



CFO name: Edinburgh Printmakers	Reference number (GMS): G200801085
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Lead officer's recommendation

Summarise your reasons for assessing the application as you have (drawing out the strengths and weaknesses of the proposal and highlighting any specific risks):

Edinburgh Printmakers has an important role to play in supporting artists and increasing participation in the arts. It provides artists with space, facilities and technical expertise to research and develop new work. It has an active research programme and is committed to developing new collaborations with artists who are not experienced in making prints. The organisation has developed an effective partnership with other print studios in Scotland to develop new markets for prints/multiples. It generates significant income through a clear sales development strategy.

Edinburgh Printmakers has been working with Stills and Edinburgh Sculpture Workshop to establish the innovative RE:CREATE programme. This city wide audience development programme has enabled the organisations to attract new users and to increase participation in their programmes. RE:CREATE has been particularly effective in targeting people who have been socially and/ or culturally excluded.

Edinburgh Printmakers is an effectively managed organisation that has a committed Board and a highly skilled staff team. The organisation has worked hard to establish an improved financial position and it generates significant income from sales.

Strengths

- Excellent support to artists
- Commitment to creative and professional development for artists
- Strong studio programme with expert tutors/ printmakers
- Ability to attract leading artists to collaborate on the development of new work
- Strong partnerships – RE:CREATE and CEL
- Respected internationally for innovation in print
- Focus on increasing participation in the arts
- Strong Board and effective management

Weaknesses

- Strategic programmes such as RE:CREATE are dependent on time limited project funding
- Poor location which impacts on sales
- Studio does not have the capacity to meet demand and accessibility needs to be improved

Risks

- Dependency on time limited project funding for key developments that support core business
- Reliance on sales to cover core costs

Assessment:	High	Medium	Low
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Areas of concern:

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)

Development issues:

Identify development issues drawn from the assessment which will inform the funding agreement for 2006/7 and future agreements / 12 month development plan (as applicable)

Lead Officer: _____ Date: 2/12/05

Print name: Amanda Catto

Stage 2

Decision and authorisation			
CFO name: Edinburgh Printmakers		Reference number (GMS): G200801085	
Stage 2: Head of Department recommendation within the context of the sector ecosystem			
Category for support		Important	
<p>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.</p> <p>Edinburgh Printmakers is recognised as a leader in the field of print, nationally and internationally. It gives artists excellent support and works with some of Scotland's leading figures. The organisation provides important opportunities for creative and professional development and encourages artists of all ages, abilities and experiences to work with it. The organisation has developed an important focus on education and audience development with key partners in the City of Edinburgh. The RE:CREATE programme offers significant potential to increase participation in the arts across the partner organisations (EP, Stills and Edinburgh Sculpture Workshop).</p> <p>Edinburgh Printmakers generates an important income for artists from sales of work and it has a leading role in the development of CEL (Contemporary Editions Limited) which will develop new opportunities for the promotion of prints/multiples in Scotland and beyond.</p> <p>The organisation is well managed and effective in achieving its plans.</p> <p>The Visual Arts Department is convinced that Edinburgh Printmakers has an important and distinctive role to play in Scotland. It also welcomes the strategic approach that EP has developed with partners in Edinburgh. Within an optimum scenario the Department would recommend that a strategic uplift is awarded to enable the organisation to continue with its ambitious plans.</p> <p>If there is no new investment in the visual arts then the Department is not convinced it should apply a policy of misery for all. It has proposed that within a standstill scenario it should make decisions that would release funding for strategic developments across the infrastructure - such as King Street/ Briggait in Glasgow, Peacock Visual Arts, Aberdeen and the Pier Arts Centre, Orkney.</p> <p>In this context it is recommended that funding for Edinburgh Printmakers might be discontinued. This is a decision that is financially driven and is not a comment on the organisation's performance or ability to meet Scottish Arts Council aims. The reasons for targeting Edinburgh Printmakers in this way is that (a) there is still a lack of agreed strategy for developing the Visual Arts in Edinburgh and (b) the development of King Street/ Briggait will support Glasgow Print Studio, which is an organisation that offers a similar range of facilities to Edinburgh Printmakers (c) the development of Peacock Visual Arts and DCA will improve the range of facilities that these organisations can offer. While it is recognised that these organisations are unlikely to have the capacity to support artists who would be displaced if EP were to close there would still be, in Scotland, a level of provision for people wishing to develop skills in fine art printmaking.</p> <p>The implications of this decision are significant and any decision needs discussion and consideration of impacts over time. It would be impossible for Edinburgh Printmakers to continue to operate without core funding from the Scottish Arts Council and closure would seriously impact on staff, artists/tutors and the wide range of people that the organisation works with.</p>			

One option to avoid a complete closure would be to consider whether there is any scope for a new approach to production/ participation in the City that would see Edinburgh Sculpture Workshop, Edinburgh Printmakers and Stills accommodated on the same site/sharing back office functions etc. While there would be a need for some increase in core funding to support such an option it might prove more cost effective over time.	
Decision authorised: Head of Department Print name: Amanda Catto	Date 2/12/05

Stage 3: Head of Department recommendation within the context of the Corporate Synthesised scenario			
CFO name: Edinburgh Printmakers		Reference number (GMS): G200801085	
Category for support		Flexible	
<p>Edinburgh Printmakers can make a significant contribution to the Scottish Arts Council's new priorities. The organisation is recognised as a leader in the field of print, nationally and internationally. It gives artists excellent support and works with some of Scotland's leading figures. The organisation provides important opportunities for creative and professional development and encourages artists of all ages, abilities and experiences to work with it. Edinburgh Printmakers generates an important income for artists from sales of work and it has a leading role in the development of CEL (Contemporary Editions Limited) which will develop new opportunities for the promotion of prints/multiples in Scotland and beyond. The organisation is well managed and effective in achieving its plans.</p> <p>There has been some consideration of whether Edinburgh Printmakers should be awarded Foundation funding. However, this is not being recommended because of the current situation for the Visual Arts in Edinburgh. There is a continued lack of approved strategy for the Visual Arts and Crafts and no indication that there will be additional investment from the City of Edinburgh Council. It is important that this situation is improved so that provision for artists can be secured in the long term. Within this context it appears sensible to maintain the Edinburgh Printmaker's current position while the Scottish Arts Council continues discussions with the key partners. There is also an opportunity to review the capital needs of the production spaces in the City and to see if a more cost effective and sustainable solution might be possible.</p> <p>For the reasons outlined above it is recommended that Edinburgh Printmakers is awarded flexible, artist led funding for three years from 2007/08 at near standstill level.</p>			
Recommendation authorised: Head of Department Print name: Amanda Catto		Date 15/2/06	By 14 February 2006

Stage 4: Group Heads			
Recommendation and authorisation			
CFO name: Edinburgh Printmakers		Reference number (GMS): G200801085	
Category for support		Flexible	
Agree with the recommendation for flexible funding status from 07/08 pending a clearer strategic picture in Edinburgh.			
Decision authorised: Group Head Print name: Jim Tough		Date 14 Feb 06	By 14 February 2006

Stage 5: Creative Arts Committee			
Recommendation and authorisation			
CFO name: Edinburgh Printmakers Workshop		Reference number (GMS): G200801085	
Category for support		Flexible	
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 Printmakers		Reference number (GMS): G200801085	
Category for support		Flexible	
Approved flexible funding as per Managers/Group Heads and Committee recommendations			
Chairman Print name: Richard Holloway		Date 28 February 2006	

End of Assessment