

Funding for District-wide Health and Well-being Grants 2015/16

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Purpose of the Report

This report seeks the approval of the District Executive on levels of funding for the following arts organisations: Actiontrack Performance Company, Take Art, Somerset Art Works and Somerset Film.

Public Interest

SSDC works in partnership with four arts organisations that provide a variety of activities across the district. This includes programmes of dance, performance, visual arts and new media with different sectors of the community, the village performance scheme which brings high quality shows to rural locations and support for local artists and craftsmen at a professional level. This report outlines the achievements of these organisations over the past year, as well as their plans for the forthcoming year.

Recommendation

That the District Executive approves levels of funding for Actiontrack, Take Art, Somerset Art Works and Somerset Film in 2015/2016, as set out in Appendix 2

Background

The Arts Organisations operate on a countywide basis and were covered under a partnership agreement with the other Somerset Councils until March 2011 when funding cuts prompted the termination of the partnership agreement. Local Authority funding continues to be attractive to other potential funders and continued support from SSDC ensures that our investment levers significant additional funding, this is reflected in the range of high quality cultural activities that address social, economic and educational objectives. In addition to the projects delivered by the arts organisations themselves, they help to support the delivery of arts initiatives by the professional and voluntary sectors of the community, through advisory services and training.

Report

South Somerset District Council maintains a service level arrangement with four arts organisation which enables the organisations to attract grants and project funding from the Arts Council England and other funding bodies. They deliver services and activities, which reflect the aims of the authority.

Many of the projects and programmes are designed to creatively address issues that have been identified by local authorities and other agencies; for example Take Art's dance programmes have been specifically targeted at two sectors of the community; elderly people, where physical activity can help balance, co-ordination and flexibility and younger people, to encourage dance as an alternative physical activity for good health and well-being. Through its digital media programmes, Somerset Film has encouraged all sectors, ages and abilities to creatively use the technologies now available to us; they have provided training in all aspects of the use of social media for small businesses and have developed apprenticeship

opportunities for young people looking to work in a digital media field. In addition to supporting the many small arts and crafts businesses that are vital to our rural economy, Somerset Art Works continue to work with the National Trust and the RSPB in the interpretation and dissemination of our natural and built environment. Actiontrack continues to support Sound Foundation Somerset as a delivery partner for music in schools; their work is particularly effective with the pupil referral units and the youth offending programme.

The arts organisations supported by SSDC all have at least one year's running cost in reserve. They continue to review their working practice to adapt to reduced budgets and the changes in public service delivery.

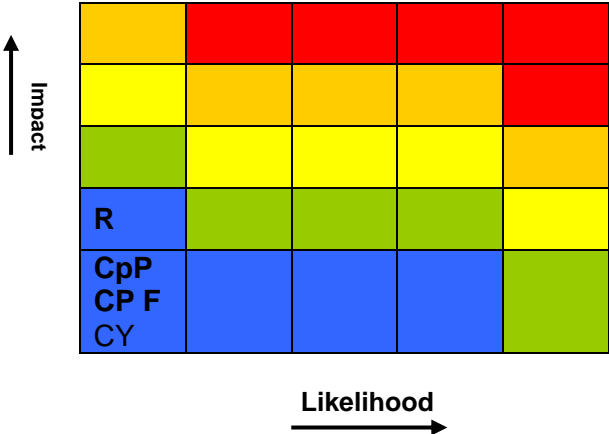
The detailed performance monitoring figures and plans for 2015/16 for these 4 organisations are illustrated in the attached appendices

Financial Implications

Core funding for each of the four organisations was reduced in 2011 as part of efficiency savings; the organisations have received no inflationary increase since then. It is proposed that for 2015/16 uplift is offered to each of the organisations, that this should be commensurate with the service they offer to our communities and the level of funding our investment attracts.

If the funding recommended in Table 1 is agreed, £5,350 will remain in the Health and Well-being budget for 2015/16.

Risk Matrix



Key

Categories	Colours (for further detail please refer to Risk management strategy)
R = Reputation	Red = High impact and high probability
CpP = Corporate Plan Priorities	Orange = Major impact and major probability
CP = Community Priorities	Yellow = Moderate impact and moderate probability
CY = Capacity	Green = Minor impact and minor probability
F = Financial	Blue = Insignificant impact and insignificant probability

Corporate Priority Implications

All organisations are assessed in light of the Council's Corporate Aims and Targets. The work of the arts organisations supports the following priority areas:

- Jobs
- Environment
- Health and Communities

Details of how the activities of each individual organisation link to relevant Corporate Aims and Our Targets are included in the Appendices.

