

# Culture and Communities Committee

10.00am, Tuesday 29 January 2019

## Festivals and Events Core Programme 2019/20

Item number	8.6
Report number	
Executive/routine	
Wards	All
Council Commitments	<a href="#">46</a>

### Executive Summary

---

This report provides an update on the recommended core programme of festivals and events for 2019/20 including a new multi-cultural event delivery model.

The programme is aligned with the Council's Events Strategy which was reported and approved at the [Culture and Sport Committee on 31 May 2016](#). The Strategy is designed to provide a positive mix of new and well established cultural and sporting events which promote Edinburgh as a vibrant, contemporary, international city. As captured in the Strategy document, the approach is to support events on three Tiers, or levels, of international, national and city importance.

## Festivals and Events Core Programme 2019/20

### 1. Recommendations

---

- 1.1 It is recommended that Committee:
- 1.1.1 approves in-principle the following proposed allocations from the Events budget:
    - 1.1.1.1 £80,000 towards the European Climbing Championships (including £10,000 additional contingency if needed.);
    - 1.1.1.2 £15,000 towards the Women's Tour of Scotland;
    - 1.1.1.3 £5,000 towards the Scottish Diving Championships;
    - 1.1.1.4 £5,000 towards the Scottish Short Course Swimming Championships;
    - 1.1.1.5 £10,000 towards the Edinburgh International Swimming Meet;
    - 1.1.1.6 £5,000 towards an open water swimming event in Portobello;
    - 1.1.1.7 £6,000 towards two netball home nation events;
    - 1.1.1.8 £10,000 towards a new Fair Trade fiesta event;
    - 1.1.1.9 £30,000 towards the Scottish Album of the Year Awards 2019
    - 1.1.1.10 £5,000 per annum for three years from 2019/20 to 2021/22 towards the delivery of Edinburgh International Culture Summit events in 2020 and 2022
  - 1.1.2 approves the third party cultural grants budget allocation of £33,600 towards a new multi-cultural event model, utilising funding previously allocated to Edinburgh Mela Ltd; and
  - 1.1.3 notes the continued in-principle commitment to the following events from the Events budget:
    - 1.1.3.1 £15,000 towards Armed Forces Day from the 2019/20 financial year; and
    - 1.1.3.2 £10,000 towards the Edinburgh Award; and
    - 1.1.3.3 £5,000 towards the Remembrance Day Service.

## 2. Background

---

- 2.1 The Council's Events Strategy, as approved by the [Culture and Sport Committee on 31 May 2016](#), is designed to provide a positive mix of new and well established cultural and sporting events which promote Edinburgh as a vibrant, contemporary international city. The Strategy adopts a three tier approach to the development of the city's events programme. The programme of events and festivals for 2019/20 is aligned with the Strategy and has been devised in consultation with the Events Champions.
- 2.2 The first quarter events of the 2018/19 events programme, which included a lighting installation project, and a Localities event funding programme, was approved at the [Culture and Communities Committee of 14 November 2017](#).
- 2.3 This report describes the current proposed programme of cultural and sporting events in 2019/20 and recommendations for longer lead time events going forward.

## 3. Main report

---

### **Festivals and Events Core Programme 2019/20**

- 3.1 The current proposed programme of the 2019/20 Festivals and Events is set out in Appendix 1.
- 3.2 As captured in the Events Strategy ([Culture and Sport Committee on 31 May 2016](#)) a series of bespoke Tier 3 events should be delivered.

### **2019/20 Programme of Events**

#### 3.3 Tier 1 major international events

- 3.3.1 The International Federation for Sport Climbing (IFSC) has accepted a bid from Edinburgh to host the **2019 European Championships in Lead and Speed Climbing** at the Edinburgh International Climbing Arena in Ratho. This follows on from Edinburgh's successful hosting of the IFSC World Cup event in September 2017. Climbing is now an Olympic Sport and will feature in the 2020 Tokyo Olympics, and the 2019 event will be an important test for UK and European would-be Olympians. The event will attract the top climbers from all over Europe, and will be held on 4-6 October. The following partner agencies are involved in the delivery of this event: Event Scotland, Edinburgh Leisure, British Mountaineering Council, and Climb Scotland. An allocation of £70,000 is recommended from the Events Budget, and this will be matched by Event Scotland. A further allocation of £10,000 is recommended as part of a joint underwriting package with Event Scotland. This will be held in reserve as additional contingency funding for the event, in case of need due to any exceptional factors such as adverse currency exchange rates.

