

AD:uk/Arts Council of Wales Local Authority Arts Investment & Partnership Survey 2013/14

In spring/summer 2013 Arts Development UK (AD:uk) undertook its tenth annual local authority spending survey to assess the level of arts spending forecast for 2013/14. AD:uk sent an online survey to all authorities in England and Wales. We received 73 responses from local authorities, representing 30% of all authorities in England and Wales with an arts service, a comparable response rate to the survey response in 2012.

The survey shows continued and significant changes to budgets in local authority arts spending. As of August 2013, 133 local authorities in England and Wales have no dedicated arts officer and have no direct arts service. This represents 35.3% of all authorities in England and Wales. The remaining 64.7% have services that are vulnerable to cuts and like the rest of the local authority cultural sector the majority are operating in reduced financial circumstances.

The support and inclusion of the Arts Council of Wales this year is a significant change in the survey, cementing AD:uk's growing relationship with local authorities in Wales and delivering its ambition to broaden the membership and its activities, making them more relevant to local authority arts development in both countries.

The survey has enabled a comparison of past trends and focussed on relevant contemporary issues such as financial issues, priority targets, partnerships and the relationship with other bodies including the Arts Councils in England and Wales. Responses to the 2013 survey reveal a dramatic and changing picture of the arts in local communities.

1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The 2013 survey shows what is important to arts services currently provided by local authorities:

- The downward trend in most areas of activity continues; and although an element of stabilisation in the short-term that occurred in 2012/13 continues, the long term is still expected to bring further budget cuts and changes
- There is a growing need for Arts Services to demonstrate their economic value
- Arts services are increasingly important in improving the quality of life for local communities and helping to address social, health and wellbeing issues in local areas.

Jane Wilson, Chair of AD:uk and Director of Arts Development in East Cambridgeshire comments of the survey: *"The stand-out issue from this year's survey is the increasing polarisation of provision, as more and more smaller authorities find themselves unable to maintain an arts service. Individual local authorities are making very difficult decisions, in each case with good reason, but the overall effect is having a critical impact on the potential for arts development at a national level. The skills and resources both to develop arts activities and crucially, to draw down other sources of funding, whether from sponsors, charitable giving, or earned income, are being concentrated in tighter and tighter areas, making the aspiration of great art for everyone far harder to achieve."*

Key findings included:

- Participating authorities in the 2013 survey are projecting service reductions in their budgets of 9.66% in 2013/14 and if inflation is taken into account, the loss is nearer to 12.26%. Due to major variations in survey respondents between previous surveys, it is difficult to undertake financial comparisons to previous surveys in comparing like with like. This is due to the loss of smaller authorities and also because of the increased number of larger authorities now taking part in the survey.
- By considering comparable authorities who had submitted returns in both 2012 and 2013, the average local authority budget for arts spending was £373,951 for 2012/13, with a projected average arts budget of £361,640 in 2013/14.

- For every £1 spent by local authorities on arts service, leverage from grant aid and partnership working brings in £4.04 of additional funding.
- Over 50% of local authorities responding recorded a standstill budget for 2013/14; with 5% under threat of closure and 15% of authorities told us that they were considering different mechanisms for contracting out of arts services, and 91% of authorities are predicting further cuts to arts services in 2014/15.
- Only 3% of authorities projected a funding increase for their arts services.
- Smaller authorities are more vulnerable to cuts or closure. Medium and larger spending authorities are more likely to retain cohesive arts services.
- The average budget on staff has increased slightly from 2012/13 to 2013/14 by 0.1%. Previous years have demonstrated a decline in the average spend on staff costs (a reduction in staff costs of 18% was recorded in 2012/13 in comparison to 2011/12).
- 2012/13 staff costs represented 30.57% of the total arts spend. 2013/14 shows a small increase to 33.41% of 2.8%.
- The median range of arts service staff per authority is 2 - 3 (FTE), and of those an average of 2 have job descriptions that include Arts Policy or Arts Development work (with at least 30% of time spent on this work).
- Local authorities continue to support partnership funding for RFOs/NPOs with Arts Councils in England and Wales, with 23.9% of their funding spent in this area. The overall amount of funding has however declined by 9.9% from 2012/13 to 2013/14, indicating the level of NPO closures as a result of recent ACW and ACE funding reviews and resultant closures of some organisations.
- Local authorities are significant funders of independent arts organisations, especially in areas with little or no NPO/RFO provision by ACE or ACW and support for non-RFO/NPO arts organisations accounts for up to 10.75% of total arts spend.
- Capital spending on projects is resuming, although it is focused in specific areas rather than being spread across all regions. 42 of the responding authorities registered no spending at all on capital projects.
- Over 60% of all arts and cultural services have been restructured in the last 2 years. Of those that responded positively, many felt that this had made their service less vulnerable to cuts.
- Relationships with both ACE and ACW have improved this year, with more authorities also receiving grant aid through lottery funds. 52% of local authorities have an active and developing relationship with their regional ACE or ACW office. 31% of authorities responding have a neutral relationship with their regional office of their Arts Council. The survey demonstrates a marked improvement compared with relationships shown in the 2012 survey.
- Comments suggest that the major reviews undertaken by both ACE and ACW have been well managed, although resulting in more officer time within local authorities given to organisations affected by reductions or cessation of NPO/RFO funding. In many cases the review has had positive outcomes although there are general concerns about the lack of staff time within ACE and ACW that may be now available for regional development.
- Partnership working has been affected by the recession with fewer partnerships developed than 2 or three years ago. Partnership development is 14% down on last year and this reflects the decline in major regeneration funding at a national level. With less staff employed in the sector, there is also less time to develop strategic partnership practice.
- Partnerships are financially important to arts in communities. Partnerships internal to authorities resulted in an average of £119,817 per partnership with over 70 partnerships recorded. External partnerships are more lucrative, resulting in an average of £571,151 per partnership from over 39 partnerships reported.
- Grant aid is featuring more and more in local government arts funding, with the average fundraising accruing £36,566 per authority from recipients responding to the survey. Central Government grants show a marked decline of 24% whilst funding from the EEC is up by 9% on last year.
- Earned income is a major factor in balancing arts budgets and 57 authorities declared a total income of £15,680,477, with an average of £275,096 per authority.
- Financial priorities are increasingly keen, with 22% declaring the need to maximise external funding, make partnerships and secure additional income. A further 19% stating the need to demonstrate the value of services provided and how they provide a return on council investment.
- The survey demonstrates the continued support by arts services of shared priorities within the Localism Agenda, and arts services contribute substantially to wellbeing, regeneration and local

economy. They also contribute to children's services and to promoting equality and inclusion as well as supporting safer and stronger communities.

2. INFORMATION ABOUT RESPONDING AUTHORITIES

73 authorities responded to the questionnaire overall, out of a total of 353 local authorities in England and 22 in Wales. As with the 2012 survey, the 2013 survey asks questions focussed on financial information, the impact of funding cuts and changes in focus of funding, the move towards contracting out services and the changes made in Arts Council of Wales and Arts Council England, which are still having high impact. Wherever possible, comparisons have been made in the report below with previous surveys in 2011 and 2012.

2.1 Authority type

Survey respondents in 2013 have changed to reflect the higher input of Welsh authorities that are all unitary.

Detail	2013 Response %	2012 Response %
First tier (county)	19.2%	26.1%
Second tier	34.2%	43.5%
Unitary	46.6%	31.9%
Total responses	100%	100%

2.2 Government Regions

In both surveys the highest percentage of responders came from the regions of South East and East of England; the lowest from the North East, with the addition of a much higher response from Wales in 2013 including the ability to now break that down by area.

Detail	2013 Response	2013 Response	2012 Response	2012 Response
England: East Midlands	6	8%	5	7.14%
England: Eastern	9	12%	12	17.14%
England: London	3	4%	3	4.29%
England: North East	2	3%	1	1.43%
England: North West	4	5%	7	10.00%
England: South East	10	14%	12	17.14%
England: South West	8	11%	10	14.29%
England: West Midlands	7	10%	8	11.43%
England: Yorkshire & Humberside	5	7%	6	8.57%
Isle of Man	0	0%	1	1.43%
Wales as a whole	19	26%	5	7.14%
TOTAL	73	100%	70	100%
Wales: North	5	26%		
Wales: South Central	2	11%		
Wales: South East	7	37%		
Wales: South West	5	26%		
TOTAL	19	100%		

2.3 Recent Population

61 authorities responded to this question, giving a total population size of 20,170,188 (an average per authority of 276,304 . this was slightly reduced due to the inclusion of more Welsh authorities with lower than average populations in this year's survey). Overall this is an almost identical picture to the 2012/13 survey and provides us with good comparators.