Carbon Emissions and Climate Change Implications

The majority of projects and programmes of activity is undertaken within our rural and urban settings, reducing the need for participants to travel long distances to access services.

Equality and Diversity Implications

This SLA is core funding for four arts organisations that deliver projects and programmes of activity which are inclusive or specifically targeted at marginalised groups.

All 4 organisations concerned are aware of their duties and responsibilities under the Equality Act 2010 and the General Equality Duty.

An equality analysis has been completed and indicated a low impact.

Background Papers

Case files, monitoring reports and paperwork submitted by funded organisations.

Table 1 Health and Well-being Budget

	SLA details	Amount awarded last year	Amount requested	Recommended sum for 2015/16	Comments
Actiontrack	1 year – funding confirmed annually	1,800	2,000	2,000	11% increase
Take Art!	1 year – funding confirmed annually	8,820	10,500	10,500	19% increase
Somerset Arts Week	1 year – funding confirmed annually	3,030	3,500	3,500	15% increase
Somerset Film	1 year – funding confirmed annually	1,500	2,000	2,000	33% increase Core funding to Somerset Film was significantly reduced in 2011 yet delivery in South Somerset has increased, since they have received Arts Council England National Portfolio status
Total				18,000	
Budget				23,350	
Remaining Balance				5,350	

Appendix 2 – Performance Monitoring – District Wide Sports, Arts and Leisure Organisations

Appendix 2 – Performance Monitoring – County-wide Key Strategic Arts Organisations

Members' Comments – Sylvia Seal, Theme Advisor – supportive of all recommendations

Organisation: Actiontrack

SLA dates:

2015 - 2016

Aims

Actiontrack works collaboratively to deliver opportunities for individuals and groups to access practical involvement in music, drama, dance and the visual arts. The organisation develops and delivers wholly accessible projects, predominantly with children and young people and often with marginalized groups.

The organisation operates from their office in Taunton Deane on an outreach basis to the county and beyond. Actiontrack is a charity that works on a full cost recovery basis from their projects and commissioned services. They are a delivery partner for Sound Foundation Somerset, the county's hub for music education. Actiontrack operates with a minimum number of permanent staff (1 f/t and 1p/t) and a number of freelance practitioners who are engaged as project funding become available.

Organisational objectives for 2014/15:

In addition to providing their core services, Actiontrack's work programme in South Somerset included:

- Javanese Gamelan residency at Maiden Beech Middle School and Holyrood Community School.
- Ashcott Primary School Cluster – May
- My Tunes project with Take Art. Delivering music provision for Pupil Referral Units across Somerset including Yeovil and Chard – until 2014, further funding applied for to continue with this into and beyond 2014/15.
- Chard Summer Showbuild – at Holyrood Academy. July/August

Performance & Targets

	Organisation Objectives	Measure	2013/14	2014/15
Participation	SLA related indicators/targets			
	Increase attendances to cultural events	Number of attendances in South Somerset	1240	670
	Increase participation in cultural activities	Number of participations in South Somerset	970	480
Stronger Communities	Develop range of activities across the District	Number of projects delivered	7	4

Participation	Organisation Objectives	Measure	2013/14	2014/15
	As above	Number of community locations	8	6
Efficiency		Gross turnover	£162,000	£141,000
		SDDC funding	Core £1800 Project : £250	Core £1800 Project: £250

Outcomes for the Community 2014/15

- The gamelan residencies have developed understanding of cultural adversity among all young people as well as developing music skills and educational partnerships
- The Ashcott project – Actiontrack has worked with primary school pupils and staff to generate original performance in schools.
- MyTunes – Actiontrack has delivered extensive sessions in music skills, music technology, group work and composition within Pupil Referral Units across the district. They also work with staff to develop in house music-making. Initial developmental sessions with Targeted Youth Support agency.
- Chard Showbuild. Increased take-up including new participants and regular attendees. Also development of digital arts component.

