

CULTURE DEVELOPMENT FUND SCOPING EXERCISE

TOWN / CITY	Liskeard
ORGANISATION	Liskerrett Centre
PROJECT TITLE	Liskerrett Nowydh (working title)
PROJECT CONTACT	
Name	Jenny Foster
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Role	Liskerrett Centre Co-ordinator
BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF YOUR PROJECT	
<p>This capital investment will create a new purpose-built arts and community centre to serve Liskeard and East Cornwall.</p>	
PROJECT OUTCOMES	
How many businesses will be supported?	One directly, but many more through improved cultural facilities and programming.
How many jobs will be created?	Two – It is intended to create new roles for a Cultural Programmer and a Workspace and Centre Coordinator (this role would be shared with the Cattle Market Digital and Creative Workspace project).
What will be the impact on visitors (domestic and inbound) and audience numbers?	<p>Whilst the current Liskerrett Centre is well-loved by its users this is despite of rather than due to the existing facilities! The Liskerrett Centre is poorly equipped and run-down. The site was designed as a primary school and this presents a number of practical challenges to its current use as an arts and community centre. Several of the buildings on site will be unusable in a few years' time. Liskeard needs a purpose-built venue of which it can be proud and which will allow for a good quality cultural programming offer to the town, visitors and surrounding areas. Liskeard includes one neighbourhood that is among the most deprived (worst 10%) in England and a further two neighbourhoods that are in the 20% most deprived. The Liskerrett Centre currently attracts in the region of 30,000 visits over the course of a year. Their audience numbers for films screenings</p>

	<p>which take place twice monthly are from 80-100. The maximum capacity of the hall for live performances is 80. The Liskerrett is very well-used by a wide range of local community groups. Liskerrett are both C Fylm and Carn to Cove members. Recently the Liskerrett programme has featured 3 Daft Monkeys, Panta Rei Dance Theater (from Oslo, Norway), Little Trebiggan Productions and Mazed Cornish Printmaking Workshop. Liskerrett also coordinates Liskeard Lights Up, the annual winter lantern festival.</p> <p>Due to the limitations on the current Liskerrett hall, Liskerrett has a trial joint promotion agreement with Liskeard Town Council, to hold events in the Public Hall. They have also hosted 3 events as part of their fundraising campaign, promoting local talent over the past year.</p> <p>There are currently 23,000 visits in total to Liskeard Museum, Stuart House Heritage Centre and the Tourist Information Centre. Liskeard Leisure Centre attracts 360,000 visits a year. There is clearly the scope to boost the audience levels, particularly for evening events as there is no regular direct competitor with a cultural night-time offer in the town.</p> <p>Liskeard is a well-connected destination on the A38 and with a mainline train station. It is the gateway to the Cornish Mining World Heritage Site. Sited between Bodmin Moor and the sea it is a business hub for a wide catchment area across South East Cornwall.</p>
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CASE FOR INVESTMENT AGAINST CULTURE DEVELOPMENT FUND

CRITERIA - *Please give a brief description of how your project meets any of the following broad categories*

<p>Events, e.g. new festivals, city branding campaigns, major showcase events, major public events</p>	<p>Whilst this is not a programming project it has the potential to greatly add to the programming offer in Liskeard. A properly equipped and staffed centre will be the strategic boost to a more consistent and proactively programmed arts and cultural offer for Liskeard.</p> <p>The Liskerrett Centre already performs this role to a certain extent, and acts as a crucial host/link</p>
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	<p>through which one-off cultural projects and opportunities can be facilitated, but without a paid staff team it cannot be expected to take a greater strategic lead in developing Liskeard's cultural offer.</p>
<p>Leadership training / upskilling to give places the capacity to develop local cultural propositions or increase the scale and impact of their work</p>	<p>Investment in Liskerrett Nowydh will upskill the creative sector in Liskeard. The only paid staff at the Liskerrett Centre are cleaners and the Centre itself is staffed and run by a dedicated team of volunteers. This operating model is not sustainable in the longer-term as it is not practical to ask volunteers to commit to level of responsibility and time commitment that is necessary operate a new centre.</p> <p>The two volunteers who currently work together as Centre Co-ordinators are of retirement age and it is not clear how this role will be filled in future years.</p> <p>The Cultural Programmer needs to be a paid post to allow for a consistent approach to developing programming, marketing and use of the centre in a strategic way.</p> <p>Consistent programming, better marketing and a busy community offer will enable a level of ticketing and hire income will allow for a sustainable business model. Once established in their post it is envisaged that the Cultural Programmer could work with other venues, events and festivals in Liskeard to share expertise and further improve cultural provision for resident and visitors alike. A Cultural Programmer would also provide the town with additional capacity to maximise the impact one-off cultural events in the town (e.g. Golden Tree's Man Engine, Portas Pilot, Olympic Torch Relay etc.)</p> <p>A new purpose-built facility will attract and inspire new volunteers. We could seek advice from our partners at Sterts on this aspect as they have been particularly successful in maximising volunteer involvement at their venue and training volunteers in a range of roles including theatre technician skills.</p>
<p>Capital investment in physical space for culture, heritage and creative industries, e.g. new cultural/community spaces, regeneration of existing assets including heritage, adaption or</p>	<p>Capital investment is sought for Liskerrett Nowydh which will be a new purpose-built cultural and community centre for Liskeard and East Cornwall in the Liskeard Cattle Market site. The largest space will be a multi-purpose hall with a seating capacity of 200, together with 2 meeting rooms. The main hall will be fully equipped and highly flexible and sub-dividable space (lighting and sound</p>

