



# Work to Support Lancashire's National Portfolio Organisations

Presentation to Community, Cultural, and  
Corporate Services Scrutiny Committee meeting  
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# National Portfolio Organisations

- *“National Portfolio Organisations are leaders in their areas, with a collective responsibility to protect and develop our national arts and cultural ecology.”*
- Key funding stream for local arts across Lancashire due to the scale (£445m per year across 985 organisations nationally) and duration of funding (typically 3 year programmes )
- Currently within the 2025-27 programme but with extension 2026/27 extension process now live.



# LCC Role

- Organisations primarily lead their own bids for this and other resources through a network of professionals experienced at making such bids.
- LCC (Cultural Services- Adults) and Creative Lancashire (GETH) work at the margins of the process to encourage new Motabhoy to consider and properly prepare for bidding into the NPO and other funding opportunities
- Full listing of organisations and amounts available [online](#)



# Creative Step Programme

- Over the months leading up to the ACE NPO programme Cultural Services supported Arts Lancashire to deliver a series of workshops and webinars to organisations interested in applying to become an NPO.
- These sessions brought in experts from across the country to provide information which would give organisations the best possible chance of success. The success of this has been shared as a model of good practice to other authorities nationally.
- In total, 18 Pan-Lancashire organisations joined the portfolio for 2023. 10 Lancashire arts organisations existing Arts Council England (ACE) National Portfolio Organisation (NPO) continued to be supported as NPO organisation



# Lancashire Organisations Supported (£1.98m)

Blackpool Grand Theatre, Blackpool • Burnley Youth Theatre, Burnley • Horse + Bamboo, Rossendale • Imitating The Dog, Lancaster • In-Situ, Pendle • Lancaster Arts, Lancaster • More Music, Morecambe • The Dukes, Lancaster • The Grundy Art Gallery, Blackpool • The Harris Museum, Art Gallery & Library, Preston 8 new organisations were brought into the portfolio within Lancashire for the first time. These include: • Blackburn Museum & Art Gallery Blackburn • British Textile Biennial Blackburn Page 14 • Culturapedia Blackburn • The National Festival of Making Blackburn • The Whittaker Rossendale • LightPool Blackpool • Dance Syndrome Hyndburn • Idle Women Hyndburn