Corporate Plan:

Focus Four: Health and Communities

- In working with children from more socially disadvantaged backgrounds and vulnerable groups, Actiontrack supports the strategic priorities of the Somerset Health and Well-Being Strategy
- The organisation's programme of work supports the South Somerset network of leisure and cultural facilities and brings activity to a local level for our rural communities.

Development Plans 2015/16

In addition to their core services, the following projects are planned for the coming year:

- Possible project in partnership with The Octagon Theatre
- Continued PRU work with My Tunes project in partnership with Take Art.
- Added work alongside Targeted Youth Support
- Chard Summer Showbuild - we hope to develop a programme of taster workshops across the district to feed into this activity. We have also identified this project as a positive source for new Actiontrack trainees.
- Ashcott Primary Cluster arts project
- Continued Sound Foundation Somerset (Music Hub) work across the area through On The Record, Gamelan and The Sound We See Projects

Does anyone else provide this service in South Somerset? No

Total estimated expenditure for 2015/16: £135000 (Somerset)

Amount held in free reserves: £25,000 (Somerset)

Funding Details

Last Award from SDDC for 2014/15 £1,800

Level of Funding sought for 2015/16 £2,000

Recommended level of funding: **£2,000**

Actiontrack is funded by SSDC, TDBC, project funding through grants and commissioned work

Appendix 2 – Performance Monitoring – County-wide Key Strategic Arts Organisations

Members' Comments – Sylvia Seal, Theme Advisor – supportive of all recommendations

Organisation: Take Art

SLA dates:

2015-2016

Aims:

Take Art is an arts development agency serving Somerset. It is a registered charity and a company limited by guarantee. Its purpose is to promote performance and participation in the arts in Somerset. Its arts development programme is delivered through its core services: -

- **Dance:** Take Art regularly works with dancers throughout Somerset to make workshops and dance classes happen; they enable regionally based dancers to join visiting companies when on tour in Somerset, and can negotiate work experience and professional placements for young and emerging dance artists.
- **Rural Touring:** This scheme forms a partnership with village hall promoters to bring high quality professional arts events to rural communities.
- **Early Years:** Early Years works collaboratively with colleagues locally, regionally and internationally to provide opportunities for under-fives and their families to enjoy art experiences of the highest quality and enhance young children's creativity and wellbeing. Take Art offers training and mentoring opportunities for artists and early years practitioners alike and have initiated ground-breaking research of national significance. Using the arts they develop the potential of small children in Somerset and encourage parents to be competent partners in their children's play.
- **Theatre:** Take Art Theatre offers support, resources and opportunities to Somerset-based artists, practitioners and companies; young people and youth theatre companies; venues and programmers.
- **Music:** Take Art delivers a participatory programme of music activity with and for children and young people

Take Art was successful in its bid to become one of the Arts Council England's National Portfolio organisations and therefore continues to receive core funding from them.

Organisational objectives 2014/15:

In addition to their core services, Take Art has been working on the following in 2014/15:

- Applying to the Arts Council England to continue its National Portfolio status. This means they will receive core funding for the next 3 years
- As part of their distinctive Take Art Live programme, to continue working with rural communities to promote high quality shows in villages and aim to deliver at least 22 performances a year in South Somerset
- Applying to Youth Music for 2 projects, a continuation with My Tunes and the Pupil Referral Units in Somerset and working with Targeted Youth Support clients and a 4 year research project in partnership with Holyrood Academy
- Further developing participatory young people's dance opportunities in partnership with the Octagon and planning the development of a follow up project for the next 2 years
- Extending partnerships in South Somerset, such as Yarlinton Housing Association, to help them achieve their aims through creative interventions

Performance & Targets

	Organisation Objectives	Measure	2013/14 (to December 2013)	2014/15 (to December 2014)
Participation	SLA related indicators/targets			
	Increase attendances to cultural events	Number of attendances in South Somerset	1,034	2476
	Increase participation in cultural activities	Number of participations in South Somerset	1,054	825
Equity	Increase opportunities for children and young people to take part in cultural activities	Number of attendances by children and young people	407	822
	As above	Number of participations by children and young people	786	747
	Increase opportunities for older people* to take part in cultural activities *(Defined as 50 +)	Number of attendances by older people	376	1129
	As above	Number of participations by older people	158	12
Stronger Communities	Develop range of activities across the District	Number of projects delivered	7	
	As above	Number of community locations	29	35
Efficiency		Gross turnover	£460,000	£460,000
		SSDC funding	Core:£8,820	Core: £8,820 Project: £10,000