Detail	Response Count	Response Percentage
Below 50k	0	-
50,001 to 100k	18	26.23%
100,001 to 250k	34	47.54%
250,001 to 500k	8	6.56%
500,001 to 750k	6	11.48%
750,001 to 1m	4	3.28%
1,000,001 to 2m	3	3.28%

Over 2m	1	1.64%
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3. FINANCIAL INFORMATION ABOUT ARTS BUDGETS

3.1 Overall local authority spending on the arts

Respondents were asked 'What was your total arts budget for 2012/13 and projected spend for 2013/14? (Please include all staffing, service delivery, venue, grant & programme costs, but not internal recharge costs)'. The average local authority budget for arts spending in responding authorities in 2013 is £799,066, almost double the average in 2012 of £384,987. This is a big leap and through deeper analysis was explained by the higher amount of authorities responding to the question (71 as opposed to 45) and the inclusion of a large number of authorities with higher budgets that did not respond to the 2012 survey, including 13 with budgets ranging from £1 million to £5.5 million, making it difficult to compare survey responses from 2012 with 2013.

The survey correlates with the findings reported by the Department for Culture, Media and Sport earlier in 2013 which demonstrated that the local authority cultural spend in the 2013/14 budget had dropped by 4.2% on the previous year. The DCMS report is available at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/local-authority-revenue-expenditure-and-financing-england-2013-to-2014-budget>.

The effects of the Cultural Olympiad in 2012 have also enhanced local authority average arts spend, especially in London and in major cities. Due to these factors, it is difficult to calculate an average spend per authority that is comparable to last year's survey responses. We have also lost some smaller arts services, whose authorities would not have responded to this year's survey as a result.

Authorities participating in the 2013 survey are projecting a reduction of 9.66% in their arts budgets from 2012/13 to 2013/14, and if inflation is taken into account, this loss is nearer 12.26%.

A comparison of 29 authorities that responded in both 2012 and 2013 gives a much more comparative answer of average arts spending of £373,951 in 2012/13 against £361,640 in 2013/14, showing a reduction of 3.3% in the average spend across those authorities and coming much closer to the average for the 2011 survey.

Total Arts Budget	Authorities responding	Pooled Total budget	Average budget per authority	% change from previous year
2013/14 projected	72	£57,532,776	£799,066	-9.66%
2012/13 actual	71	£62,801,900	£884,534	
2013/14 responding in 2012 & 2013 projected	29	£10,487,573	£361,640	-3.3%
2012/13 responded in 2012 & 2013 actual	29	£10,844,586	£373,951	-2%
2012/13 projected	45	£17,283,918	£384,087	+0.65%
2011/12 projected	82	£31,673,214	£381,605	-16.3%
2010/11 projected	85	£38,744,589	£455,819	-26.2%

Larger authorities show substantially less budget reductions than smaller arts spending ones, and in 2012/13 also demonstrated the effects of the Cultural Olympiad's investment in arts and culture, acting as a safety net in helping to retain investment. It is unclear as to how this loss of this investment will be felt in 2013/14, but some authorities (such as West Sussex CC and several of the London Boroughs) that retained a healthy arts service for the Cultural Olympiad in 2012/13 are not showing the same level of investment in 2013/14. Welsh authorities also showed a higher average spend than English authorities.

Arts spending per head also shows a substantial reduction, with:

- Arts spend per head of population in 2012/13 of £3.11 per person
- Arts spend per head of population in 2013/14 of £2.85 per person.

This demonstrates a fall of £0.26p or 8.36% per person.

3.2 Groupings of local authorities by spending and frequency across modal ranges

The groupings show a bimodal arrangement with two peaks of between £51,000 to £150,000 (consistent with 2012) and also between £401,000 to £750,000. Large authorities also feature more in the survey than in previous years:

Local Authority spending	2013/14	%	2012/13	%	2011/12	%
Below £50k	9	13%	7	16%	19	23%
£51 k to £150k	13	18%	13	29%	21	26%
£151k - £250k	9	13%	9	20%	11	13%
£251k - £400k	7	10%	4	9%	5	6%
£401k - £750k	13	18%	6	13%	16	19%
£751k - £1mill	8	11%	1	2%	3	4%
£1mill - £2mill	5	7%	3	7%	4	5%
£2mill - £5 mill	4	6%	2	4%	3	4%
Over £5 million	3	4%	0	0%	0	0%
Total responses	71	100%	45	100%	82	100%

It should be noted that the survey responses in 2012 included few larger authorities and especially those with arts spends over £5,000,000. A least 3 participating authorities in 2013 reported spending of over £5million. Although this accounts for only 4% of the number of participating authorities, it accounts for 28.4% of the total spend. As a result, the number of larger authorities participating in 2013 survey has skewed the average spending in arts recorded per authority in comparison to previous years' surveys, so it is difficult to compare like with like.

Responses demonstrate an overall loss of arts services in smaller authorities that are more vulnerable to cuts or closure and we have lost a considerable number over the last few years. Larger and medium sized authorities are more likely to retain cohesive arts services.

4. STAFF

4.1 Staff Costs

People were asked for their staff costs including any NI & pension schemes, travel & recruitment. The trend overall is standstill. The higher average figure again reflects the amount of larger authorities included in the survey for 2013, making comparisons difficult with the 2012 survey.

Year	No. of Authorities Responding	Total spend on staff	Average spend/authority on staff costs	% of total spend
2013/14	66	£19,224,030	£291,273	33.41%
2012/13	67	£19,201,984	£286,597	30.57%

Staff costs have stabilised somewhat in comparison to major reductions in spends recorded between 2011/12 and 2012/13 of 18%. Staff costs accounted for approximately 30.5% of the total investment in the arts by local authorities in 2012/13.

4.2 Staff Posts in your Service

Survey responses in 2013 reported that:

Detail	Response Count	Response %
Part time officer only	5	7%
Single officer only	15	22%
2-3 full-time equivalent staff	13	19%
4-5 full-time equivalent staff	10	15%
6-8 full-time equivalent staff	4	6%
9-10 full-time equivalent staff	3	4%
Above 10 full-time equivalent staff	17	25%
Total responses	67	100%

The median range of arts service staff per authority is 2 - 3 (FTE), and of those an average of 2 have job descriptions that include Arts Policy or Arts Development work (with at least 30% of time spent on this work).

4.3 Job Security

We asked %How secure is your job within your authority?+ Respondents reported:

Detail	Response Count	Response percentage
Very secure and developing	4	6%
Secure	18	26%
Under threat of major cuts	12	17%
Significant changes in role	18	26%
Under threat of closure	1	1%
Unsure	17	24%
Total responses	70	100%

A very mixed response in 2013 showing that this is still a time of shifting sands for the arts in local government.

4.4 Redundancies

We asked whether respondents were expecting any redundancies in arts service or in other cultural services for 2013/14. Respondents reported:

Detail	Response Count	Response percent
Yes	15	22%
No	54	78%
Total responses	45	100%

Further comments included:

- We are currently undertaking a fundamental service review
- Our community arts service was closed in 2011. My time is spent monitoring the revenue grant we have with our local arts centre and attending the trust's board meetings.
- The Authority is looking for 20% reductions over the next 3 years.
- 2014/15 seems likely to be more difficult with a possibility of reduction in hours or redundancy.
- The Arts Service is currently on redundancy notice alongside Leisure colleagues. There are currently 5.5 members of staff across the two services and only three positions available from April 2014.
- ECC are currently working through their 'Transformation' programme. T1 resulted in the combining of arts and heritage development into one Cultural Development team with associated redundancies. T2 is about to kick off and we don't know what the outcome of that will be.
- We are presently recruiting to vacant posts to complete our restructure from last year. 1.5 of these will be fixed term contracts in preparation for possible losses in 2014 onwards
- We are expecting a review of the wider service 2013/14
- One post holder left (voluntary redundancy) on 31st March 2013; one will leave on 31st March 2014.
- The curator of temporary exhibitions at the Gallery has been made redundant and leaves at the end of June 2013. As far as we can tell, at this point in time, that is the only one for this year, although as the 2014 and beyond budget situation becomes clearer it may be that further staffing 'restructurings' will become necessary.
- Service Manager Heritage and Arts covers Libraries, Heritage, and Museum - 37hpw of which about 10 are allocated to management of issues relating to arts.
- The council is expecting to make redundancies, but it is not yet known in what services.
- We are likely to lose a vacant post.

5. FINANCES

5.1 Changes in Finances

We asked respondents if their arts service were facing changes in their budgets for 2013/14. Respondents were asked to tick all that apply; 73 responded to the question. Over 50% of local authorities taking part recorded a standstill budget for 2013/14; a new addition was the move towards contracting out services. This demonstrates that there are still difficult times ahead.

