There was a massive response to our call out for applications, which included nine roadshows, 13 drop in sessions and many individual meetings during April and May 2016. We received 650 proposals, exceeding all expectations and the funding that would have been needed to support them all.

There are a number of people from Hull’s arts community who have been disappointed not to have received funding. As with all funding programmes there will inevitably those that are unsuccessful in their applications – it is something we as producers live with every day.

We should not lose sight of the fact that through the Creative Community Programme, we are investing £550,000 in around 60 creative projects, which extend to every corner of the city. They cover every art form and represent partnerships with groups as well as individually led projects from across Hull. It has a very specific remit not only to ensure local cultural activity and practitioners are part of Hull 2017, but that Hull residents, wherever they live in the city, have the opportunity to experience and participate in the UK City of Culture. This is new funding and opening up opportunities for new projects, many involving organisations and groups that may previously never had access to this kind of funding.

The majority of successful applicants are set to receive between £300 and £10,000 each to enable them to realise their projects. Four of them will receive grants worth between £10,000 and £42,000, because of their particular ambition in concept and scale.