Outcomes for the community 2014/15

- **Rural Touring:** by end of March 2015 the Take Art Rural Touring programme will have brought 22 shows to 14 different village halls across South Somerset, including; Bruton, Castle Cary, Chaffcombe, Charlton Horethorne, Chilthorne Domer, Clapton & Wayford, Curry Mallet, Kingsdon, Ilminster, North Cadbury, Rimpton, South Petherton, Tintinhull and West Coker.
- **Word/Play** was a two year theatre project taking place across Somerset which is drawing to a close in January 2015. Over the two years, Performance Poets worked with groups of adults from Chard Intentional Peer Support Group and South Somerset Mind in Yeovil running regular weekly workshops at the Octagon. They

also created a brand new piece of forum theatre which toured to 10 venues including; Langport, Chard, Yeovil and South Petherton.

- Following on from the success of Word/Play in South Somerset, Take Art formed a productive new partnership with Yarlington Housing Group. A programme of 8 spoken word and poetry workshops were set up at the Octagon for South Somerset residents. These were well attended and culminated in two performances including one at the Yeovil Literature Festival as well as a specially featured programme recorded for Yeovil Radio.
- **Support to Performance Practitioners:** Take Art's Theatre Service were successful in its application to Somerset County Council's Creative Industries Development Fund which runs a support and training programme for dance and theatre practitioners. They are also able to offer a small Seed Fund to individuals and companies and this year 3 of the 11 grants were awarded to South Somerset based people. They have set up an Action Learning Set to support 7 people working in the dance and theatre industry and 2 of those places have been taken up by South Somerset based artists. Take Art also offer particular support to new emerging companies such as Wassail Theatre based in West Coker.
- **InspirED** is a partnership project between Take Art, Somerset Film, Somerset Art Works and SPAEDA to support arts in education projects funded by SCC Compact. During this year in South Somerset alone, Take Art have co-ordinated; a *Drama Festival for Secondary Schools* at the Octagon; offered 3 high quality touring shows by *Theatre Centre*, *China Plate*, *Travelling Light* and as a result delivered shows to Sexey's School, Bucklers Mead, Huish Academy; in partnership with the Octagon Theatre, arranged workshops by *Richard Alston Dance* at the Octagon (with Yeovil College and Preston School) and at Westfield School and by *Frantic Assembly* at Huish Academy. Take Art also coordinated a special tour of a new theatre piece '*Transition*' by Huish Sixth students about the 'transition' of students from primary to secondary schools. This workshop and show package went to West Chinnock, Preston, Huish Episcopi and Hambridge Primary Schools. Wassail Theatre's new production '*Giants*' tours Somerset in Spring 2015, including a performance at Preston Primary. And finally, for the Early Years, Take Art provided 4 sessions in Chard (at Redstart Primary School and at the Scouts Hut) working with 70 practitioners from the Chard Early Years Cluster to explore number and language through creativity as a tool for transition to primary school. Supported by Preschool Learning Alliance.
- **Tangle:** Take Art have a good working relationship with this African Caribbean touring company and supported their Mandela project to Somerset which included workshops and performances at Wadham School as well as in two pubs in Crewkerne.
- **Geminus** was an Early Years dance commission that formed part of the EU funded Dance Dialogues programme. The show was specially made for under fives by French company, Compagnie Ubi. It was a visually and musically stimulating show, tailor-made for children aged 3-5 years and their families. Take Art worked in partnership with Yeovil College Childcare Centre to bring an audience of 120 to two performances at the college. College performing arts students were also invited and took part in a stimulating post show discussion with the company and explored with them the idea of working in this specialist field.
- **Spring Forward Youth Dance Platform** will take place at the Octagon Theatre on 3rd March with over 200 dancers taking part from across the South West (including 3 groups from Westfield School, Somerset Youth Dance Company who are company in residence at the Octagon Theatre and 3 groups based at Yeovil College).
- **Octagon Dance Development Project** – Take Art are continuing to work in partnership with the Octagon Theatre to support their Grants for the Arts project to develop Dance at the venue. This includes running a community dance event in July 2014, Big Dance Urban Jam which brought over 250 young people to the theatre to take part in urban dance activities. The project is developing audiences by taking

dance into the local communities and has offered residencies and workshops so far with Motionhouse, Richard Alston, Twist and Pulse and Jasmin Vardimon. There is a steering group of young people from Yeovil who support the development and the running of the project and a project co-ordinator.