Detail	Response Count	Response Percentage
Funding increase	2	3%
Standstill (without inflation)	28	38%
Standstill (with inflation increase)	12	16%
Under threat of closure	4	5%
Already closed	0	0%
Contracting service out	5	7%

Comments made included:

- All arts and heritage funding is provided via grants which have received funding reductions in 2012/13 and 2013/14 (with indications of standstill for 2014/15)
- There are small additional amount budgeted for possible salary inflation increase, but no inflation on anything else. We were expecting a decrease in our budget and were very lucky to stay on standstill.
- The Council has made a statement implying major cuts to come without specifying any service
- The arts development service has been moved away from the museum into economic development which has enabled it to be much more proactive and strategic.
- Devon CC closed its arts investment budget at the end of 2012/13 and introduced two 3-year commissions for countywide programmes of arts activity for target groups, one for performances and one for participatory projects. The Devon Arts Match scheme was a one-off initiative in 2012/13.
- Overall working (project) budget at standstill this year, but mainly due to non-replacement of vacancy positions and the redundancy of the Head of Service.
- The overall budget was decreased by £100k however responsibilities increased to cover Kent Music (with £285k ring-fenced)
- This is the first full year since our staffing review so we are now seeing the impact of employee savings. Last year was also unique in that we had extra money to deliver projects for the Diamond Jubilee and London 2012 which distorted just how much reduction we have received. Grants and our music programmes have been protected but reductions have taken place in our events budget with the loss of at least one event. Budgets have been restructured within the council so some budget headings have been transferred to other services which again distort the actual picture.
- Arts Development budget has been reduced by 30% over the last three years. We expect a minimum of 10% cut for 2014/15 and each subsequent year.
- We increased our own spend by increasing earned income whilst core costs from council are reduced.
- No inflation increases across Libraries, Arts & Heritage. Potential pay award of 1% included within staffing budgets (no agreement re pay award to-date).
- General standstill with decrease to some maintenance budgets and 6% to grant-aid Grants Review underway.
- There has been a manageable reduction in financial support for the arts and museums in 2013/4. The serious reductions will take place in 2014/5 and 2015/6.
- Staff costs have been reduced through job evaluation.
- Standstill again as for the last 7 years -likely to remain at standstill next year also.
- We are calculating a 1% pay increase after 3 years standstill. Inflation allowed for utilities only.
- WCC are exploring options to move the Heritage & Culture Service (which includes arts) to Trust within 2 years.
- Post reduced owing to reduction in hours following maternity leave so 40% reduction will contribute towards council savings.

5.2 Contracting Out

We asked if the service is in the process of being contracted out, and what form would it take. 15% of authorities told us that they were considering different mechanisms for contracting out of arts services. People were unsure about the type of contractor, but there was a clear preference for a local organisation, with models considered being a trust/charity or a community interest company. Models considered included:

- A consortium of arts teams across local authorities
- A trust / charity
- A Community Interest Company
- A range of independent contractors

The question was explored further to reveal a mix of preferences for new and established organisations with service level agreements and commissioning contracts. The majority were unclear showing that this is an area that is currently being cautiously explored.

5.3 Future Financial Trends

We asked for opinions on the future financial trend in your authority over the next 2 or 3 years. Respondents reported that funding for arts services within their authority was likely to:

Detail	Response Count	Response percent
Increase in 2014/15	3	4.5%
Decrease in 2014/15	61	91%
Face closure in 2014/15	3	4.5%
Total responses	67	100%
Increase in 2015/16	2	3%
Decrease in 2015/16	53	90%
Face closure in 2015/16	4	7%
Total responses	59	100.0%

A continued trend that predicts decreases in budgets for the foreseeable future and a situation set to continue throughout the 5 year programme of central government's policy to reduce the deficit.

5.4 Support to regularly funded organisations

We asked how much of revenue budgets comprise grants to regularly funded organisations in 2012/13. This question was split into 2 categories this year to reflect the move to NPO/RFO joint support.

Independent arts support	Number of Authorities	Total spend recorded	Average spend per authority	% of Total Spend
Total spend on NPO/RFO Grants that are jointly supported by either ACE or ACW	59	£14,992,439	£254,109: A wide range of figures ranging from 0 to over £3m	23.9%
Total spend on regularly revenue supported arts organisations that are not Arts Council NPOs/RFOs	58	£6,749,915	£116,378 - A wide range of figures ranging from 0 to £600k with one over £2m	10.75%

Analysis from last year's survey show a reduction in average spends per authority to RFO/NPO organisations of:

Year	Number of Authorities	Total spend recorded	Average spend per authority
2012/13	59	£14,992,439	£254,109
2011/12	53	£14,946,388	£282,007

The average spending to regularly funded organisations continues to show a decline with a reduction in support of 9.9%. The additional information shows a strong move towards partnership working and joint funding that is focused on key organisations selected as NPO and RFO status by the Arts Councils.

In some areas, local authorities are significant funders of independent arts organisations, especially in areas with little or no NPO/RFO provision by ACE or ACW and support for non-RFO/NPO arts

organisations accounts for up to 10.75% of total arts spend. They have occasionally stepped in to support arts organisation threatened by cessation of ACE or ACW funding.

5.5 Arts Projects spend

This year we asked for more detailed information about spending on the arts in order to reflect the developing range of mechanisms for funding and managing arts services:

Question	Number of Authorities	Total spend recorded	Average spend	% of Total Spend
How much of your budget (£) was spent on directly managed venues (e.g. theatres, arts centres, galleries etc) in 2012/13?	66	£22,539,897	£341,514	35.9%
How much (£) was spent on directly managed/delivered arts services in 2012/13?	65	£6,360,281	£97,850	10.13%
How much (£) was spent on community or project grants for arts services in 2012/13?	65	£2,440,678	£37,549	3.9%
How much (£) was spent in 2012/13 on arts facilities which were contracted out or operated under trust status?	61	£1,927,672	£31,601	3.1%

5.6 Capital Funding

We asked about spend on capital projects (not including capital repayments or internal charges). Respondents reported:

Year	Number of Authorities	Total spend recorded	Average spend per authority
2013	60	£12,565,233	£209,421
2012	3	£54,000	£1,688
2011	10	£11,427,070	£1,142,707

Capital spending on projects is resuming, although the trend is to support several major projects rather than money being spread across all regions. 42 of the responding authorities registered no spending at all on capital projects. Of the 18 that did register a capital spend the range was from £3k to nearly £7m. Further analysis showed a total spend over 12 authorities of £3,085,292 (average £257,108) on major works and refurbishment and 9 authorities of £9,461,490 (average £1,051,277) on new strategic developments.

5.7 Arts Service restructuring

We asked: ~~Was~~ Has your arts service been restructured in the last 2 years?+

Detail	Response Count	Response percentage
Yes	44	62%
No	20	29%
About to be restructured	6	9%
Total responses	70	100%

Over 60% of all arts and cultural services have been restructured in the last 2 years. Of those that responded positively, 23 had moved to a different department and the majority of those who responded felt that this had made their service less vulnerable to cuts. Whilst restructuring continues to take place, there is evidence that this continues to make respondents feel more confident about their positions in the future.

5.8 Financial priorities

We asked what the immediate financial priorities of arts service services were. It is clear that each authority faces different financial priorities for the continuation of its services. A cross section of financial priorities is included below:

- Reliance on external funding and the development of sustainable business models of income generation to support services
- Value for Money for external contracts and grant aid
- Neighbourhood renewal and localism priorities including:
 - Employment & enterprise
 - Welfare reform

- Community empowerment
- Health & wellbeing
- More studies into further efficiency savings, including shared arts and cultural services across authorities
- Economic development partnerships working to enable increased cultural tourism and community benefit
- Increasing participation and access to the arts
- Some authorities are replacing 3 year funding agreements and service level contracts with one-year annual contracts that may be renewed
- The development of marketing and fundraising strategies
- Using arts budgets as matched funding to unlock external grants.

A sample of council responses is included below:

- We want to ensure value for money from external organisations which we fund or contract and need to be able to demonstrate how Council investment is 'buying' quantity and quality that reflects the level of investment.
- We are reviewing our small and large grants schemes to cover arts and heritage (i.e. culture) with no additional funds. Replacing 3 year SLAs with grants awarded on an annual basis, again now to include arts and heritage 20% cut to all cultural grants over 14/15 and 15/16 Continued emphasis on income generation
- The bulk of our budget is awarded in grants to organisations, however we are constantly updating the process to show value for money and that the open application process is robust. Protecting the arts infrastructure of Lancashire and encouraging external investment in the arts is essential
- Stay alive! More community development focus. e.g. links with localism act and enabling community to do it for themselves Officer will also take on locality roles with a significant change expected in the job and focus away from specialist officers
- Using arts budget as match funding to unlock external grants (recent success includes raising £20,000 from variety of sources including ACE). We also intend to launch a new 'family theatre' service that will be cost-neutral to the authority and we will continue to reduce costs of annual festivals and events. We will align with our corporate focus on 'wealth & prosperity - skills, economic growth and tourism'
- Survival! Capital project development increase revenue from alternative sources to increase sustainability
- Community projects resulting in promoting the value of arts to other agendas (e.g. health and wellbeing)

6. ARTS COUNCILS AND FUNDING RELATIONSHIPS

6.1 Direct support from Arts Councils in England and Wales

We asked how much funding had been received from Arts Council England or the Arts Council of Wales over the last year.

i) From Arts Lottery Grants

Year	Response Count	Total funding received from ACE or ACW	Average funding received from ACE or ACW
2012/13	27	£5,757,634	£213,246
2011/12	18	£1,334,537	£74,141

58 councils (81% of the total survey) responded. Of these, 27 were in receipt of funds, with a total of £5,757,634 being received from ACE or ACW: an average of £213,246 between them. Over half reported that they had received no funding at all from their Arts Council.

ii) From core funding (e.g., staff support, research, directly managed services).

