

National Lottery Heritage Funded Impact Accelerator and Enterprise Hub









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#### Introduction

The objectives, as set out in the National Lottery Heritage Fund application, were to:

- Increase support for cultural practitioners working across heritage
- Enhance the diversity of practitioners and cultural organisations
- Increase access to heritage activity through targeted outreach and dissemination events
- Strengthen fundraising capability and income generation
- Increase knowledge, skills and connections, particularly digital,

- project management and outreach skills, to enable cultural practitioners and cultural organisations to thrive.
- Increase opportunities for successful sector and cross-sector partnership-working and networking.



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>A leading research, consultancy and evaluation organisation working in culture, heritage, institutional innovation and civic renewal: www.tfconsultancy.co.uk

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> m.luton.gov.uk/Page/Show/Council government and democracy/2040/Pages/default.aspx

# 1.1 About the Heritage Support Programme.

"The aim is to safeguard the local heritage sector by ensuring it has the knowledge, capacity, resilience and support from infrastructural partners to negotiate the negative impact of COVID-19... The outcome will see local practitioners and organisations recovering from this crisis in a way that demonstrates a 'step-change' in terms of the scale and reach of heritage activity that is contextually rooted and nationally applicable."

#### **Heritage Impact Accelerator**

- A a gad 1 hr 1 ga e supporting entrepreneurial and interdisciplinary skills development.
- Re.a 1 h b .d g with introductions and co-working sessions with community, education and heritage partners – locally and nationally, students/graduates and academics at the University of Bedfordshire.
- O gr g 1-2-1 r, ad ce a d e r g with ideas and

business model development, setting up organisations and developing and submitting project funding applications to the National Lottery Heritage Fund and others.

- A 4,000 e d for participants to support living, training and project expenses.
- Acce.e a 1 O e Wee an opportunity for the participants to showcase their emergent project ideas, receive feedback from the wider public and to further inform the development of their heritage work.

#### 1.2 Heritage Support Programme HERITAGE IMPACT ACCELERATOR

PAR ICIPAN

11

hours of 1-2-1 support with HIA participants 6

new CIC heritage organisations registered in Luton to date

ВМІ ION

**HIA Luton based** 

participants

20

£197,031

453

secured by participants for their heritage projects to date £101,971

34

civic

of funding applications submitted awaiting decisions £86,718

of funding application ready to submit

**CONNEC ION** 

400 +

new connections made by participants incl.

funding bids developed

99

new creative sector connections 65

HE

27

heritaae

16 schools

enviromental conservation

#### The Headlines in Numbers

A

**ORK HOP** 

140

hours of workshops, seminars and panel discussions with 4734 attendances

24

partner organisations involved in delivering sessions

9

sessions co-delivered with UoB departments and students

**PPOR** 

165

hours of 1-2-1 support with 63 individuals/organsations

£165,000

of funding application development supported

# case study 1

# PAUL JOLLY

### case study 2

A A A 1



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n. A<sub>r</sub> , <sub>r</sub> , ... n <sub>r</sub> n, ... - , , , n<sub>r</sub> ... n<sub>r</sub> , n<sub>r</sub> = <sub>1</sub>33′. ... , n<sub>r</sub>

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"The Accelerator and stipend has been essential as I still work as a musician, and the structure of a day or two a week to dedicate to the projecte support fom Emma and the team has been invaluable helping to understand the -7-6 (er)4 (it)17 (age sec)-8 (t)17 (or an)-19 (d

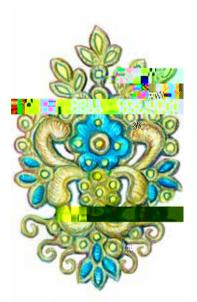
#### **2 Programme Outcomes**

#### 2.1 The Model - responsive to opportunity and need



# SHABEENA PARVEEN

## case study 3

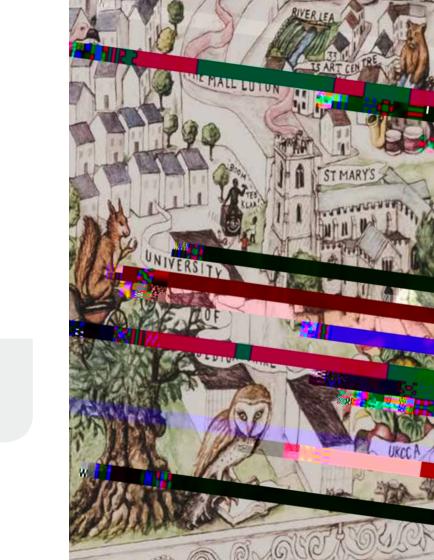


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"The whole team have been absolutely fantastic sharing their knowledge and supporting us"

# PERRY LOUIS

## case study 4



# **SNAIL** [ Abigail Adams ]

## case study 5



"The support from the Team has been fantastic, talking to the other people in the accelerator too. And the knowledge and learning the business and funding language, that has been a bit crazy but really helpful".