- **Somerset Youth Dance Company** continue to be dance company in residence at the Octagon Theatre, one Yeovil dancer has been selected to be a National Youth Dance Ambassador with Youth Dance England.

Through the additional SSDC £10,000 project funding for 2014/15, Take Art delivered the following:-

- An additional 3 village hall **Rural Touring** events to help build capacity in Chaffcombe, Charlton Horethorne and Chilthorne Domer, taking the total to 25 financially supported shows for this one-off year of 2014/15. The Rural Touring Service also initiated a new project, through this additional funding, to contribute to revitalising the economy of pubs in the district on their 'slow' Mon, Tues & Weds nights. The Rose & Crown at Langport, The Old Barn in Yeovil and the Barton Inn all promoted a theatre show made especially for pub audiences; *One Man and His Cow* by Living Spit from Bristol. All 3 pubs had good audiences and reported markedly improved pub trade on those normally quiet nights.
- A research and development project for **youth theatres**. Take Art mapped the youth theatre provision across the district and sent each leader a questionnaire. At the time of writing this report, they are also surveying all primary, middle and secondary schools to find out if they have lunchtime and after-school drama groups. All youth theatre groups will then be offered the chance to bring a short performance to share with their peers at a Showcase Event on Sat 18th April (date TBC) at The Warehouse Theatre, Ilminster. Also, all youth theatre leaders are being offered a place on a training session with a drama practitioner in March to invigorate their practice.
- To support the **Big Dance Urban Jam** main event which will take place at the Octagon Theatre there has been a number of activities put in place. The ambition is to take the activities into the local community and encourage them to them contribute and take part in the event at the theatre in July. There are 4 mini jam events one in Langport (GingerFred studios), one in Wincanton (Balsam Centre linked to King Alfred's School), one in Crewkerne and one in Yeovil (Birchfield Community Centre). These mini jams are a free afternoon where young people (aged 7-18) can come along and try street dance, break dancing, beat boxin', commercial dance and Zumba. They can perform in an informal setting and spend time with like-minded young people. The events are supported by the steering group of young people, 'Yeovil Allstars', who will be teaching some of these workshops. Alongside these events we will be offering 6 primary schools workshops with a street dance artist with the ambition of these schools then bringing their group to perform at the event in July. This will be offered to all schools. The aim is to also offer a Street Dance CPD session for teacher in South Somerset to learn skills they could take away and use in their own schools (targeting non-specialist dance teachers, eg a primary school teacher or PE teacher).
- Training is being offered to 4 Care Homes in South Somerset through a continuation of the Life Circles project – at the moment we are working with Highfield House, Castle Cary; Sherborne House, Yeovil and Preston Park House, Yeovil with training delivered by Core Dance and Rachelle Green.

Take Art's activities contribute to the following Corporate Aims:

- Maintain and enhance the South Somerset network of leisure and cultural facilities, optimising opportunities for external funding to promote healthy living.
- Help communities to develop local solution to reduce rural isolation and inequalities to meet existing needs of those communities
- Provide targeted support for start-ups and small businesses

- Deliver projects that address the needs of the local community as reflected in the Somerset Health and Well-Being Strategy

Development Plans 2015/16

- As part of their distinctive Take Art Rural Touring programme they will continue working with rural communities to promote high quality shows in villages and aim to deliver at least 22 performances a year in South Somerset
- Take Art will develop their relationship with Yarlinton Housing and explore further theatre opportunities in partnership with them, around health and well being
- They will continue to offer professional development opportunities to theatre and dance practitioners living in South Somerset
- Through the InspirED project, schools across the district will be able to engage in Take Art's specialisms around dance, drama and creative work for the early years
- The KinderGardens Early Years performance programme will continue through 2016
- Spring Forward will take place at the Octagon Theatre again in March 2016 and SYDC will continue to be Dance Company in Residence at the theatre. Take Art will be working with the Octagon to put together a 2nd phase application to the Arts Council to further support the development of dance at the theatre, in Yeovil and throughout South Somerset.

