

The Arts Council/An Chomhairle Ealaíon

720th Plenary Meeting

70 Merrion Square, Dublin

5th & 6th December 2018

Present 5 December:

Sheila Pratschke, *Chair*, Loughlin Deegan, Paddy Glackin, Sinead Moriarty, Pádraig Ó Duinnín (from 10.30am), Joan Sheehy, Martina Moloney Miriam Dunne, Mark O’Kelly, Fearghus Ó Conchúir, Dónall Curtin.

Present 6 December:

Sheila Pratschke, *Chair*, Loughlin Deegan, Paddy Glackin, Helen Shaw, Sinead Moriarty, Pádraig Ó Duinnín, Joan Sheehy, Martina Moloney Miriam Dunne, Mark O’Kelly, Fearghus Ó Conchúir, Dónall Curtin (from 1pm), Monica Spencer.

In attendance:

Orlaith McBride, *Director*, Martin O’Sullivan *Deputy Director & Company Secretary*.

Documents before the meeting

Agenda

Minutes of the Plenary meeting held on 21 November 2018

Director’s Report

Third Party Schemes RAISE-Private Investment

Strategic Funding & Venues Recommendations

Local Authority Partnership Recommendations

Cnuas Recommendations

18 – 12– 123 Apologies

5 December: Monica Spencer, Helen Shaw

18 – 12– 124 Chair’s Introduction

Conflicts of Interest- The Chair **noted** that members had already declared their conflicts and requested members to declare any further conflicts that they may have with the agenda items and reminded members to advise her of any conflicts that may arise during the course of the meeting.

Mark O’Kelly indicated a further conflict with NIVAL.

Miriam Dunne indicated a further conflict with Carlow Arts Festival.

The Chair welcomed Dónall Curtin as a newly appointed member of the Arts Council.

18 – 12 – 125 Minutes of Plenary Meeting 21 November 2018

Members **agreed** the Minutes for the 21 November 2018 Meeting.

18 – 12– 126 Matters Arising

The Chair indicated that the Aosdána presentation from the last plenary meeting was now available on Board Pad.

There were no other matters arising.

18 – 12 – 127 Director’s Report

Engaging with Architecture Application: A273688

The Council **agreed** request to change the name of original recipient OSA-Office for Subversive Architecture to Sven Anderson.

Creative Europe Co-Funding Award

In 2018, eighteen Irish organisations were awarded funding under the Co-operations Projects Strand of Creative Europe Culture Sub-Programme marking the most successful round to date under the Programme, more than doubling the number of projects involving Irish partners supported in any one year.

The eligible organisations were notified of the Arts Councils Co-funding Award. Thirteen organisations applied to the Arts Council through the online services system. The applicants were required to complete an Arts Council Co-funding Award 2018 application form, budget sheet and submit supporting material (including their original Creative Europe application documents).

The total demand under the 2018 Co-funding Award was €448,732. The combined total for Irish activities for the thirteen projects is €1.39 million. This represents €755,989 for large-scale project and €636,454 for small-scale projects. There are a total of 84 European organisations involved as partners.

The available budget for the Co-funding Award in 2018 is €65,000, the budget for 2019 is €100,000.

Council **agreed** that the €65k from 2018 is postponed as a restricted saving going forward into 2019 and then to combine this saving with the existing 2019 budget of €100,000 giving a potential available fund of €165,000 for applications received in 2018.

