

KENT COUNTY COUNCIL – PROPOSED RECORD OF DECISION

DECISION TO BE TAKEN BY:

Michael Hill, Cabinet Member for Community and Regulatory Services

DECISION NO:

22/00088

For publication Yes

Key decision: YES

Subject Matter / Title of Decision: Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS) Create Growth Programme

Decision:

As Cabinet Member for Community and Regulatory Services, I agree, subject to the bid to DCMS being successful, that KCC enters into a grant agreement with DCMS and takes on the lead role of accountable body for the management and delivery of the regional South-East Create Growth Programme 2022 to 2025.

Reason(s) for decision:

In 2020, the UK's Creative Industries contributed £95 billion in Gross Value Added (GVA) to the UK economy and employed more than 2.3 million people. Creative industry business support is a strategic priority within the Kent and Medway Cultural Strategy, the KCC Culture and Economy Team Business Plan and Framing Kent's Future of Levelling Up Kent by delivering a better co-ordinated approach to economic development and backing SMEs and entrepreneurs to start-up and grow.

Cabinet Committee recommendations and other consultation:

The proposal is being discussed at the Growth, Economic Development and Communities Cabinet Committee on 22 September 2022.

Any alternatives considered and rejected:**Not to submit a bid**

In 2020, the UK's Creative Industries contributed £95 billion in Gross Value Added (GVA) to the UK economy and employed more than 2.3 million people. Creative industry business support is a strategic priority within the Kent and Medway Cultural Strategy, the KCC Culture and Economy Team Business Plan and Framing Kent's Future of Levelling Up Kent by delivering a better co-ordinated approach to economic development and backing SMEs and entrepreneurs to start-up and grow. In the event of a successful bid to DCMS, Kent creative businesses will benefit from a targeted three-year programme of business support; access to a £7 million national fund for finance support; and access to investor capacity building activities developed through the programme.

Not to act as accountable body

Positioning KCC as accountable body is the strongest option in terms of our profile with the sector and with regional and national partners and will lead to the ongoing growth of the Kent economy through business development and inward investment.

Any interest declared when the decision was taken and any dispensation granted by the Proper Officer:

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signed

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date