Does anyone else provide this service in South Somerset? No

Total estimated expenditure for 2014/15: £460,000 (Somerset)

Amount held in free reserves: £43,000 (Somerset)

Funding Details

Last Award from SSDC for 2014/15 £8,820

Level of Funding sought for 2015/16 £10,500

Recommended level of funding: **£10,500**

This organisation is also funded by: The Arts Council England (SW) Taunton Deane Borough Council, West Somerset District Council (through Artlife), grants and funds.

Appendix 2 – Performance Monitoring – County-wide Key Strategic Arts Organisations

Member's Comments – Sylvia Seal, Theme Advisor – supportive of all recommendations

Organisation: Somerset Art Works

SLA dates:

2015-2016

Aims

- To support local visual artists by developing opportunities for innovation and excellence
- Develop and extend the profile of SAW and the status of professional artists and makers in Somerset beyond the two week biennial event.
- Enhance the artistic and economic benefits to participating artists and communities.
- Increase public awareness and involvement with visual artists and makers living and working in Somerset.
- Strengthen SAW's educational and community role in Somerset.
- To provide accessible information, support, advice, education and training in partnership with those concerned with the arts in Somerset, through joint projects and networking.
- To input or influence local, regional and national policy forums concerning visual arts and open studios.

The annual Somerset Art Weeks event is funded largely through membership subscriptions, charges for participants and advertising. A small amount of our funding supports administration and overheads so that the small team can raise funds for specific projects and initiatives. The aim of the organisation is to develop opportunities for artists to work here in Somerset and for the community to experience high quality visual arts at a local level. The income for the organisation is raised from a number of sources e.g. County and District Councils, through own funds and managed initiatives, trusts, sponsorship, membership income, donations, Lottery Funds, Arts Council England, European Funds and Government Agencies. They also have a Friends group, who fund raise for specific, targeted areas of and commissioned work.

Organisational objectives 2014/15

In addition to their core services, plans for 2014/15 included:

- Somerset Open Studios Event 20th September till 5th October
- Celebration of Cranes <http://www.thecompanyofcranes.net/schools/>
- Inspired visual arts in Schools
- Z-twist
- Developing new opportunities to be part of local and national initiatives

Performance & Targets

	Organisation Objectives	Measure	2013/14	2014/15
Participation	SLA related indicators/targets			
	Increase attendances to cultural events	Number of attendances in South Somerset	Make the most – 54,031 Other 4,470	Open Studios visits 9,544 Hauser and Wirth guided visits - 80
	Increase participation in cultural activities	Number of participations in South Somerset	Including Make the most 706	
Equity	Increase opportunities for children and young people to take part in cultural activities	Number of attendances by children and young people		2% between 17 and 19 4% under 16
	As above	Number of participations by children and young people	706	Company of cranes + e-twinning 109 Some When 10
	Increase opportunities for older people* to take part in cultural activities *(Defined as 50 +)	Number of attendances by older people		42% between 50 and 64
	As above	Number of participations by older people		

Participation	Organisation Objectives	Measure	2013/14	2014/15
Stronger Communities	Develop range of activities across the District	Number of projects delivered	4	3
	As above	Number of community locations	9	4
Efficiency		Gross turnover	£148,384.	£143,658
		SSDC funding	Core:£3,030 Project:	Core:£3.030

**SAW 2014 – Somerset Open Studios Event:
SOUTH SOMERSET**

	Open Studios 2014
Number of Venues Responding	36 (53%) (35 selling, 1 non-selling)
Total Number of Venues	68
Recorded Number of Visits	9,544
Total Projected Number of Visits	18,020
Recorded Sales	£78,475.00
Total Projected Sales	£150,214
Average Sales per Venue	£2,242
Average Number of Visits per Venue	265

The SAW Open Studios festival took place between 20th September to 5th October 2014, attracting visitors into the county and generating sales for small, independent businesses and additional custom for local services. Data collected for in-direct spend at local facilities indicates that visitors spent on average £68.79.