### 3.4 Tier 2 national events

- 3.4.1 **Armed Forces Day** (June 2019) continues to recognise the contribution of veterans and the Council's commitment to the Community Covenant. This event presents a city centre march and finale site, featuring charity and information stalls associated with the Armed Forces. An allocation of £15,000 is recommended from the Events Budget.
- 3.4.2 The first ever **Women's Tour of Scotland** will take place on 9-11 August, with the start and finish for the final stage in Edinburgh on Sunday 11 August. Alongside the elite race, which will be a great showcase for women's sport, the event in Edinburgh will also feature two different length public rides where up to 5000 women will get the opportunity to ride on part of the same route, starting and finishing in Holyrood Park. The event will be broadcast on ITV4 and has the support of Event Scotland, Scottish Cycling, British Cycling and the International Cycling Union. It will feature 18-20 top teams of six riders from Europe, Australia and North America, as well as Great Britain and Scotland. Scottish cycling champions Katie Archibald and Sir Chris Hoy are ambassadors for the event, which will be delivered by Sport for Television Ltd, previously responsible for the Tour de France in the UK, and several Tours of Britain. The Women's Tour of Scotland will have a Police Scotland motorcycle escort group throughout its 350k route across Scotland. It will finish with three climbs of Queen's Drive, up around Arthur's Seat in Holyrood Park. An allocation of £15,000 is recommended from the Events Budget.
- 3.4.3 The annual **Scottish Diving Championships** (December 2019) will again attract the best Scottish divers, and indeed some of the best UK divers to the Royal Commonwealth Pool. The event has been growing year on year, alongside an accelerating interest in diving at all levels. The 2018 event was chosen by Tom Daley as his return to diving following a significant break from competition. Local divers Grace Reid and James Heatly also continue to support this event. An allocation of £5,000 is recommended from the Events Budget.
- 3.4.4 The annual **Scottish Short Course Swimming Championships** (December 2019) are Scottish Swimming's premier 25-metre swimming event, attracting over 800 competitors and some 2,500 spectators over three days. The competition brings swimmers from across Scotland, the UK, and depending on the international calendar each year, also from Europe. The Championships are delivered to a very high standard, with a focus on event presentation, creating an exciting and engaging experience for swimmers, volunteers and spectators. The event will be streamed live on the Scottish Swimming website. An allocation of £5,000 is recommended from the Events Budget.

### 3.5 Tier 3 bespoke city events

- 3.5.1 The pilot **Localities Events Fund** 2017/18 was considered a success as reported to this committee on [20 March 2018](#). Feedback from applicants, panel members and local councillors indicated that to ensure a wider reach and spread of funding within Localities the management of the fund should be led by Localities. The Culture budget allocated £40,000 towards the Locality Events Fund and this has been matched with £10,000 per Locality totalling £20,000 for each. In consultation with Localities Managers funding guidelines and application process have been updated. The second round of applications will be open from December 2018, with funding awarded via a panel process in each Locality from January 2019.
- 3.5.1 As reported to this Committee on [20 March 2018](#) the Council has commissioned a **light installation** event with an approved budget allocation of £65,000. The council has been in discussion with the Edinburgh Arts Festival to produce an artists' lighting installation to be prominently staged in the city from February until potentially the August summer festivals period. With the aim of positively engaging residents and visitors with the piece and related activity throughout the period of installation. Committee members will be regularly updated on the progress and detail of the programme as it is finalised.
- 3.5.2 The annual **Edinburgh Award** marks the outstanding contribution of an Edinburgh citizen in their chosen field. The Award recipients are presented with the Loving Cup at a ceremony in the City Chambers and an imprint of their hands placed in the Chambers quadrangle. An allocation of £10,000 is recommended from within the Events Budget for this event.
- 3.5.3 The annual **Remembrance Day Service** in St Giles' Cathedral and wreath laying ceremony in the High Street will continue to be supported through the provision of a large outdoor screen to relay the Remembrance service from within the Cathedral to the public gathered outside. An allocation of £5,000 has been identified within the Events Budget for this event.
- 3.5.4 The Royal Commonwealth Pool (RCP) hosts the **Edinburgh International Swimming Meet** annually (March 2020). This event has grown in stature as the quality of the venue and the meet has attracted increasing numbers of top-level swimmers, and it helps affirm the RCP's rightful place as a premier swimming and aquatics venue. This event will look to build on what has now been firmly established as one of the best swimming meets in the UK. An allocation of £10,000 is recommended from the Events Budget.