Council **agreed** 9 applications for funding under the Co-Funding Award:

Cúirt International Festival of Literature (Galway Arts Centre) Read Me I Am Yours (Literature and Festivals)	€12,500
The Ark <i>PUSH+</i> (Theatre, Dance and YPCE)	€18,500
KCAT <i>POWER</i> (Theatre and Arts Participation)	€18,000
Ormston House <i>Memory of Water</i> (Visual Arts and Arts Participation)	€12,000
Gallery of Photography Ireland	

<i>A Woman's Work</i> (Visual Arts)	€6,000
Dublin Theatre Festival <i>Be SpectACTIVE 2:</i> (Theatre)	€50,000
The Walls Project <i>Murals for Communities</i> (Arts Participation, Visual Arts)	€20,000
Galway Theatre Festival <i>Make a Move:</i> (Theatre and Festivals)	€23,000
Improvised Music Company <i>Jazz Connective:</i> (Music)	€5,000
Total agreed: €165,000	

Dublin Youth Theatre Premises, 23 Upper Gardiner Street

Dublin Youth Theatre (DYT) has agreed the sale of its premises at 23 Upper Gardiner Street at its asking price of [REDACTED]. The Arts Council has a lien on the DYT property. In 1990, the Arts Council paid Ir£39,500 as a capital grant to DYT, a condition of which was securing a debenture agreement on the premises.

Dublin Youth Theatre made contact with the Arts Council in 2015 highlighting its plans to move premises. The decision was based on health and safety concerns highlighted by the structural survey.

The Arts Council grant constituted the entire value of the premises at the time. There is no other mortgage on the premises. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Section 36, Commercially Sensitive Information

Funding agreements for strategic funding and venues funding in 2019

Council **noted** information clinics for organisations in receipt of strategic funding and venues funding on the new funding agreements.

Invitations to tender to support public art policy and strategy

Council was asked to **note** two invitations to tender being published in December 2018 with the aim of awarding them in January 2019.

Public Art Adviser who will advise the Arts Council on the development and execution of our Public Art Policy and Strategy published this year. The estimated cost of contract for a period of three years is €75,000 excluding VAT.

Editor of publicart.ie website, who will oversee the upgrade and continuing development of the publicart.ie website as set out in our Public Art Policy and Strategy. This will include the addition of new supports for first-time and once-off commissioners and explore the use of

video and animation as a means of encouraging best practice. Estimated cost of contract for a period of three years is €100,000 excluding VAT.

Conference 28 March 2019 – Places Matter: embracing the diversity of the arts

Council was asked to **note** the second biennial conference as part of the Framework for Collaboration Agreement between the Arts Council and the County and City Management Association on 28 March 2019 in the Bailey Allen Hall, NUI Galway.

Creative Schools funding for 2019- Members **noted** that the Creative Schools funding from the Department of Education and Creative Ireland is likely [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Members welcomed the probable expansion of the scheme noting however, that the resulting resource considerations will need to be reviewed. Members also **noted** and welcomed an upcoming photocall with the Minister for Education.

Section 29, Deliberations of FOI Bodies

18 -12 -128 Third Party Schemes 2019

Council **approved** the Third Party Schemes for 2019. Members sought clarity on Create's capacity to deliver the *Artist in the Community Scheme*.

18 – 12 – 129 Committee Reports

Business and Finance Committee 4 December

Miriam Dunne, Committee Chairman, briefed Members highlighting the following matters:-

- *Minutes of 11 October 2018* - were agreed;
- *Trusts Report – Members noted* the presentation but expressed concern that some of the funds may be indirectly invested in unethical funds. Members requested more detail and also requested that the investment return be split out from the exchange gain effect;
- *Budget 2019* – the overall Budget for 2019 was noted while the Indirect Budget of €6.486 million was agreed;
- *People and Skills update* – was noted;
- *HR report* – was noted;
- *FOI report* – was noted;
- *ICT report* – was noted;
- *Premises report* - was noted but members requested details of our negotiator;
- *MGAW report* – was noted

The report and recommendations of the Business and Finance Committee were **agreed**.

Members asked for a copy of the MGAW presentation to be uploaded to Board Pad.