Year	Response Count	Total funding received from ACE or ACW	Average funding received from ACE or ACW
2012/13	9	£616,192	£68,466
2011/12	5	£277,000	£55,400

In 2011/12 29 authorities responded, of which only 5 had received core funding, the largest of which was in Wales. The total funding received over the year was £277,000, an overall average of £7,483. This situation showed improvement in 2012/13 with 43 authorities responding, of which only 9 had received core funding, ranging from £2,500 to £210,000. The total funding received over the year was £616,192, an overall average of £14,330.

6.2 RFO Support

We asked how many RFOs/NPOs were supported in partnership with either Arts Council England or Wales

Year	Total Response Count	Number with supported clients	Total of clients supported	Average clients per authority	% without supported clients
2012/13	64	47	179	4	27%
2011/12	44	28	78	3	36%

This year 64 councils responded (88% of the total survey) with a total of 179 clients between them in 2012/13. Liverpool City Council had the most at 24. Of those responding, 27% did not support any RFOs.

In the previous year's survey, 44 councils responded (63% of the total survey) with a total of 78 clients between them. The Association of Greater Manchester Authorities had the most at 13. Of those responding, 36% did not support any RFOs. On a percentage level the number of clients appears to be increasing, although this is relative to the larger number of authorities responding to the survey in 2013.

6.3 Relationships with ACE and ACW

For those authorities with no Arts Council RFOs/NPOs in their area, we asked about the present relationship with regional office of the Arts Council with regard to contact, advice and partnership working. Respondents stated that relationships with Arts Councils in England or Wales were:

Details	Response Count	Response Percentage
Active and developing	37	52%
Neutral	22	31%
Negative and receding	5	7%
I don't have any relationship with my regional office	7	10
Total responses	71	100%

52% of local authorities have an active and developing relationship with their regional ACE or ACW office. 31% of authorities responding have a neutral relationship with their regional office of their Arts Council. The survey demonstrates a considerable and marked improvement compared with relationships shown in the 2012 survey.

With regard to recent ACE / ACW funding reviews and, in England the move from RFOs to NPOs, we asked if their authority been directly affected by recent ACE / ACW funding reviews and if so how?

Comments from arts officers included:

- Noticeably less communication from Arts Council England
- Our arts centre was an NPO for a year as part of the transition from regular funding from the Arts Council England. This year that funding ceased. This has caused us to work closely with our Arts Centre to ensure that it remains open and relevant to the community it serves.
- There are no directly funded RFO's in our county, although we do contribute to Head 4 Arts a cross county community arts project
- No change to our number of RFOs/NPOs although an additional one should have been supported. Present relationship with ACE excellent but changing for the worse, as the relationship manager's contract is not being renewed and we do not know what sort of support structure we will have in future.
- Yes, NPO funding for rural touring went from being paid to us to being paid to the rural touring agency (a good thing). Much less contact with regional office, because officers don't have enough time.
- We have not yet seen any significant impact from the wider reviews except for our NPOs being given cuts in their funding agreements.

- Not directly, but some of our current Strategic Arts Organisations (large grant recipients with whom we have 3 year SLAs) lost their NPO status, which has in turn affected what they are able to deliver in Essex.
- Exeter Northcott was not successful in gaining NPO funding, however was successful in strategic funding for theatre in Exeter for 2012 - 2015
- No. Our relationship with North Wales ACW Officers is excellent and our RFO's have not been affected.
- No, although indirectly the Strategic Grants for the Arts have had to consider the loss of funding of certain venues / companies when assessing grant applications.
- Yes, organisations have lost RFO funding and there is pressure on us to plug the gaps
- Yes. Several organisations who were RFO's did not make the NPO status and this increased our workload by offering more support in time if not funds. Two Lancashire former RFO's have now disappeared and the other 4 who lost their status have difficult times ahead
- Some fallout from joint funded organisations not receiving regular annual funding has increased pressure on LCC.
- The loss of RFO status for some organisations in the borough has lead to less stability and closure of on local authority funded RFO.
- Yes, changes to local funding arrangements from three year to one year
- Yes. Some previously funded organisations are no longer funded by ACE, though they are eligible to apply for Grants from the Arts. The principal effect is uncertainty and destabilisation of the cultural sector.
- We benefitted significantly, overall, in the 2009 Investment Review by ACW: Revenue funding for The Riverfront increased by £65,000 and Ballet Cymru became an RFO for the first time; the additional investment in the City on these two counts far outweighed the cut in the grant to the Art Gallery. Since then, there has been no change.
- Yes - funding cuts to organisations that had been RFOs
- No negative impact We have received ACE Lottery Grants for the Arts funding for the first time for a project commencing in 2013/14 (awarded £9,449)
- Yes, more self-assessment for the venue which is an NPO. Contact from any Local Authority lead has never been very frequent. I no longer receive copies of G4A applications which will affect the District - not sure if this is due to lack of applications, or whether this has ceased being done by ACE.
- Staffordshire lost a number of RFOs, but those organisations have picked up support via GfA and strategic funds.
- Yes - third sector arts organisations in the area have in the past lost revenue funding however, a few have managed to attract significant project funding.
- Our 2 NPO's benefitted significantly in the last portfolio review
- the NPO was granted increased support when transferring from an RFO
- The Theatre Royal Bury St Edmunds, which is an NPO, has a much reduced grant from ACE so the level of touring to Forest Heath has reduced over the last few years.
- We had an increase in regularly funded organisations from 4 to 5 as a result of the NPO changes.

Evidence and comments suggests that the major reviews undertaken by both ACE and ACW have been well managed, although resulting in more officer time within local authorities given to organisations affected by reductions or cessation of NPO/RFO funding. In many cases the review has had positive outcomes although there are general concerns about the lack of staff time within ACE and ACW that may be now available for regional development.

6.7 Why do authorities support arts organisations in their areas?

We asked why local authorities provided financial support for arts organisations mentioned in the previous section. 69 respondents answered this question overall. Responses included:

Details	Response Count	2012 Response %	2013 Response %
Access and participation	48	63.9%	70%
Artistic excellence	41	52.8%	59%
Meeting priorities of sustainable communities strategy	25	52.8%	36%
As part of our arts strategy	41	61.1%	59%
As part of an LEP or regional partnership	6	16.7%	9%
As part of a historical partnership	28	66.7%	41%

In this year's survey, participation and access continues to be rated the highest reason for supporting the arts at community level, followed by artistic excellence and arts strategy development. This has changed relatively little, although there was a slight decrease in those citing an LEP or regional partnership.

It is clear that the arts support a wealth of crosscutting issues within local government and there is now much more awareness of the importance of arts and culture in supporting local communities, regeneration and developing a sense of place. The arts play an increasingly strategic role in supporting the Localism agenda and it is gratifying that this role is increasingly understood and supported by strategy makers and politicians. There is a growing recognition of the importance of arts and culture in supporting local government key outcomes, and this may have protected services in quite a few areas. Further detail on individual responses can be found in appendix 4.

7. PARTNERSHIP WORKING

7.1 Independent partnerships

We asked if authorities had organisational partnerships (other than with the Arts Councils in England and Wales) to develop & deliver arts services. 57 authorities responded to the question with 58% recording partnerships developed with either other services within an authority or external to it. Responses included:

Details	2013 survey	2012 survey	2011 survey
Arts Services with partnerships with other services within authority	53%	67.6%	68%
Arts Services with partnerships external to the authority	63%	82.9%	85.4%

Partnership working however seems to have been affected by the recession with fewer partnerships developed than 2 or three years ago. This reflects the decline in major regeneration funding at a national level and also the fact that with less staff employed, there is less time to develop strategic partnership practice.

