart of education, and EIBF is truly a festival of learning. There are no activities undertaken that are not educational at some level, be it implicitly or explicitly. Participants learn about and also *through* literature in a profoundly creative way. The EIBF programme for children, young children and school children is a prime example of this. Participation by these groups has increased and diversified. Events specifically designed for babies and for teenagers have also brought in age ranges on either side of the more traditional 5-12 year-old audience. In 2005, 10,929 schoolchildren attended the schools programme, an increase of 26% on 2004. Many new participants were from geographically distant or socially deprived areas which benefited from the new Bus Fund through which 90 schools were assisted to attend the Festival. The Festival is also at the vanguard of implementing and developing integrated arts education policies and practises (Scottish Arts Council Business Plan), having been chosen as one of three organisations to pilot the Scottish Arts Council integrated education project. This has led the Festival to appoint an Education Officer and develop an education strategy. New elements range from professional development for staff and writers to crucial education work via the website. The Stepping Stones project, for example, with its associated user-friendly print and web recommendations, leads people from the familiar to unfamiliar on a reading journey of discovery. A constant refrain in feedback from authors and audiences alike is the stimulation of the learning experiences offered, and the pleasure and excitement of those experiences.