Outcomes for the community in 2014/15

- Z – Twist bringing together artists, designers, textile producers, educators, curators and archivists to raise the profile of high quality textiles in Somerset and the south west - past, present and future. 3 contemporary designer/makers, Debbie Smyth, Penny Wheeler and Lucy Lean were placed in traditional textile industry and education settings over a period of 3 months to enable them to develop a new body of work with support from textile manufacturers, local heritage collections and Somerset College. Selected work was shown in Somerset and Stroud. Z-Twist is part of SAW's 'Make, Create, Cultivate', a 2-year programme to showcase and develop contemporary craft in Somerset.
- Temporary arts installation in Yeovil Town centre to investigate the kind of activities local people would like to see in the country park.
- Bursaries were offered to 4 artists to develop new bodies of work and take part in the Open Studios 2014 event. Artists developed work in response to the theme of 'The Levels and Moors', to represent their relationship to this unique landscape in Somerset. Each artist created work from their chosen materials, showed their making

process and talked about their work in their allocated studios. Some work was made to sell during the Open Studios event

- Each year SAW produces an education pack to encourage schools to view Somerset Art Weeks as a fantastic resource right on their doorstep. There are many ways for schools to get involved and discover opportunities for inspiring creativity and learning outside the classroom. The pack includes: advice on visiting venues, organising tours, engaging with artists, workshops, setting homework activities and a range of activity resources.

Corporate Plan

Somerset Art Works' activities contribute to the following Corporate Aims:

- Maintain and enhance the South Somerset network of leisure and cultural facilities, optimising opportunities for external funding to promote healthy living.
- Help communities to develop local solution to reduce rural isolation and inequalities to meet existing needs of those communities
- Provide targeted support for start-ups and small businesses
- Deliver projects that address the needs of the local community as reflected in the Somerset Health and Well-Being Strategy

Development Plans 2015/16 (*Future projects in South Somerset or countywide*)

- Somerset Art Weeks Exhibitions and Events Festival; 3rd to 18th October 2015
- Local Momentum projects including 'Gathering,' a community and craft project with the National Trust at their Stoke sub Hamdon Priory site
- 'Cranes and Communities' with the RSPB <http://www.thecompanyofcranes.net/schools/>
- A two year programme of arts activities at Yeovil Country Park, to encourage more people from different backgrounds to use the park
- The Craftivist Garden -a unique project that goes beyond seeing craft as a relaxing tool but exploring craft as an incredible tool to help us connect, challenge ourselves and help us grow and flourish in our lives. Participants from all around the UK are invited to knit, crochet and embroider flowers and take time to think about wellbeing. Flowers will form a collective garden in January in London.
- Following an enquiry from Curry Mallet primary school, SAW is working with Somerset schools in 2015 to celebrate the 800 year anniversary of the Magna Carta. There will be an opportunity for an artist to develop ideas and resources for schools to use in creating textile hanging panels for a celebration in June.

Does anyone else provide this service in South Somerset? No

Total estimated expenditure for 2014/15: £143,000 (Somerset)

Amount held in free reserves: £75,000 (Somerset)

Funding Details

Last Award from SSDC for 2014/15 £3,030

Level of Funding sought for 2015/16 £3,500

Recommended level of funding: **£3,500**

This organisation is also funded by: Taunton Deane Borough Council, West Somerset District Council (through Artlife), the Arts Council England and other funds and trusts

Appendix 2 – Performance Monitoring – County-wide Key Strategic Arts Organisations

Members' Comments – Sylvia Seal, Theme Advisor – supportive of all recommendations

Organisation: Somerset Film

SLA dates:

2015-2016

Aims

The Engine Room is Somerset's accessible community media centre and the base for the services of registered charity Somerset Film Ltd. From the Engine Room, Somerset Film supports digital media production and training for both the amateur and professional sectors. They offer a programme of outreach projects that encourage the use of digital media to all sectors of the community and provide learning opportunities through schools based projects, apprenticeship schemes and training for all abilities.

Core activities include:

- Drop-in access to equipment, on line resources and training
- Production and training opportunities and facilities
- Advice, support and information to a wide range of film and digital media makers, from absolute beginners to high level professionals
- Project and outreach work – specialising in working with community groups and individuals who want to get started with film

Organisational objectives for 2014/15:

In addition to their core services, the following were proposed for the year 2014/15:

- **InspirED Somerset** – a new education service for schools, supported by the Somerset Compact for Children and Young People, based on subscriptions and for which Somerset Film is the lead organisation. There are two filmNET events aimed at educators planned for May in Yeovil. These events are free to attend and non-subscribers are welcome.
- **Ignite Somerset** - The Ignite focus over the coming months is South Somerset and will focus on visual art. Ignite is delivering a series of workshops that provide artists with an opportunity to explore different aspects of digital production. They are designed to both teach practical skills and encourage creative experimentation/play with digital technology.