Audit and Risk Committee 4 December

Joan Sheehy, Committee Member, briefed Members highlighting the following matters:-

- *Minutes of Meeting held on 11 October 2018-* were approved;
- *Filmbase review-* Members noted the report and were informed that all recommendations contained in the report have either been acted upon or are in progress to be complied with;
- *Internal Audit Plan 2019* - Members agreed the plan but requested that a Communications Audit should be included. The Executive and Mazars are to prepare a draft scope for this audit to be presented to the next meeting. Mazars are

- also requested to clarify the scope of future audits with the ARC prior to audit commencement;
- *C&AG Management Letter*- Members noted the report and were informed that good progress has been made in addressing the recommendations made;
 - *Risk Register*- Members requested that in future the Risk Register should be a standing item for every meeting of the ARC;
 - *ARC 2019 Plan*- Members approved the plan;
 - *Checklist for Effectiveness of Audit and Risk Committees*: Members requested that this questionnaire should be provided to the members so that it can be completed anonymously before the end of the year;
 - *Procurement Compliance Report*: Members noted that this report will be brought to the ARC early in 2019

The report and recommendations of the ARC Committee were **agreed**.

Also **agreed** that access to all ARC meetings would be made available to Council Members.

18 – 12 – 130 RAISE- Private Investment Initiative Additional Budgetary Request

Members were briefed by the Deputy Director regarding the recommendation. Following detailed discussion members **agreed** to increase the project budget by €170k. Members noted that the Arts Council's budget for 2018 & 2019 already provided for €75k of the amount. Members **agreed** that the balance should come from 2020 funding.

18 – 12 – 131 Strategic Funding, Venues and Partnership Funding 2019

Stephanie O'Callaghan Arts Director, Liz Meaney Arts Director, Aidan Burke, Investment Services and ICT Director, Kevin Healy Officer, joined the Meeting.

It was **agreed** that Joan Sheehy and the Chair, Sheila Pratschke would share the chairing of deliberations on the various art form / practice discussions. Members congratulated the Executive on the comprehensive nature of the recommendation texts and the evolution of the process since 2017 particularly in relation to the correlation between the narrative and scoring. Members were reminded that recommendation texts would be circulated to all organisations.

Partnership Funding

Sinead O'Reilly, Head of Local Authorities, joined the meeting and briefed members on the recommendations following which members' clarifications were responded to.

Donegal County Council



All other recommendations were **agreed** as set out in the financial appendix to these minutes.

Theatre

Rachel West, Head of Theatre joined the meeting and briefed members on the approach taken in theatre.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Section 29, deliberations of an FOI Body

The Gate

Following detailed consideration by Council, and in acknowledgement of the excellence of the work of the organisation, a total award, including restricted funding, of €1,194,170 was **approved** by Council. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] commercially sensitive information

ITI

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Section 29, deliberations of an

FOI Body

Rough Magic

The offer of funding is made on the condition that Rough Magic and its board furnish the Arts Council with a [REDACTED] to accompany revised plans for 2019. Section

29, deliberations of an FOI Body

All other recommendations were **agreed** as set out in the financial appendix to these minutes.

The Council thanked Rachel West for all her work during her time with the Arts Council and wished her well in the future.

Traditional Arts

Paul Flynn, Head of Traditional Arts joined the meeting and briefed members on the approach taken in traditional arts.

All recommendations were **agreed** as set out in the financial appendix to these minutes. Council **agreed** two multi-annual applications.

Architecture

Fionnuala Sweeney, Head of Architecture joined the meeting and briefed members on the approach taken in architecture.

One recommendation in architecture was **agreed** as set out in the financial appendix to these minutes.

Film

Fionnuala Sweeney, Head of Film joined the meeting and briefed members on the approach taken in film.

All recommendations were **agreed** as set out in the financial appendix to these minutes.

Artists Retreats

Fionnuala Sweeney, Head of Artists Retreats, joined the meeting and briefed members on the approach taken in supporting retreats.

All recommendations were **agreed** as set out in the financial appendix to these minutes.

Arts Participation

Ann O'Connor, Head of Arts Participation, joined the meeting and briefed members on the approach taken to preparing the recommendations in Arts Participation.

Create

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] It should also provide regular updates/reports to Council in this regard, to be agreed with the executive. Section 29,

deliberations of an FOI Body

All recommendations were **agreed** as set out in the financial appendix to these minutes.