Partnership working is a consistent and important contributor to local arts delivery. 60 respondents gave us information about their partnerships and of those responding:

- 65% identified Youth Services (e.g. arts based workshops for young people outside of school time including:
 - Dance activities
 - Youth arts
 - Spending of £1.5k to £0.3m
- 63% identified Museums / museums and archives development including:
 - Venue for arts
 - Partnership working
 - Spending of £10k to £1.6m
- 62% identified Education including:
 - £3.5k subsidised workshops
 - £280k - £500k for music services
- 62% identified Tourism and Events (e.g. carnivals, lantern parades, outdoor gigs) including:

- Part of Olympics & Jubilee activities
- Spending of £1k to over £500k
- 62% identified Libraries (e.g. creative writing groups) including:
 - Writing group
 - Space for activities
 - Spending of £1k to £10k
- 57% identified Countryside and Parks (e.g. art in open spaces) including:
 - Art in parks
 - Heritage crafts
 - Spending of £250 up to £35k
- 50% identified Leisure & Play (e.g. Playscheme arts provision, dance for health) including:
 - Dance leaders courses
 - Small unidentified amounts, £500 / £2000
- 47% identified Social Services including:
 - £14k for health & wellbeing
 - £41k for arts in care homes
- 40% identified Adult Education (e.g. arts based classes) including:
 - Arts & Crafts
 - Spending of £5k to £10k
- 30% identified Archaeology
 - Spending of £10k to £20k
- 23% identified Housing (e.g. art in the public realm) including:
 - Intergenerational activities
 - Support in kind
- 15% identified Corporate Communications (e.g. at family fun days)

Other Partnerships included:

- Community Development
- RDP - Evening Economy £20,234, EU Blinc project £35,000
- Community Safety; approx £3,000, 'Pride in Erewash'; £9,500, Marketing £500
- sports development
- Community Engagement and Cohesion
- Environment
- Enterprise and Engagement
- Norfolk Creative Industries Board, Norfolk Cultural Forum Board, New Anglia Cultural Board
- Streetcare, Public Health & Protection
- Recycling & Environmental Services £2,500
- Theatre £266,000
- Planning (public art schemes)

We asked who external partners (other than ACE/ACW) may be (and respondents could give more than one answer). 41 authorities responded, detailing partnerships in the following areas:

Details	2013 survey	2012 survey
Creative industries organisation	46%	50%
Commercial sector organisation	24%	30.6%
Health Authorities	37%	Not included
Voluntary sector organisation	34%	63.4%
Educational Body	17%	Not included
Other public body (NHS Trust, Police etc)	27%	69.4%

Again the trend in declining partnership development continues, with fewer partnerships brokered in 2012/13 than in 2011/12.

Other public bodies were identified as:

- Magdala Opera: £30,000, Science on Stage: £12,000, Magdala Opera-£30,000, Science on Stage: £12,000, City Arts Nottingham: £30,000
- Arts Connect - LA partnership

- Exeter Cultural Partnership: representatives from Exeter Football Club, University of Exeter, Devon Libraries, Kaleider, Exeter City Council Arts, Tourism Museum staff; Exeter Phoenix form the core group working on the Exeter Cultural Strategy 2013 - 2018 - wider membership includes some 200
- Cymal (WG), Creu Cymru, Engage, Cadw, Gwynedd Arts Forum, National Library of Wales, National Museum Wales, Bangor University, Pontio, other Las, Helfa Gelf Pship, Trusts such as Bodelwyddan Castle, Open Doors, Creu lechyd, Cinema Exhibitors Assoc, Eisteddfodau. We also host the Creative Gwynedd website
- Youth Music - £200,000
- Other LAs - Bridgend, Merthyr, Vale of Glamorgan (as Arts Connect) Caerphilly, Individual artists
- In-Kind Support - £4,730 Rochford Arts Reserve - £4,918 Income from fees - £1,529
- Independent theatres
- Arts Partnership Surrey (8 local authorities)
- Dorset Council Children's Services £55k East Dorset District Council £3k

47 authorities stated that external and internal partnerships were directly contributing to arts spends and were able to give amounts to verify this:

Details	Authorities responding	Total contribution	Average per authority	Number of partnerships	Average contribution per partnership
Internal to the authority	29	£8,387,212	£289,214	70	£119,817
External organisations & agencies	18	£21,132,599	£1,174,033	37	£571,151

Authorities continue to find it hard to place a total economic value on partnership contributions as this frequently included in-kind support, negating the true value of the leverage that partnerships can achieve.

7.2 Leverage

For every pound spent, we asked authorities to equate how much finance and support did they estimate is levered from other sources (including grants awarded, partnership funding & any sponsorship / donations). Respondents reported:

Detail	Number responding	Average investment return on every £1 spent
Partnership investment 2013	43	£4.04
Partnership investment 2012	27	£3.83
Partnership investment 2011	44	£6.32

7.2 Lottery funding

We asked if authorities had received any DIRECT Lottery funding for arts service in 2012/13, what distributor was it & what the amount was. 25 overall responded to the question.

- 64% reported having received funding through G4A, with project grants totalling £844,544 (average £52,784), ranging from £12k to £235k
- 24% reported having received funding from the Arts Council of Wales (LAIP) Investment Programme totalling £181,788 (average £30,298), ranging from £6.5k to £30k.
- 20% reported having received funding from the Heritage Lottery, with project grants totalling £122,200 (average £24,440), ranging from £500 to £36.5k
- 4% (1) reported having received funding from the Sports Lottery of £4,000
- 4% (1) reported having received funding from The Big Lottery of £4,000
- None had received grants from Awards for All.

Data collected in 2012 recorded funding from Arts Lottery from either ACE or ACW, with project grants averaging £37,724. Responses from 2013 indicate that the level of grant support has increased by an average of almost 40%, again demonstrating increased direct funding partnership with either ACE or ACW.

7.3 Other fundraising

The survey requested information on other fundraising carried out by arts officers. 25 responded to the question overall. This was a new question in 2012 and more financial information has been added for 2013. Grants feature more and more in local authority fundraising, with nearly 62% now seeking grants from charitable trusts. There was a notable decline in direct grants from Central government.

Detail	Percentage Response in 2012/13	Average Income received 2012/13	Percentage Response 2011/12
Trusts & charitable sector grants	62%	£36,566	54.5%
Central government direct grants	12%	£110,275	36.4%
European grants	27%	£102,018	18.2%
Business sector grant support	12%	£6,167	9.1%
Donations	27%	£2,073	9.1%
From other sources	23%	£41,200	

Grants were received from a variety of other sources including:

- St Georges Hall and Ministry of Defence
- Housing Association;
- Other local authorities (County Councils supporting 2nd tier authorities)
- Youth Music
- Substantial Financial support negotiated direct to suppliers,
- Support in kind.
- Wind farm grants

Sponsorship continues to be less prevalent in fundraising, 24% had received sponsorship from commercial or independent organisations for arts service in 2012/13. We recorded the following results from 63 respondents:

Detail	Percentage Response 2012/13	Percentage Response 2011/12
Yes	24%	26.5%
No	76%	73.5%

We asked what source of sponsorship was received and how much it was:

- £4,500 from local businesses to support community art workshops
- Local businesses £10,000 Further/ Higher Education £20,000
- Virgin Active - £11,150
- Local business. £750 for specific project.
- Property development company - £3,000
- £2000 for our Open Art Exhibition.
- £30,000 various local businesses for the Big Arts Day
- business sponsorship - around £10000
- £149,508 in sponsorship from various local & national businesses
- Various companies, ranging from Admiral to Associated British Ports: total £22,325 in the year, but we also brought forward £27,000 of Provident Financial sponsorship - received in 2011 but to be spent in 12/13 and 13/14
- Vattenfall £650
- Arts publications (less than £1000)

Help in kind was also surveyed. We asked whether authorities had received any support in kind for arts service in 2012/13. 67 answered the question with the following results:

Detail	Percentage Response 2012/13	Percentage Response 2011/12
Yes	42%	52.6%
No	58%	47.4%

14 authorities responded positively to this question, the average financial value of help-in-kind support was £52,958 per authority, with figures ranging from £600 to £500k.

7.4 Earned Income

A question new to 2013 asked 'How much income did your arts service earn in 2012/13 from ticket sales, activity fees, catering facilities, merchandise, and secondary spend, etc.?'+

57 responded to the question with a total income of £15,680,477, an average of £275,096. This included the following bands of income:

- 20 local authorities declared no income
- 22 local authorities declared earned income of up to £100k
- 7 local authorities declared earned income from £100k to £500k
- 4 local authorities declared earned income from £1m to £3.8m

Generated income is increasingly important in the support of local authority arts budgets with many authorities relying on it to support substantial budget contributions.

8. Contribution to shared local authority priorities

All local authority services support shared priorities. We asked authorities to gauge the level of arts support which are contributed specifically to these cross-cutting themes. 44 authorities responded, as below:

Details	Contributing 2013	% of arts budget	Contributing 2012	% of arts budget	Contributing 2011	% of arts budget
Adult Health & Wellbeing	97%	18%	98%	23%	95%	26%
Child Health & Wellbeing	92%	18%	Not asked	Not asked	Not asked	Not asked
Tackling Exclusion	84%	16%	Not asked	Not asked	Not asked	Not asked
Promoting Equality	79%	15%	Not asked	Not asked	Not asked	Not asked
Children & Young People (Education)	90%	23%	95%	35%	95%	33%
Local Economy & sustainability (Regeneration)	100%	28%	100%	25%	95%	26%
Stronger & Safer Communities	95%	17%	90%	21%	97%	22%
For Wales: Wales as a better country	Not asked	Not asked	36%	3%	56%	8%

Other themes specified were:

- Town centre regeneration through Arts in Empty Spaces
- Civic Pride
- Homelessness
- Disability

Local Economy & sustainability continues to show the highest contribution from arts support.