<p>extension of existing cultural venues to increase capacity or extend their function, sustainable workspaces / workshops / makerspaces</p>	<p>systems, film projector, removable stage) that would be fully-ready ready to host performances, film screenings, creative workshops, community events/groups, exercise classes, temporary exhibitions, conferences and meetings. The centre will act as a hub for the creative and digital workspaces that is proposed as part of the wider Liskeard Cattle Market development, this new market segment will need meeting rooms and seminar space. Suitable backstage and front of house facilities, meeting rooms, back office space, catering facilities and storage. There is an existing car park on the Cattle Market site and get-in/get-out access for touring companies will be excellent (the existing Liskerrett Centre is sited on a narrow single-track lane).</p>		
<p>Capital and resource activity in new creative skills development and materials</p>			
<p>Growing the local visitor economy through investment in the cultural and heritage capacity of destinations</p>	<p>Liskeard has close links with the coastal town of Looe, which is a popular tourist destination and there are good transport links between the two including regular rail and bus services. There is a large untapped market in Looe which attracts approx. 10% of all staying visitors to Cornwall. Investment in Liskerrett Nowydh should make Liskeard a more viable and attractive option for a night out during a stay in Looe. Liskeard's night time offer is currently very limited and Liskerrett Nowydh would greatly strengthen Liskeard's offer to the tourist market.</p>		
<p>Business support for creative industry sector SMEs, helping them scale up or exploit IP potential</p>			
<p>Social investment through impact bonds</p>	<p>It is proposed that profit on rental income from workspaces on the Cattle Market site is used to fund the roles of a Workspace Manager and Cultural Co-ordinator and that back-office facilities could be shared by the Liskerrett Nowydh and workspaces.</p>		
<p>PROJECT FUNDING</p>			
<p>Capital cost of project</p>	<p>£ To be agreed following feasibility study</p>		
<p>Revenue cost of project</p>	<p>£</p>		
<p>SOURCES OF FUNDING: SECURED?</p>	<table border="1"> <tr> <td data-bbox="600 1910 995 1977"> <p>YES</p> </td> <td data-bbox="995 1910 1401 1977"> <p>NO</p> </td> </tr> </table>	<p>YES</p>	<p>NO</p>
<p>YES</p>	<p>NO</p>		

Commercial sale of part of Cattle Market Site to retail sector.		Due to be put to market in September 2018
Cornwall Council towards Feasibility Study	£11k	
Liskerrett Centre		Once Liskerrett Nowydh is fully operational the existing Liskerrett site would be sold. This could be invested either into the capital costs or as an endowment fund to support Liskerrett Nowydh operating costs.

PROJECT DELIVERY

At what stage is your project? e.g. RIBA Works Stage, has Planning been secured?	The project is at RIBA Plan Stage 0; £11k has recently been secured to undertake a feasibility study. Cattle Market site is owned by Cornwall Council and is a key strategic site for redevelopment.
Is there community support for the project? Have they been consulted? Evidence of demand?	Yes, community consultation for the Cattle Market site was undertaken by LHC (Lacey, Hickie & Caley) in 2016. A new community and arts space for Liskeard was central to the preferred option. Jenny Foster represents the Liskerrett Centre on the Liskeard Cattle Market Working Group. In 2017, Liskerrett undertook a major survey of the local community with the help of Cornwall Rural Community Charity with the aim of understanding both the current and future needs of our users, volunteers and other local stakeholders. The overwhelming message that came through the consultation is that the existing facilities are becoming tired and need urgent investment to maintain the quality of offer to the community. Investment is needed now to reduce future maintenance costs. It is believed that the Victorian building requires about £250,000 of investment and a new hall/art block (N.B. on Liskerrett's existing site) would cost something in the order of £1,000,000.

ANY FURTHER INFORMATION YOU WISH TO PROVIDE

Starts Theatre based on Bodmin Moor is keen to work in partnership with the Liskerrett Centre on the project. Their main theatre space is open air and they are very interested in the potential to offer a wider range of year-round activities by having a winter-base at a suitably equipped theatre space in Liskeard.

Return to Tamsin Daniel
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NO LATER THAN FRIDAY 20 JULY