Street Art and Spectacle

Davide Terlingo, Head of Street Art and Spectacle, joined the meeting and briefed members on the approach taken in relation to the recommendations.

All recommendations were **agreed** as set out in the financial appendix to these minutes.

Dance

Davide Terlingo, Head of Dance, joined the meeting and briefed members on the approach taken in relation to the recommendations.

Coiscéim

Council agreed that the offer of funding is conditional on the company attending to the [REDACTED], in line with best practice. Section 29,

deliberations of an FOI Body

All recommendations were **agreed** as set out in the financial appendix to these minutes.

Festivals

Karl Wallace, Head of Festivals, joined the meeting and briefed members on the approach taken in relation to the recommendations.

Kilkenny Arts Festival

Council agreed that the offer of funding is conditional on the company attending [REDACTED]

Section 29, deliberations of an FOI Body

All other recommendations were **agreed** as set out in the financial appendix to these minutes.

Venues

Val Ballance, Head of Venues joined the meeting and briefed members on the approach taken in relation to the recommendations.

Council raised concern in relation to the lack of progress in the area of venues relative to the changes in other art forms. The Council requested that the new venues strategy would be effective from 2020 and reflective in the funding recommendations.

An Táin

Council agreed the recommendation with support targeted specifically to artists supports and the programme of work with children and young people.

Arás Eanna

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

In making this offer the Council stressed the urgency with which the organisation must address its future, via of a Strategic Development Plan. [REDACTED]

Section 29, deliberations of an FOI Body

Backstage

Following detailed consideration, Council took the decision to increase the score for both Artistic Quality and Artform Development and Quality of Engagement to five in order to reflect their view of the excellence of the work of the organisation across these two criteria.

Everyman

Following detailed consideration by Council and in acknowledgement of the excellence of the work of the organisation, an award of €207,000 was **approved** by Council.

Galway Arts Centre

[REDACTED] an award of €168,500 was **approved** by Council.

Section 29, deliberations of an FOI Body

Garter Lane

Following detailed consideration Council and in acknowledgement of the excellence of the work of the organisation, an award of €207,200 was **approved** by Council, which includes a designated support toward the Dance Artist in Residence programme of €20,000.

Designated support toward the Dance Artist in Residence programme of €20,000 is provided within this funding.

Mermaid

Following detailed consideration Council took the decision to increase the score for artistic quality and art form development to five in order to reflect their view of the excellence of the work of the organisation. An award of €155,000 was **approved** by Council.

Mullingar

Council **agreed** the recommendation and proposed that the executive engages with the organisation in particular in relation to its support for professional arts practice.

Smock Alley

Council **agreed** that funding is conditional upon revised plans reflecting [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] are not supported through this grant. [REDACTED]

Section 29, deliberations of an FOI Body

St. John's Listowel

Having reviewed the recommendation text and the attached scores, and based on the [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] the Council **approved** a revised award of €80,000.

Section 29, deliberations of an FOI Body

The Model

Council agreed that funding is conditional upon the Model providing a strategic business plan by mid-year which addresses the following; leadership recruitment, [REDACTED] HR strategy, audience development, development funding and local authority support.

Section 29, Deliberations of FOI Bodies

Solstice

Following detailed consideration, Council took the decision to increase the score for both organisational capacity and strategic significance to five in order to reflect their view of the organisations performance and the significance of its place in the ecosystem.

Triskel

Council agreed that funding is conditional upon a Strategic/Business plan being provided by mid-year 2019, which should include artform/art practice development prioritises, audience development, addressing liquidity issues and succession planning.

Waterford Theatre Royal Society

Council agreed that funding is conditional upon a Strategic/Business plan being provided by mid-year 2019 with Arts Council funding being used towards the development of production capacity within the venue.