9. Performance Indicators

We asked what performance indicators were used to measure arts services, and especially what evaluation / measures for success / value were used. 54 authorities responded to this question with respondents continuing to use a broad variety of means to evaluate and collect relevant data. Rather than listing individual responses, PIs can be roughly divided into Quantitative, Qualitative, Economic and Standardised PIs. A breakdown of PIs utilised is included in Appendix 3.

Welsh authorities have recently introduced an arts benchmarking tool across all authorities, with a pilot year currently underway. Local authorities we asked: If working in Wales, do you currently use the AD:uk Ffynnon benchmarking tool to capture some of your PI's? 17 respondents answered the question:

- 10 (59%) Yes
- 7 (41%) No

Welsh authorities were also asked why they did or didn't use the Ffynnon tool and were requested to explain what works and what doesn't. 12 authorities responded:

- Some confusion now apparent at the Wales data unit now wants us to submit our monitoring on spreadsheet and NOT use Ffynnon.
- What doesn't work is that different counties seem to be counting figures in slightly different ways so comparisons with other areas is unreliable
- Aiming towards its introduction in the near future.
- Currently only a corporate departmental level
- Only recently heard of the Ffynnon Tool
- The Council uses Ffynnon but I have not had training in it as yet. Will use it as soon as I'm able.
- Council system that all services use
- The Council has adopted an RBA approach to performance management.
- Newport City Council has its own 'Views' system and has not participated in Ffynnon.
- It captures the Arts Connect PIs for the region. As a local authority we use the system.
- WCBC has made a decision not to use Ffynnon.

10. Conclusions

The overall the picture of local government funding for the arts is one of declining resources and competition from other statutory and non-statutory services. Arts services are no different to other cultural services provided either directly or indirectly by authorities and the downturn in the economy over the last three years has enforced major changes to the cultural landscape.

Evidence from respondent authorities in 2013 survey suggest that there has been a further period of short term stability to arts funding compared to the major cuts felt in 2011, but the down-trend continues with a further reduction in arts budgets of 9.66% from 2012/13 to 2013/14. With further local authority budget reductions of at least 10% expected in 2015 as a result of the Comprehensive Spending Review forecast (and non-statutory services are expecting more substantial reductions than this), the situation remains bleak and arts officers remain stoic about the effects of further spending assessments.

As with previous years, the trend continues for major internal reorganisation, and an increase in more non-specific cultural services (combining arts services with other services such as regeneration or wider community services such as libraries, museums and tourism) indicating a loss of specialism within the arts. Reorganisation does however seem to ensure greater resilience and security for arts services with over 60% of respondents commenting that they saw the arts services less vulnerable as a result of reorganisation as the arts continue to perform strongly against corporate objectives.

Local authorities are significant funders of independent arts organisations, especially in areas with little or no NPO/RFO provision by ACE or ACW and support for non-RFO/NPO arts organisations accounts for up to 10.75% of total arts spend. The average spending to RFO/NPO regularly funded organisations in partnership with ACE and ACW continues to show a decline with a reduction in support of 9.9% from 2011/12 to 2012/13 but this funding is still substantial, comprising of 23.9% of the total arts spends of local authorities.

It is pleasing to see that levels of leverage have increased from 2011/12 to 2012/13 with £4.04 now being raised for every £1 spent. This demonstrates the worth of partnership working, both internal to the authority with other departments and services and also in more lucrative external partnerships. There is continued pressure on local authority arts services to bring in more funding as intensive forms of economic indicators are used and the pressure to bring in more partnership and leverage funding is often an additional pressure on already reduced services.

2012 - 2013 is the third year under the coalition government's financial settlement and the survey demonstrates that, after a major funding shortfall in 2011/12 that resulted in many closures, we continue to see efforts to maintain short term stability. However, the continued economic climate that we all work has resulted in extreme financial pressure to all local authority services. The full extent of the impact the recession on arts services by the recession will need to be monitored year on year as will the impact of the move towards outsourcing and alternative means of service delivery revealed by the survey.

Appendix 1: Local Authority Arts Service Closures

Introduction

This short report gives information on the trend towards closure of some local authority arts services in the last few years. In some instances, the arts budget has been transferred to other services or to independent organisations for the continuation of support for local arts, but in others it has been lost.

As of August 2013, 133 local authorities in England and Wales have no direct arts services. This represents 35.3% of all authorities in England and Wales.

With many authorities on either a standstill (without inflation) or declining budget, the current status for arts services illustrates the slow erosion faced over the last few years. Evidence from the 2013 Local Authority Arts Spending Survey indicates that the average arts budget is now £414,102, showing a slight decline of 5.32% in the previous year, but with a drop of 9.2% on the 2010 average of £455,819 and a substantial reduction of 33% on the average local authority arts spend in 2008 of £617,750. Local authorities however remain one of the major funders of arts in England and Wales, with an estimated spend of £156,116,454 on direct arts services.

The Spending Review and budget settlement in 2013 continues to have major effects on arts services in England and Wales. Arts services have no statutory protection and 2013/14 continues to be a difficult year for most local authority cultural services, with local authorities struggling to meet year-on-year cuts.

The assessment below details changes and closures in arts services year by year:

2013/14

Welwyn Hatfield Borough Council made its arts officer redundant in May 2013.
Chorley Borough Council: arts posts deleted.

2012/13

Gloucestershire County Council
Chichester District Council

2011/12

Herts CC closed its arts service, making its County Arts Officer post redundant (although there is still a music service within its Education Dept)
Northampton Borough Council closed its arts services, with arts officer redundancies
Borough of Wellingborough Council closed its arts services, with arts officer redundancies
Leisure in Hyndburn Trust no longer has a dedicated arts officer

2010/11

Somerset CC has agreed to close its arts services (with a loss of £170,000) in 2011/12
Darlington BC is currently reviewing its arts and cultural services with a view to closure

2009/10

North Warwickshire DC made their arts officer redundant in April 2009
Colchester BC no longer has a dedicated arts service, making their arts officer redundant in April
Harborough BC no longer has a dedicated arts service, making their arts officer redundant in April
Horsham DC made one of their 2 arts officer posts redundant in April 2009
Braintree DC ceased its direct arts service making its arts officers redundant in May 2009, specifically due to the economic downturn
Lincoln City Council closed its arts services in September 2009 with several arts redundancies.

2008/9

5 authorities reported closure of arts services in 2008, including:
Sedgemoor DC
North Somerset DC
Stafford BC
Rushmoor DC
Bedfordshire CC

2 authorities reinstated their arts services, including:

Somerset CC
Worcestershire CC

2007/8

The following authorities reported that they no longer had a dedicated arts service, making their arts officer redundant:

Worcestershire CC
Thanet DC
St Albans City & DC

2006/7

The following authorities reported that they no longer had a dedicated arts service, making their arts officer redundant:

Malden DC
Kettering BC
Congleton BC
Cotswold DC
Fenland DC

2005/6

The following authorities reported that they no longer had a dedicated arts service, making their arts officer redundant:

Fylde BC
Stratford on Avon DC
Breckland DC
North Shropshire DC
South Somerset DC
Mid Devon DC

2004/5

The following authorities reported that they no longer had a dedicated arts service, making their arts officer redundant:

Eastbourne DC
Christchurch DC

Previous years:

Other councils that have ceased funding arts services in the 2000's include:

West Somerset DC
Uttlesford DC
North Devon DC
Central Bedford Council
Runnymede BC
Sevenoaks DC
Swale DC
Basildon DC
Bassetlaw BC
South Derbyshire DC
Lichfield DC
Buckinghamshire CC
Worthing BC
Dover DC

This amounts to a total of 52 authorities closing their arts service or making arts officers redundant in the last 11 years and it is now calculated that 133 local authorities have no dedicated arts officer or arts service, amounting to 35.5% of all authorities in England and Wales. There is often no major press coverage of arts development closures, unlike closures to capital projects or venues that may receive regional or national press and media interest. The closure of local authority arts services is consequently unreported and often unnoticed by the national arts funding system. This erosion of local arts service delivery also affects future local partnership development and regeneration, as many arts officers are also responsible for supporting independent arts in their areas.

Local authority arts funding also contribute to growth, and 2013 Local Authority Arts Spending Survey illustrates a leverage capability with an investment return of £4.04 for every £1 invested. Over 35% of all authorities in England and Wales no direct arts services and without a dedicated arts officer, are without a champion in their local area.