- 3.5.5 British Cycling will again bring their **HSBC City Ride** (June 2019) to Edinburgh next year. This is the free cycle ride for families, children and young people, aimed at giving participants a safe and enjoyable city-centre cycling experience in a carnival atmosphere and with no traffic to contend with. The 2018 event included an event hub in the Meadows comprising a cycling-related event village with various attractions, such as a Go Ride manoeuvrability challenge, a static cycle challenge, bicycle maintenance sessions, information on Edinburgh cycle routes, etc. There was also some entertainment along the route, including music, a bubble tunnel and a sprint section where riders could test their speed measured against a standard set by Sir Chris Hoy. The event was deemed a great success, attracting 7,000 participants, and generating extensive media coverage. A budget allocation of £30,000 per annum for three years has been identified within the Events Budget and was approved at this Committee on [14 November 2017](#). Discussions are continuing to secure a £20,000 contribution from the Smarter Choices, Smarter Places grants fund (administered by Paths for All) for the 2019 event.
- 3.5.6 An **open water swimming event** is planned for Portobello next summer. Open water swimming is currently enjoying a huge growth in popularity, and this would serve as a test event for a future, larger event, which may attract funding from Event Scotland. Portobello beach is itself enjoying a growth in popularity, with sports such as dinghy sailing and beach volleyball now taking place there throughout the season. Open water swimming can be enjoyed with or without a wetsuit, and this event would provide an opportunity for local people to challenge themselves in a friendly but competitive environment. An allocation of £5,000 is recommended from the Events Budget.
- 3.5.7 Netball Scotland are proposing to stage **two home nation pro-team netball matches** at Oriam in November and December 2019. The Sirens are Scotland's only semi-professional netball team and play against mostly English opposition in the Vitality Netball Super-League. The Sirens were created to help develop the sport of netball in Scotland by providing a world-class training and competition programme for players, coaches and officials. The majority of the players also form part of Scotland's national netball squad, so the Sirens provides important opportunities for them to play regularly together as a team in a competitive environment. Playing mostly at their home in Glasgow, these matches will provide rare opportunities for people in Edinburgh to see their team in action in the East of Scotland. An allocation of £6,000 is recommended from the Events Budget.
- 3.5.8 A **Fair Trade Fiesta** event in 11-12 May 2019 is a celebratory music event. Partnership Council funding would ensure high quality musicians to take part in an exciting local event and reflect the Council's support of Fair Trade principles and values at the Ross Bandstand as host venue. This event is in partnership with locally based producers. An allocation of £10,000 is recommended from the Events Budget.

- 3.5.9 The **Scottish Album of the Year (SAY) Award** has grown to become Scotland's most popular and prestigious music prize. Developed by the Scottish Music Industry Association (SMIA) in association with Creative Scotland, The SAY Award champions the extraordinary strength and diversity of Scotland's musical landscape. With previous Longlist titles featuring hip-hop, rock, alternative, traditional, folk, classical, dubstep, reggae, pop and jazz, The SAY Award accommodates Scottish music in all its influential, inspiring and idiosyncratic glory. From mainstream platinum sellers to self-released left-field outriders, The SAY Award illuminates Scotland's music scene with the ambition, credibility and commitment it so richly deserves. After being held in Paisley for the previous three years, the awards ceremony will come to Edinburgh in September 2019, alongside the Longlist nominations announcement, in June 2019. An allocation of £30,000 is recommended from within the Events Budget for this event.
- 3.5.10 Initiated in 2012, the fourth Edinburgh International Culture Summit took place at the Scottish Parliament from Wednesday 22 to Friday 24 August 2018. The aim of the Summit is to facilitate meaningful policy development in three key areas based on policymakers' interests and priorities. In 2018, the Summit welcomed 45 international delegations which included 20 Ministers, Deputy Ministers / Assistant Ministers and 16 youth delegates, from around the world. The countries were represented by a total of 155 delegates. In addition, 25 artists plus a further 54 speakers and session chairs / rapporteurs contributed to the Summit programme and a further 141 cultural representatives attended the Summit. 2018 focused on integrating young people into the event, in collaboration with the National Youth Arts Advisory Group (NYAAG). To complement the 16 international youth delegates, nine members of NYAAG and four Members of the Scottish Youth Parliament (MSYP) attended the Summit. The event reached an audience of over 250 million through over 900 media pieces in 49 countries. An in-principle allocation of £5,000 per annum for three years towards the delivery of Summit events in 2020 and 2022 is recommended from within the Events Budget.
- 3.6 The list of events approved by this Committee on [13 October 2018](#) is captured in the appendix namely Local Festival and Events Funded events, the Leith Late Festival and Burns & Beyond Festival (previously known as Scot:lands).
- 3.7 Further sports events are currently under discussion, and will be brought to this Committee later in the year, pending successful conclusion of negotiations.
- Edinburgh Mela Ltd Funding Challenges**
- 3.8 An Edinburgh Mela is not included in the list of festivals and events at Appendix 1.



