At about the same time many other London boroughs were establishing their own Arts Councils: not all of them still exist. Havering owes its vibrant amateur arts community to those individuals who have worked through the decades to encourage it, and to a supportive local authority.

Havering Arts Council is divided into three main tiers of organisation. Every member group, and individual member, is represented through, and entitled to participate in, one of the relevant hubs. The five activity hubs are Dance, Drama, Music, Visual Arts and Diverse (other). They meet to discuss and advise the Executiveon matters falling within their particular field of interest.

The Executive is delegated powers by the General Council to conduct the normal day to day business of the organisation. It consists of the Officers (Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer), together with the co-ordinators of the respective activity hubs, Councillor representatives nominated by Havering Borough Council, other members elected from the body of the General Council, and co-opted members. It meets approximately six times a year, and much of its business is taken up in dealing with funding requests from member groups, and planning initiatives such as {Festivals and Exhibitions}.

Once a year at the Annual General Meeting, and otherwise as required, the **General Council**meets to decide on general policy issues, and to elect the Executive. The General Council is our governing body and consists principally of representatives of member groups, but also individual members, representatives of Havering Council and other interested organizations and individuals that it agrees to co-opt. (See [The Constitution of the Havering Arts Council](http://www.haveringartscouncil.org.uk/uploads/images/1562086748_Statutes%20-%20Charity%20Commn%20version.pdf)for further details)

One of Havering Arts Council's functions is to act as a funding body to arts groups in Havering and to various arts projects taking place in the borough. Societies may request grants or guarantees against loss on specific projects planned for the forthcoming financial year. Estimated balance sheets for such projects, together with an annual statement of accounts for the previous financial year, must be submitted with the application form to the co-ordinator of the relevant activity hub.

In order to qualify for such funding it is first necessary to attain [Membership](http://www.haveringartscouncil.org.uk/join-us.html) of Havering Arts Council. For a group member, this involves having an approved constitution, producing annual accounts, and paying the relevant membership fee. Individual members pay a small fee to support and be kept informed about the Arts in Havering.

Havering Arts Council itself receives a modest annual grant from the London Borough of Havering to be spent in accordance with the aims and objects of the constitution. Our other principal source of income is from membership subscriptions.

For further information on membership, grants and guarantees or any other aspect of Havering Arts Council please contact the Secretary, Jill Luff at haveringartscouncil@live.co.uk or on 01708 641718, or Membership Secretary Arlene Trump at [hacmembership@outlook.com](http://hacmembership@outlook.com/)