Appendix 2: Participating Authorities and contracted out organisations 2013

ADEC

Ashfield District Council

Basingstoke & Deane Borough Council

Bath & North East Somerset Council

Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council

Bolton at Home

Bracknell Forest

Breckland Council

Bridgend County Borough Council

Caerphilly

Cambridge City Council

Carmarthenshire County Council

Ceredigion

Cherwell District Council

City & County of Swansea

Conwy Council

Craven DC

Denbighshire County Council

Derbyshire County Council

Devon County Council

Doncaster

Dorset County Council

East Sussex

Erewash Borough Council

Essex County Council

Exeter

Flintshire

Gedling Borough Council

Gwynedd Council

Kent County Council

Kirklees Council

Lancashire County Council

LB Camden

Leeds City Council

Leicestershire

Liverpool City Council

London Borough of Lambeth

Manchester City Council

Merthyr Tydfil

Mid Suffolk and Babergh Councils (merged councils)

Middlesbrough Council

Milton Keynes Council

Monmouthshire County Council

Neath Port Talbot CBC

Newcastle City Council

Newport City Council

Norfolk County Council

North Norfolk District

North Warwickshire Borough Council

Powys County Council

RCTCBC

Rochford District Council

Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead

Ryedale District Council

South Holland District Council
Staffordshire
Staffordshire Moorlands
Swindon Borough Council
Telford & Wrekin Council
Torfaen
Tunbridge Wells Borough Council
Vale of Glamorgan Council
Warwickshire County Council
Waverley Borough Council
West Berks Council
West Dorset District Council
West Oxfordshire District Council
West Suffolk
Westminster
Wiltshire Council
Worcestershire County Council
Wrexham County Borough Council
Wychavon District Council

Appendix 3: Performance Indicators and Evaluation Processes utilised by local authorities

- Young Peoples Participation in Positive Activities User Satisfaction at All Events Number of People with Disability on Community and Volunteering Programmes Number of Participants at Community Development and Partnership Events Number of Participants at Community Development Programmes and Courses Number of Community Groups / Organisations Supported Number of Visits to Support Community Groups / Organisations Number of Ashfield District Council Registered Volunteers Number of Volunteer Hours
- Attendances Evaluation
- Number of attendances Subsidy per attendance Council grant or contract fee as percentage of turnover Customer satisfaction Percentage of black & minority ethnic attendances Leverage (additional money raised, excludes box office / sales) Number of volunteers Number of volunteer hours
- The three KPI's being piloted by the south Wales AD:uk group.
- Our partnership agreement with our Arts Centre requires information on attendances in total and for various artforms.
- Level of arts participation for specific projects.
- Arts Dev UK data pilot PI
- Audience number as a percentage of the population Participant numbers as a percentage of the population Satisfaction from participants and attendees
- Attendance levels Participation levels Press coverage Positive feedback from residents/participants
- Audiences Wales Survey of customer satisfaction.
- The Arts service is measured against outcomes achieved. These vary according to the performance targets set
- We use a variety of PI's to try and give us a balanced view of service performance such as: Expenditure, Income, Sales, No. of visitors, No. of Pupil Visits, visits split by activity type (e.g. exhibitions, workshops, events and activities, tours etc.) No. of new exhibitions, no. of professional enquiries for research, customer satisfaction, staff costs, sickness levels, BV170a, website visitors, unique page views etc.
- Participation
- Arts Attendance Customer Satisfaction Number of businesses assisted Wellbeing
- Meaningful contact with the sector (face 2 face, email, phone) Database members Funding allocated Facebook followers Twitter followers Visits to monthly newsletter
- Participation figures Volunteering hours Participation by target groups; older people, children & young people, LAC Health improvements
- Attendance partnerships created Economic benefit
- "1.Number of participants in activities developed by the ACE team. 2. Amount of additional funding sourced from outside the ACE budget. 3. Audience numbers at performances arranged by the ACE team. From April 2013 we will be using the benchmarking PI's for Wales once approved by CCLOW"
- Number of users / visitors to the museums & galleries; Number who take part in Criw Celf; % increase in users of the Creative Gwynedd website; % of seat usage at the two theatres; % customer satisfaction - for theatres / Museums & galleries; % parents / attendees of Criw Celf who report beneficial impact on their skills due to attending the sessions (new); % of volunteers who believe that volunteering in the museums & galleries has assisted them in developing their skills (new)
- Leverage, Artists days, Volunteer days, Number of activities resulting from funding, Attendance at funded activities
- Attendance at events, workshops, networking events Ticket sales NI 11 - Engagement in the Arts - we are still using this in a local survey
- We have a whole raft of measures including: participants, audience, external investment, artist employment days
- Comparative turn out versus anticipated turnout for key events; Cost per head on council spend (inc earned income)
- Audience numbers, attendee numbers. We count numbers attending events, workshops, business advice sessions, training and performances. We ask them for Postcode to find out how many people are coming from what district.
- Economic/Social
- Participation hours and audience numbers, BAME numbers,
- Cultural Ambition Performance Framework, available to download at www.manchesterculturalpartnership.org.uk
- Ffynnon PIs (Welsh)
- Attendances Satisfaction levels Subsidy per head
- annually we measure the number of young people, adults, volunteers,
- About to use the new Arts Benchmarking schedule.
- The Council has adopted an RBA approach to performance management.
- Attendances at events Participation in activities Meeting Budget
- number of events, artists employed, attendances, volunteers involved
- Arts attendance - audience Arts participation

- No. of New Works/Commissions; No. of Ticketed Arts Attendees; No. of Artists/arts orgs supported; No. of Events for Participants; No. of Events for Attendees; No. of Arts Events for Target Groups; No. of Participants; No. of Participants from Target Groups.
- Number of participants / attendees across all projects and programmes Number of artists taking part in Rochford Art Trail Number of businesses taking part in Rochford Art Trail
- User numbers Income earned (by venue) Number of events delivered
- Satisfaction with services Numbers of tickets sold, people attending events Arts Mark/ Arts Awards Numbers of CPD for teachers/artists % of qualifications/grades - Music Web page hits Number of days training and support provided for the community
- The three KPI's being piloted by the south Wales AD:uk group.
- Attendance and expenditure
- Arts Connect PIs and a few other local measures
- total participation in arts activity total funding leverage total attendance total number of sessions delivered
- levels of active engagement numbers of volunteers and volunteer hours specific targeted programmes - bespoke for the programme achievement of accredited outcomes £ for £ leverage
- No. of arts attendees/ visitors to each centre Amount of funding levered in for those in receipt of a LDF grant No's reached in equalities groups
- Outcomes based on service plan tasks
- Total number of users and Westminster participants of Westminster funded arts activities Customer satisfaction surveys Total increase in number of participants taking part in arts activities are from deprived areas
- People taking part, grants given to new organisations
- These are shared with Heritage and Archives Number of attendances (14-19 year olds) at an accredited training opportunity Total number of WCB pupils/students who visit LLC Depts. premises, events and activities Attendance at activities by people aged 50+ Number of people who attend programmes delivered through the medium of Welsh Number of visitors/participants to a Welsh cultural event or exhibition Number of attendances at an adult training opportunity Total Number of Service Users Increased spend/sales per head Increased spend/sales per head Increased spend/sales per head Number of participants in community volunteering in 25 most deprived areas
- Number of events/workshops Number of attendees (sub divided in children and young people and adults)

The survey asked **"What evaluation / measures for success / value do you use?"**

Respondents gave a variety of comments:

- Customer Satisfaction Questionnaires and Surveys Project Reports
- Participation numbers - trend data comments from service users
- Observation / monitoring of events and sessions; Observation of Board meetings; Analysis of business plans and financial accounts
- Participation / Attendance per % population
- Whether projects/services met aims/objectives of individual activity - outputs/outcomes. Anecdotal testimony provided in various formats/media appropriate to project/activity. Social impact.
- cost per attendance
- Quantitative measures for the PIs.
- Attendance & participation figures, Case Studies - Outcomes Based Accountability
- Soft and hard data collected through feedback forms, debriefs, photo records, box office records, audience estimates at events, participant feedback
- Market research at events Citizens Survey Complaints/compliments levels Analysis of social media Collation of media coverage
- Customer surveys at venues/events.
- Annual appraisal of service alongside individual appraisals. We have also used LGID Outcomes Framework
- No. of visits, customer satisfaction and budget achievement
- The number of exhibitions in Conwy Libraries; The percentage of attendees satisfied with arts workshops; Hlefa Gelf - number of visitors to open studios and events in Conwy County; Participation in Helfa Gelf by artists in Conwy County
- Number of organisations/businesses supported Amount of grant money brought into the district via external arts organisations/activities
- Warwick-Edinburgh scale Surveys
- Feedback Database members Funding allocation
- I use a performance management framework which monitors: Number of events supported Number of audience and participants to events supported People employed (in days) Volunteer opportunities (in days) CPD events supported and attendance Publications where East Sussex Cultural Sector is showcased Funds levered No. of creative businesses and individual creatives advised (and number of hours advised) No. of non creative businesses and

