



**FXO Group
Decision Process**

1. Introduction

- 1.1 This paper is a first draft of a proposed detail for process of FXO decision-making.
2. Following the assessment by officers, department heads will assign ratings of high medium or low to applications in their area, with advice from a panel of specialist advisors. The comments of the specialist advisors will be added to the assessment forms. **Question- will the SA's have access to the officers' assessment?**
3. *The issue of workload needs to be addressed at the next stage. Having the Arts Development Managers (ADM) read all of the applications (i.e. high medium or low) would be unsupportable. It is recommended that the ADM read only the high-rated applications, but have the option to "call-in" any medium-rated applications for consideration. This would in effect mean that a proportion, perhaps the majority, of applications would be eliminated at the departmental level. Is this consistent with what have been agreed and publicised up until this point?*
4. In order to manage and provide a degree of consistency in relation to the number of applications that any one department is rating as high, a ceiling can be established as to the total value of the applications being put forward by any one department. This ceiling would be equivalent to the value of the sum of existing FXO awards and the value of regularly funded through managed funds (already identified), increased up to a maximum 20% of that sum. Thus departments would be able to "bid" for 20% more in value than is currently spent on their artform/department through FXO funding, while managing the number of applications that would need to be read by the ADM group. This would allow a potential for considerable of shift of resources between artforms as in theory one artform could received up to 20% additional funding for its organisations.
5. Departments would be able to reduce the amount of funding requested from a number of individual organisations if they wished, provided they could show clearly what the impact on activity would be.
6. Recommendation- that the FXO group consider this issue and make a recommendation to be discussed by the ADM on 31 October.

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