Performance & Targets

	Organisation Objectives	Measure	2013/14	2014/15
Participation	SLA related indicators/targets			
	Increase attendances to cultural events	Number of attendances in South Somerset		965
	Increase participation in cultural activities	Number of participations in South Somerset		312

Participation	Organisation Objectives	Measure	2013/14	2014/15
Stronger Communities	Develop range of activities across the District	Number of projects delivered	7	6
	As above	Number of community locations	7	6
Efficiency		Gross turnover	£400,000	£455,868
		SSDC funding	Core £1,500	Core £1,500 Project £1,000

Outcomes for the community 2014/15

SSDC's core funding ensures that Somerset Film provides support for local community groups and individuals, in the past year this has included:

- Advice and support through weekly public access drop ins both at the Engine Room and at Pop-ups
- Programme of accessible public training
- Co-production opportunities – e.g. advice and support for Dee Chilton on Hopeless Heroes
- In partnership with the Arts and Entertainment Service, Somerset Film ran the 'iSNAP' phone/tablet photographic competition and exhibition at the Octagon Theatre. The project provided an opportunity for the community to submit their photographs to an online gallery (either www.somerset.tv or www.ignitesomerset.com), winning entries featured in the Octagon showcase. Alongside the open competition Ignite delivered phone/tablet photographic workshops at InspirED schools in South Somerset.
- Site-specific Digital Art at The Quedam Shopping Centre - During the two-week period (10th to 23rd June) Ignite showcased work generated through the digital-insight training sessions (and work by other artists if appropriate) at unused retail units in the town centre.
- Online map - Ignite is looking at ways of consolidating material produced into an online digital archive/map. The plan is to create a dynamic interface that reflects the Ignite programme, i.e. digital platforms for artists working in a range of media across the county.
- Continuation of the Curry Rivel film for Curry Rivel Heritage Day.
- Langport Christmas Extravaganza – projection of work created with dancers in association with Ginger Fred Studios, Langport and shown in the town square during a pre-Christmas community event
- Pop-up Engine Room – week of activities including drop in, screening, animation workshop and film in a day workshop at The Quedam Shopping Centre during the summer holidays
- BFI Film Academy – programme of masterclasses, screenings and filmmaking for 16 – 19 year olds with bursary and travel support

Corporate Plan

Somerset Film's activities contribute to the following Corporate Aims:

- Maintain and enhance the South Somerset network of leisure and cultural facilities, optimising opportunities for external funding to promote healthy living.
- Help communities to develop local solution to reduce rural isolation and inequalities to meet existing needs of those communities
- Provide targeted support for start-ups and small businesses
- Deliver projects that address the needs of the local community as reflected in the Somerset Health and Well-Being Strategy

Development Plans 2015/16

In addition to their core services, the following projects are planned for the coming year:

- Ignite 2.0 - three year programme
- Ignite Roadshow, Chard –a weeklong ideas lab with artists, leading to projections on a public building
- Continuation of Curry Rivel local history film
- Sound We See – Super8 film project with Los Angeles based Echo Park Film Centre to create a celluloid portrait of Somerset
- Pop-Up Engine Room – delivery of week of activities usually available at their Bridgwater-base to a South Somerset location e.g. community setting or an empty shop
- InspirED - – an education service for schools, supported by the Somerset Compact for Children and Young People, based on subscriptions and for which Somerset Film is the lead organisation.
- Expansion of premises at The Engine Room with wider provision including training room and people's archive

We continue to fundraise for additional activity and would like thank SSDC officer Pauline Burr for her ongoing support and advice in shaping these.

Does anyone else provide this service in South Somerset? No

Total estimated expenditure for 2015/16: £400,000 (Somerset)

Amount held in free reserves: £7,000

Funding Details

Last Award from SSDC for 2014/15 £1,500

Level of Funding sought for 2015/16 £2,000

Recommended level of funding: **£ 2,000**

This organisation is also funded by: Taunton Deane Borough Council, West Somerset District Council (through Artlife)