### 2.4 Headline outcomes and alignment with NLHF investment principles

Anticipated outcomes	Achievement	Alignment with NLHF new Investment Principles
1		Ι , - η <sub>γ</sub> γ , , η, γ <sub>γ</sub> η , η,
		<b>o</b> - n <sub>. p</sub> , <sub>p</sub> n n

Anticipated outcomes	Achievement	Alignment with NLHF new Investment Principles
1 ,	"the knowledge and learning the business and funding language,	<b>λ n</b>
-		I ,  -
		o - n, p,, p,, n,, p, n, n,, - ,,, n,, n,,
		O -, , , , n, , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,

# 2.4 Civic renewal - shared purpose and strategic impact

- The National Lottery Heritage Fund, with a focus on heritage renewal, innovating heritage resources and reaching diverse communities.
- Bedford Borough Council (Corporate Strategy and Cultural Strategy, which is in development).
- South East Midlands Local Enterprise Partnership (SEMLEP) with a focus on creative entrepreneurship, cluster development and innovation).

## PAUL VITTY

## case study 6

A A A 1



..., n ... <sub>r</sub> n ... <sub>r</sub>, n ... <sub>r</sub> n ... <sub>r</sub>

"I really don't think I would have had the confidence or skills to even apply for Historic England role without being part of HIA."



# 2.5 Knowledge exchange and research

...., B. ..., B. ...,

# ABI SPENDLOVE

## case study 7

# CARLY SMITH

## case study 8

#### 3. Summary and Key Learning Points

- In the future, the University can more effectively develop and unlock impact expertise from across the University and wider partnerships, going beyond its current nexus.
- There is also an opportunity to catalyse knowledge exchange and co-design heritage innovation with other universities, building a community of institutional best practice. This can happen at both a national level and internationally, especially given the international connections of Luton's communities.
- Partners working in the heritage, cultural and wider community sectors will benefit from a focus on heritage as a vector for new sustainable futures – e.g. on heritage tools to tackle climate crisis, digital tools for heritage renewal, and the role of heritage resources for contemporary arts and creative practice. The University is already leading the way here. This has been acknowledged through the award of being top in England and second in the UK in the People & Planet 2022/23 University Green League.
- The programme was inherently inclusive, crossing boundaries to open-up participation and engagement. However, as with any programme, some people will not have felt they could take part or did not know of the opportunity to come forward. As a basic principle, future activities will constantly need to review who 'is not in the room' as well as validate and support those who are.



# DAVID LANDAU

## case study 9

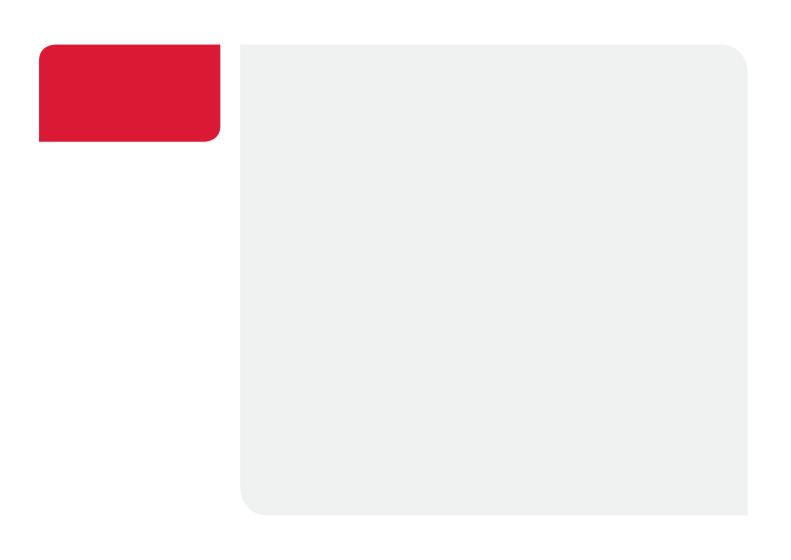


., n, n, ..., n, n, n, ..., n,

"I think everybody's willingness to help has been incredible. And they are there to assist and support you to reach your goals. It's clear that they're working for us, and behind the scenes at the same time. And we were able to access them anytime we needed."

## **Key Learning points**

- Build the right team: a knowledgeable, skilled and well-connected cohort of professionals is vital. The University of Bedfordshire and its Arts and Culture Projects Team is well networked within the local community of Luton and the culture and heritage sector of the county and nationally. It combines excellent professionalism with skills in engagement, research and partnership development. Programme participants only have positive things to say about the team.
- Increase access and engagement in the application process. The
  open application to the Accelerator did encourage a new cohort of
  participants to engage with the University, often for the first time.
   But 1-2-1 support for applicants is also vital to opening up the
  heritage sector to a diverse cohort, especially for people who are
  'harder to reach' for a University.
- Strategic support at senior level is key to driving impact. The
  Programme has benefitted from genuine support from senior
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## case study 11

## **Apendix**

#### **HIA Cohort 1 Members**

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P J
P L
A G
L F
P
```

#### **HIA Cohort 2 Members**

#### **University Of Bedfordshire**

```
E G
    L F
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  ( . <sub>rr</sub>, n.)
   J L
      ,,,,,, A n,,,,,
  ( . <sub>rr</sub> n.)
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