



Scottish Arts Council

CFO name: Scottish Poetry Library	Reference number (GMS): G200801108		
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 Scottish Poetry Library (SPL) has achieved, and will continue to achieve, outstandingly high-quality work in Scotland, and abroad. It is well run, innovative and dynamic, and this is clearly reflected in its future planning and strategies. It has a high per capita subsidy ratio of c£23 but actively seeks and secures non-public funds, excelling current Scottish Arts Council funding agreement targets. The SPL Board has also identified, as our specialist advisor notes, that structures may need some reform.</p> <p>Scottish Arts Council Literature Advisor 1: <i>"The SPL presents a dilemma. Without increased and stabilised core funding, its activities will contract and value for money will decline. That it needs to be sustained as a unique national resource and local promoter is irrefutable."</i></p> <p>Scottish Arts Council Literature Advisor 2: <i>It is clear that if the Scottish Poetry Library is to perform its task as advocate and first port of call for poetry in Scotland, an increase in staffing will be needed. Equally important, though, is the need to release the SPL from the constraints of short-term funding. Otherwise the ingenious and visionary team at the SPL will have to go on improvising instead of enacting the strategies which they are clearly capable of putting into effect.</i></p> <p>As mentioned several times in this assessment, key staff posts that are vital to its developmental and operational needs are part or fully funded by non-recurrent project funds and it is recommended that these costs be included in future core funds.</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>Key staff posts that are vital to its developmental and operational needs are part or fully funded by non-recurrent project funds and it is recommended that these costs be included in future core funds. Losing its Marketing Officer, Education Officer, Audience Development Officer and Library Assistant would seriously curtail development and future plans.</p>			

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)	
The SPL is heavily reliant on project funding and the Board is recommending a separate meeting to look at wider issues affecting the SPL, including its own structure and development, perhaps facilitated professionally.	
Lead Officer:	Date: 1 December 2005
Print name: Aly Barr	

Decision and authorisation			
CFO name: Scottish Poetry Library		Reference number (GMS): G200801108	
Stage 2: Head of Department recommendation within the context of the sector ecosystem			
Category for support	Essential	Important	Partial
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.			
The recommendation should clearly reflect the assessment. As per Officer's assessment.			
Decision authorised:			
Head of Department Print name: Dr Gavin Wallace		Date 1 December 2005	By 11 November 2005

Stage 3: Head of Department recommendation within the context of the Corporate Synthesised scenario			
CFO name: Scottish Poetry Library		Reference number (GMS): G200801108	
Category for support	Foundation		
<p>The Scottish Poetry Library has achieved, and continues to achieve, outstandingly high-quality work in Scotland, and internationally. It is exceptionally well-run, innovative and dynamic, and this is clearly reflected in its future planning and strategies. It continues to excel its current Scottish Arts Council funding agreement targets. The SPL Board has also identified that structures may need some reform, according well with the more general structural reform proposed in the sector as a whole. Foundation funding and consolidation of recurrent project-funding are therefore essential to future stability and continued growth and success.</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: Scottish Poetry Library		Reference number (GMS): G200801108	
Category for support	Foundation		
<p>Agree with the recommendation for Foundation status with and proposed increase in grant for 07/08 contingent upon lead officer approval of the proposed integration of project funding activity into core business.</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: Scottish Poetry Library		Reference number (GMS): G200801108	
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: Scottish Poetry Library		Reference number (GMS): G200801108	
Category for support	Foundation		
Approved Foundation funding as per Managers/Group Heads and Committee recommendation			
Chairman Print name: Richard Holloway		Date 28 February 2006	