- individual creatives advised (and number of hours advised) Number of strategies, plans, consultations and projects advised Number of general enquiries and information requests handled Other ESCC funding to cultural organisations
- Monitoring all participations and breakdown; i.e age, ethnic minority etc; of participants Monitoring of volunteer engagement and hours accrued Project specific health 7 wellbeing tools; i.e. Warwick-Edinburgh
 - Planned Outcome (what do we want to achieve): To enhance the quality of life of the people of Flintshire by promoting the arts, culture and entertainment throughout the county, providing opportunities for creative expression and access to high quality artistic activity. SMART Target : To ensure the continuation of the high artistic standards delivered by the ACE team through the evaluation of each project, securing partnership funding and evaluation of the Flintshire Arts Strategy.
 - Mainly feedback forms and questionnaires / generic learning outcomes
 - Leverage
 - We have set targets for the above measures but also look at qualitative measures and innovation and artistic vision as well as benefits for communities and individuals
 - Number of sessions, number, age and demographic of participants, number of training sessions, number of volunteers, number of professional artists, staffing, income, expenditure, press and media coverage. LEEDS CULTURE CRITERIA Criteria 1 Spotting, nurturing and retaining talent in Leeds Criteria 2 Removing barriers Criteria 3 Demonstrating Leeds distinctiveness and telling the city story Criteria 4 Community Inspired
 - Reporting, questionnaires, Warwick-Edinburgh Scale
 - Impacts 08 model Culture & Wellbeing Can be found at <http://liverpool.gov.uk/business/finance-funding-and-grants/arts-and-culture-sector-grants/grants-monitoring/>
 - Audience and participant satisfaction, cost per head of beneficiaries and leverage
 - Maintaining or increasing levels shown on Ffynnon
 - Wide range depending on the activity/ project
 - In 2012 we commissioned a full economic impact study. We evaluation all major projects like this
 - Individually carried out by each corporate/grant funded service.
 - Our Population Indicators 2013 -14 include: 1. % of population involved as attendees in the arts; 2. % population involved as participants in the arts
 - Projects are independently evaluated.
 - Delivering agreed programmes Customer satisfaction Meeting targets for attendances etc
 - We conduct an annual Customer Evaluation exercise, annual conference evaluation, evaluation of small grants award scheme and other evaluation as necessary on specific projects.
 - Qualitative and quantitative data, evaluation forms (training, events, activities, projects) customer feedback and customer satisfaction surveys.
 - % population creatively active as participants; % population creatively active as attendees
 - Economic Impact Assessments
 - Project management milestones Participation satisfaction surveys Geographical reach Delivering within budget Regular reporting to senior managers and local authority Portfolio holder
 - Before and after interviews Feedback from customers Income targets Satisfaction surveys
 - Participation / Attendance per % population
 - Observation, questionnaires, verbal feedback, report feedback, annual reports and financial audited reports as required.
 - Service Level Agreements for delivery of Community Arts Outreach Programme Service specification and 3 year targets for the delivery of the Museum of Farnham Financial analysis of the Borough Hall cinema under new operating arrangements National benchmarking for Godalming and Farnham Museum PPP funding - delivery of high level outcomes for health and wellbeing
 - stated and measured outputs, above outcomes - legacy, dependent upon the aims of each project
 - LGID Cultural Planning Tool
 - Feedback on all projects from both participants, partners and artists
 - money levied in
 - reporting to OMT DMT
 - year on year increase in performance indicators supplemented by case study data

Appendix 4: Reasons why Local authorities support arts services.

We asked what arguments are used to demonstrate the arts' contribution to corporate priorities. Comments included:

- Widening participation - numbers of attendances / engagements; engaging residents who live in more rural and more disadvantaged areas of the district and responding to communities' needs and interests
- Targeting support to deprived communities and families suffering from crime and anti-social behaviour. Supporting initiatives which generate employment and training for work opportunities. Protecting the most vulnerable adults and supporting those with disabilities and other long term conditions. Safeguarding children, especially those with additional (special) educational needs and supporting positive attitudes towards education
- Providing a way for the organisation to engage constructively with its customers; Increasing experience and participation in the arts, and supports individuals to inquire, explore and challenge; Develops creativity, skills, and confidence to achieve; Contributes to building strong and confident individuals and communities; Helps people feel good about where they live.
- Promoting health and achievement through increasing opportunities for young people in community based schemes. Encouraging all residents to continue as learners in relation to recreation.
- Improved health & wellbeing of participants and attendees
- Contribution to economic growth and the contribution that the creative industries make
- The contribution of arts to people mental health
- Reputation & identity of the city and place-making
- Economic development driver, contributes towards Health & Well being agenda, helping to get people more active more often, and assists the Social inclusion agenda.
- One of the main corporate priorities is to establish Swansea as a City of Culture including the provision of Arts that contributes to the council's anti-poverty strategy and target areas approach.
- Creation of a new Arts Strategy for Conwy. Conwy CBC Corporate Plan 2012 - 17 outcomes include ensuring that Conwy's culture is preserved and that local people are supported to achieve their potential.
- Economic Development (development of CCIs and retention of other businesses due to quality of life)
- Links to broader themes and priorities; all arts programme fits into one or more of three themes; Arts & Regeneration; Arts & Community and Arts & Health
- Meeting the priorities of the corporate plan (education & skills, business, health & wellbeing, vulnerable people, safer & stronger communities). We evaluate and write regular reports on all our work, making the social, educational and economic benefits of all our activity.
- Improving quality of life and sense of civic pride; economic benefit in terms of business relocation to Exeter, retail and visitor spend as cultural destination, leverage in terms of match funding;
- Contribution towards the economy / health & wellbeing / education and learning of skills / opportunities for everyone including children and young people / opportunities within Community First areas / support and promotes the County's artistic heritage / promotes communities / promotes the Welsh language / contribution towards tourism / participation and enjoyment / confidence building
- Creation of new jobs or safeguarding existing jobs, Economic growth, Leverage of external investment, Community cohesion and wellbeing, Sense of place
- Jobs and skills - 2 posts concentrate on developing the creative sector, growing business and hopefully sustaining and growing jobs; plus we argue that the arts provide a positive image of the district nationally and regionally thus increasing the potential for investment; we use the leverage argument about how much funding our funding enables organisations to raise and thus contribute to the economy; our projects enable communities to develop transferable skills for employment and education Health and well-being - the arts are effective at building thriving communities and raising aspirations and esteem
- The importance to the economy and cultural tourism is one that is resonating more with our politicians and the external funds that our investment can lever in.
- Financial, employment, linked to healthy visitor economy. Increasingly again now, as driver of social cohesion and community resilience and potential impacts on well being. Profile of borough and long heritage of creative practice, which also drives wider investment.
- Economic resilience of the creative industries, contribution to health and wellbeing agenda
- How arts can deliver on the strategic outcomes of the authority; more jobs, safer communities, and health and well-being.
- The arts and cultural sector make a substantial contribution to three of the authority's four objectives - tackling inequality, decent neighbourhoods, working city.
- We contribute to the city's ambition to be a "Technology City infused with cultural and sporting excellence." The Improvement plan has a number of headings, but the most pertinent for the arts are our contributions to: Learning and Working City - To reduce the rate of young people not in education, employment or training and Newport is a Greener

and Healthier City • To increase the number of people taking up leisure activities and participating in all forms of physical activity across the City

- Development of Cultural Tourism (income coming into the area), Raising aspirations and developing career pathways for young people (rural area which struggles to support it, support for creative industries).
- Investment in the arts makes for healthier lifestyles, especially emotional health & well-being; contributes to vibrant town centres; increases community cohesion, encourages learning and increases employability, supports local artists
- To enable our communities to have pride in South Holland and to support the local economy and to develop stronger and safer communities
- Targeting support to deprived communities and families suffering from crime and anti-social behaviour; Supporting initiatives which generate employment and training for work opportunities; Protecting the most vulnerable adults and supporting those with disabilities and other long term conditions; Safeguarding children, especially those with additional (special) educational needs and supporting positive attitudes towards education
- We have an Arts Strategy that helps to identify opportunities for Corporate Policy Intervention and also a Public Art Policy for extracting 106 funding from major developments (106) and regeneration opportunities. Arts Connect - Memorandum of Understanding and partnership working regionally. Strategic developments by ACW and the Welsh Government e.g. Educational and Arts review. Local Government strategic initiatives - WLGA. Any other regional national specific arts campaigns or strategic developments.
- We are currently developing the links with the new Public Health - Health & Wellbeing partnership, making direct links with the emerging health strategy. Previously we have covered Vibrant Villages, Thriving Towns, Community Cohesion, Educational Attainment, levels of hard to reach engagement. Presently we monitor levels of engagement, (numbers of attendees and numbers of engagement opportunities); volunteering (numbers of active people and numbers of hrs); accredited outcomes (e.g. Arts Awards, Dance Leaders Awards etc).
- "Protect and enhance the environment by providing activities which build a better understanding between people Sustain vibrant, healthy towns and villages by • Increasing the value of tourism to the district • offering activities which have health benefits • creating more activities for children and young people • understanding the local need and acting upon it • working in partnership with others in the community • supporting activities which include older people"
- We have devised 8 strands for our arts commissioning programme to address key priority council areas, based on the Leader's policy speech Better City, Better Lives. - Arts for Skills and Employability - Arts for Early Intervention - Arts for Crime Diversion - Arts for Health - Arts for Homelessness - Arts and Disability - Arts for Vulnerable Adults - Arts for Older People