Watergate

Council agreed that funding is conditional upon a Strategic/Business plan being provided by mid-year 2019, to be accompanied by a [REDACTED] Section 29, deliberations

of an FOI Body

West Cork Arts Centre

The Council recognised the quality and impact of the work of Uilinn and recommended an increase in funding. In order to ensure continued artistic excellence and financial sustainability the board is requested to consider [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] A response to this matter is requested by the end of March 2019. Section 29, Deliberations of FOI Bodies

All other recommendations were **agreed** as set out in the financial appendix to these minutes.

Literature

Sarah, Bannan, Head of Literature joined the meeting and briefed members on the approach taken in literature in the preparation of the recommendations.

Stinging Fly

Council agreed that the Stinging Fly would be asked to develop plans to [REDACTED] [REDACTED] over the coming year. Section 29, deliberations of an FOI Body

Literature Ireland

Council agreed that the offer is conditional on Literature Ireland [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Section 29, deliberations of an FOI Body

Irish Writers Centre

Following detailed consideration Council **approved** an award of €130,000 in acknowledgement of the excellence of the work of the organisation.

All other recommendations were **agreed** as set out in the financial appendix to these minutes.

Music

Niall Doyle, Head of Music joined the meeting and briefed members on the approach taken in music to the preparation of the recommendations.

First Music Contact

Council agreed that funding is conditional in 2019 upon compliance [redacted] required by this funding programme and confirmation of same in writing. [redacted] [redacted] agreed with the Arts Council, should be provided in tandem with submission of revised plans for 2019. Section 29, deliberations of an FOI Body

Music for Galway

Council agreed to two year funding offer to Music for Galway, with a subsequent move to Arts Grant Funding in 2021.
All other recommendations were **agreed** as set out in the financial appendix to these minutes.

Opera

Niall Doyle, Head of Opera presented the approach taken in opera.

Council approved the recommendation.

Visual Arts

Claire Doyle, Head of Visual Arts and Ben Mulligan joined the meeting and presented the approach taken in visual art.

EVA

[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

Section 29, deliberations of

an FOI Body

Included in the funding offer is a restricted amount of €18,000 towards Platform Commissions. This is conditional on EVA setting out in detail and making transparent its policies and rates of remuneration for artists.

Gallery of Photography

Council agreed that the offer of funding is conditional on:

- the submission of the Gallery's strategic plan, including a communication and marketing strategy by end of Q2.

[REDACTED]

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29, deliberations of an FOI Body

Limerick City Gallery

Council agreed that the offer of funding is conditional on:

- the establishment of the visual arts advisory committee with appropriate skills mix and clear terms of reference, and
- the submission of the Gallery's strategic plan

both of the above should be in place by end of Q2 2019.

RHA

Council agreed that its funding is to be focused on the exhibition and associated programmes of the RHA. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Section 29, deliberations of an FOI Body

This offer of funding is conditional on:

- the submission of a strategic plan, and
- a review of the financial model of the organisation, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Section 29, deliberations of an FOI Body

both of which should be submitted to the Arts Council by end of Q2 2019.

Highlanes

Following detailed consideration Council acknowledging the excellence of the work of the organisation, **approved** a total award, including restricted funding, of €86,000.

All other recommendations were **agreed** as set out in the financial appendix to these minutes.

Young People, Children and Education

Seona Ní Bhriain, Head of Young People, Children and Education, joined the meeting and brought members through the approach taken in preparing the recommendations.

Dublin Youth Dance Company

Council's offer of funding is conditional on delivery of a strategic plan which should provide a model for the future development of the organisation.

Irish National Youth Ballet

Council agreed that the organisation is requested to attend to [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Section 29, deliberations of an FOI Body

All other recommendations were **agreed** as set out in the financial appendix to these minutes.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Section 29, deliberations of an FOI Body

18 – 12 – 133 Cnuas Recommendations

Council **approved** the cnuas recommendations. An appendix is attached to the Minutes.

18 – 12 – 134 Any other Business

Council Performance Review Findings

Members were informed that the Chair would shortly circulate a summary of matters raised from the November Plenary Meeting discussion. Members **agreed** that it should also be shared with the Director.

There was no other business.