- 3.9 The Edinburgh Mela has been funded from the Third Party Cultural Grants budget to date. Proposed changes to the delivery model of a multi-cultural event in the city are described in this report. A proposed refresh of the delivery model of a multi-cultural event for the city needs to be considered by committee at this time to offer the earliest possible notice to the producer of the Edinburgh Mela of change.
- 3.10 Since the difficulties faced by Edinburgh Mela Limited (EMLtd) in 2016 which are described in the [Culture and Sport Committee report of 23 August 2016](#), and the subsequent on-going challenges described in [Culture and Sport Committee report on 20 March 2017](#), and also in the [Culture and Communities Committee report on 20 March 2018](#) committee members have agreed in good faith to the recommendations to fund the event via the third party cultural revenue grant budget in the intervening years to date.
- 3.11 As well as supporting recovery, this funding was approved on the understanding that a fundamentally renewed event model would be developed. The new model was to include working with partner organisations in the Leith area to programme the event to deliver activity which reflects the city's varied communities' best in professional talent.
- 3.12 Whilst it is acknowledged that EMLtd has made an effort to deliver an event on this basis, a number of factors have continued to present basic challenges to a continued funding relationship since 2016. The company failing to meet agreed funding targets within the timeframes; the on-going excessive level of engagement and grant monitoring exchanges required of Council officers over the period; and the continuing instability of the company in terms of board management processes, reliable company and event finance reporting in particular; as well as staffing disputes.
- 3.13 This has led the Culture Service to review the best approach to meeting the core multi-cultural event ambition.
- 3.14 It is relevant to note that a Council audit was undertaken, with the full agreement and participation of EMLtd reviewing the 2017/18 funding process. The audit recommendations focused on the requirement to ensure that funding and related expectations of EMLtd should be managed in the same way as all other third party grant funding recipients.
- 3.15 The Culture Service had made allowances and provided grant funding in the context of the company having previously delivered a major city festival, and their ensuing attempts to recover from a major setback including no event being delivered in 2016. Grant funding had been released in this context, and funding agreement requirements had been relaxed.
- 3.16 If the Culture Service were to recommend continued revenue funding for EMLtd in 2019/20 the inequalities of approach would have to continue as the company has not recovered sufficiently to effectively manage fundamental company processes or to evolve the event and its delivery model.



## **Recommendation for Change**

- 3.17 It is important that the city delivers a genuinely multi-cultural event reflecting the creative expertise and the best of our professional performers and artists based in Edinburgh's communities.
- 3.18 Therefore, an event delivery model utilising the grant resource previously allocated to Edinburgh Mela Ltd is proposed. This could be a partnership with Creative Scotland and this possibility is currently under discussion and would, of course, affect the potential scale of the event. The proposed Council budget allocation is £33,600 towards the new multi-cultural event model.
- 3.19 The proposed approach is to invite Edinburgh-based potentially interested parties to submit plans to deliver an event. These could be individual arts events producers or companies, or co-operative partnership models. EMLtd would be welcome to consider participation in the competitive process.

## **4. Measures of success**

---

- 4.1 The success of these events and festivals is assessed by the most appropriate measures for each project agreement, which can include number of spectators, number of participants, sustained physical activity by residents, social media profile, economic impact and equivalent advertising values of any media coverage and partnership funding.
- 4.2 The programme contributes to the delivery of the Events Strategy and the following Culture Plan objectives:
- 4.2.1 Support greater partnership working in the cultural and creative sectors and maximise resources available to help them thrive all year round; and
- 4.2.2 Ensure that everyone has access to world class cultural provision.

## **5. Financial impact**

---

- 5.1 The contributions to events listed in this report can be contained in the current projected budgets for 2019/20, 2020/21 and 2021/22.

## **6. Risk, policy, compliance and governance impact**

---

- 6.1 All the events described in this report meet the Council's Events Strategy criteria and fit with the aims of the National Events Strategy. There are no risk, policy, compliance or governance impacts arising from this report.

