
Cultural Action Zones (CAZ) Pilot

Learnings Summary Report

1.0 Context

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important when seeking to deliver interventions within communities which traditionally have struggled to engage with public sector support.

From our pilot learnings, an effective method of guaranteeing grassroots support has been the formation and regular meeting of steering groups with oversight for the whole project. These steering groups have been comprised of grant holders, key local stakeholders, and delivery partners. As such, evidencing this consultation and grassroots involvement on applications should be a prerequisite to receiving funding.

Microgrants are an effective method of bringing local creatives together and kickstarting activity, especially in areas which lack formalised creative communities. An effective microgrants model may consist of:

- An open call for EOIs for commissioned cultural work
- The establishment of a local creative network – if it doesn't already exist – to better support all local creatives, whether they applied for grant funding or not
- Microgrants awarded will typically be in the range £300-£1000, although some may be up to £6000
- A range of artistic, experimental and community works and activities will then be delivered locally, with the networks maximising the value and impact of each.

In the pilot phase, these cultural/artist network meetings have been hugely popular and have been able to continue long after the microgrants have been awarded. Other commercial opportunities have begun to be circulated in several of these groups as synergies emerge quickly through networking activity of this type.

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For landlords,

demonstrate the value of the space to prospective future