



Scottish Arts Council

CFO name: Scottish Storytelling Forum	Reference number (GMS): G200801017		
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):			
<p>Scottish Storytelling Forum/Centre (SSF/C) has undergone a period of remarkable growth and continued achievement, in which its national and international profile have burgeoned exponentially. The current core organisational structure is clearly inadequate to meet present and future demand following the spectacular success of the last three years. The opening of the new Scottish Storytelling Centre in 2006 presents a huge challenge and opportunity for the organisation, and for the entire Literature community in Scotland, which simply must not be hindered by a lack of adequate support.</p> <p>SSF is the sole national organisation for the promotion of Storytelling and consequently absolutely essential to the development of the artform in Scotland. SSF is an organisation which makes a major contribution to the Scottish Arts Council's aims: education, audience development and support to artists are at the very heart of SSF's remit, philosophy, and operation.</p> <p>SSF's application rests on an urgent plea that Scottish Arts Council increase its revenue support for core funding, as other funding partners are doing, through 2006-08. The letter asserts that the SSF/C has clear evidence that it is delivering Scottish Arts Council priorities within a best value strategic framework. It goes on to state that 'The present relationship between staff provision and service levels is unattainable. We urgently need to move to a new platform for growth.'</p> <p>The organisation has more than amply demonstrated its full preparedness for the next, advanced level of activity. Its immense abilities and achievements should be justly rewarded.</p>			
Assessment:	High x	Medium	Low
Areas of concern:			
<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>Current staffing levels are not adequate to meet increasing demand. SSF is in danger of becoming a victim of its own success. Having developed extensive relationships with a host of organisations across Scotland it is important that SSF has the organisational infrastructure to continue to develop programmes of work with these partners.</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)	
Detailed in lead officer's recommendation.	
Lead Officer:	Date: 23 / 11 / 05
Print name: Emma Turnbull, Literature Officer	

Decision and authorisation			
CFO name: Scottish Storytelling Forum		Reference number (GMS): G200801017	
Stage 2: Head of Department recommendation within the context of the sector ecosystem			
Category for support	Essential x	Important	Partial
<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>The recommendation should clearly reflect the assessment. As per officer's assessment.</p>			
Decision authorised:			
Head of Department		Date 30 November 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: Scottish Storytelling Forum		Reference number (GMS): G200801017	
Category for support	Foundation		
<p>The Scottish Storytelling Forum is the sole national organisation for the promotion of Storytelling, and consequently absolutely essential to the development of the artform in Scotland, which due to SSF's substantial efforts and commitment has become one of the most dynamic and fastest growing areas of the nation's literary culture. SSF is an organisation which makes a major contribution to all Scottish Arts Council aims: education, audience development and support to artists are central to its remit, philosophy, and operation. It urgently needs to move to a new platform for growth, as the present relationship between staff provision and service levels is unsustainable in the context of the major opportunities created by the new Storytelling Centre, the first dedicated building for Storytelling in the world, due to open in 2006. Based on the clear evidence that SSF is delivering Scottish Arts Council priorities within a best value strategic framework, Foundation funding and an increase to its stated optimum are essential to future stability and continued growth and success, as the organisation moves into a brand new era.</p>			
Recommendation authorised: Head of Department Print name: Gavin Wallace, Head of Literature			Date 14 February 2006 By 14 February 2006

Stage 4: Group Heads			
Recommendation and authorisation			
CFO name: Scottish Storytelling Forum		Reference number (GMS): G200801017	
Category for support	Foundation		
Agree with the recommendation for Foundation status with and proposed increase in grant for 07/08.			
Decision authorised: Group Head Print name: Jim Tough			Date 14.02.06 By 14 February 2006

Stage 5: Creative Arts Committee			
Recommendation and authorisation			
CFO name: Scottish Storytelling Forum		Reference number (GMS): G200801017	
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 Storytelling Forum		Reference number (GMS): G200801017	
Category for support	Foundation		
Approved Foundation funding as per Managers/Group Heads and Committee recommendation			
Chairman Print name: Richard Holloway		Date 28 February 2006	