## 7. Equalities impact

---

- 7.1 The proposed events described in this report were selected using criteria which include quality of life for people across the city.

## 8. Sustainability impact

---

- 8.1 The impacts of this report have been considered in relation to the three elements of the Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2009 Public Bodies Duties, and the outcomes are summarised as follows: the proposals in this report will have no significant impact on carbon emissions; be neutral in relation to climate change; and will help achieve a sustainable Edinburgh through the promotion of the city nationally and internationally, positive economic impact and contributions to the quality of life and well-being of residents.

## 9. Consultation and engagement

---

- 9.1 The Council has engaged with the relevant partners and event promoters to develop and deliver the proposals.

## 10. Background reading/external references

---

- 10.1 [A new Events Strategy for Edinburgh report](#) – Culture and Sport Committee, 30 May 2016
- 10.2 [Festival and Events Core Programme 2016 and Some Events in 2017 and 2018 report](#) -Culture and Sport Committee, 30 November 2015
- 10.3 [Approved 2017-18 - 2020-21 Revenue Budget and 2017-18 - 2021-22 Capital Investment Programme - plans for supplementary investment report](#) – Finance and Resources Committee, 23 March 2017
- 10.4 [Festival and Events Core Programme 2017-18](#) –Culture and Communities Committee, 14 November 2017

### **Paul Lawrence**

Executive Director of Place

Contact: Lindsay Robertson, Culture Manager

E-mail: [lindsay.robertson@edinburgh.gov.uk](mailto:lindsay.robertson@edinburgh.gov.uk) | Tel: 0131 529 6719

Contact: David Wardrop, Sports Events and Special Projects Manager

E-mail: [david.wardrop@edinburgh.gov.uk](mailto:david.wardrop@edinburgh.gov.uk) | Tel: 0131 529 7738

## 11. Appendices

---

Appendix 1 – Festivals and Events Programme to end March 2019

## FESTIVALS AND EVENTS PROGRAMME to end March 2020

New events are *italicised*. Asterisks denote a major festival.

### Events in Calendar Year 2019 to 31 March 2020

30 December 2018 – 25 January 2019	Edinburgh's Hogmanay Festival*
26- 27 January 2019	Wellbeing Festival
22 -27 January 2019	Burns & Beyond Festival
9 February 2019	Chinese New Year
From early 2019	Localities Events programme
March 2019	Edinburgh Light Installation
March 2019	Edinburgh International Swimming Meet
April 2019	Previously ... Scotland's History Festival
6 - 21 April 2019	Edinburgh International Science Festival*
<i>11-12 May 2019</i>	<i>Fair Trade Fiesta</i>
30 May – 2 June 2019	Hidden Door Festival
26 May – 2 June 2019	Imagine Festival*
<i>31 May – 2 June 2019</i>	<i>British Diving Championships</i>
April 2019 (TBC)	Leith Late
2 June 2019	HSBC Let's Ride Edinburgh
23 June 2019	Edinburgh Pipe Band Championships
29 June 2019	Armed Forces Day
19 – 30 June 2019	Edinburgh International Film Festival*
<i>July 2019 (TBC)</i>	<i>Edinburgh Open Water Swim (test event)</i>
12 -21 July 2019	Edinburgh International Jazz and Blues Festival*

25 July – 25 August 2019	Edinburgh Art Festival*
2 – 22 August 2019	Edinburgh International Festival*
2 – 22 August 2019	Edinburgh Festival Fringe*
2– 24 August 2019	Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo*
10 – 26 August 2019	Edinburgh International Book Festival*
<i>11 August 2019</i>	<i>Women’s Cycling Tour of Scotland</i>
<i>12 September 2019</i>	<i>Scottish Album of the Year Awards</i>
16 September 2019	Edinburgh Riding of the Marches
<i>5-6 October 2019</i>	<i>European Climbing Championships</i>
19 – 31 October 2019	Scottish International Storytelling Festival*
November 2019 (TBC)	The Alternative Peers Ball
November 2019 (TBC)	The Edinburgh Award
<i>November 2019 (TBC)</i>	<i>Pro Team Netball Tournament</i>
11 November 2019	Remembrance Day
December 2019 (TBC)	Scottish Diving Championships
December 2019 (TBC)	Scottish Short Course Swimming Championships
<i>December 2019 (TBC)</i>	<i>Pro Team Netball Tournament</i>
30 December 2019 – January 2020	Edinburgh’s Hogmanay Festival*