

# The Arts Council/An Chomhairle Ealaíon

705<sup>th</sup> Plenary Meeting

Radisson Hotel, Galway

20 & 21 June 2017

## **Present 20 June:**

Sheila Pratschke, *Chair*, Joan Sheehy, Martina Moloney, Damien Downes, Loughlin Deegan, Paddy Glackin, Helen Shaw, Eimear O'Connor, Pádraig Ó Duinnín Miriam Dunne, Monica Spencer, Brian Maguire.

## **Present 21 June:**

Sheila Pratschke, *Chair*, John McAuliffe, *Deputy Chair (by conference call)*, Joan Sheehy, Martina Moloney, Damien Downes (left meeting at 3pm), Loughlin Deegan, Paddy Glackin, Helen Shaw, Eimear O'Connor, Pádraig Ó Duinnín Miriam Dunne, Monica Spencer.

## **In attendance:**

Orlaith McBride *Director*, Martin O'Sullivan *Finance Director & Company Secretary*, Liz Meany *Arts Director*, Stephanie O'Callaghan *Arts Director*.

## **Documents before the meeting**

Agenda

Minutes of the Plenary Meeting held on 24 May 2017

Director's Report

Delegated Authority 2018

Touring and Dissemination of Work Scheme (Round 1) 2018

Art Form Policy Papers

Funding Framework Document

Strategic Funding Agreement Document

Update on Approach to Funding Framework

Opera Production Award Recommendations

New Music Dublin MOU

Festival and Events Scheme Review

Private Investment in the Arts

Theatre Schemes

Invitation to Collaboration

Deis Recording 2017

Dance Artist Residency Scheme

Cnuas Recommendations

## **17 - 06- 051 Apologies**

John McAuliffe on 20 June and Brian Maguire on 21 June.

## **17 - 06 - 052 Chair's Introduction**

*Conflicts of Interest*- The Chair requested members to declare any 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.

## *Committee Membership*

Members **noted** the following:

- Monica Spencer stepped down from the Business & Finance Committee and was appointed to the Policy & Strategy Committee;
- Brian Maguire was appointed to the Business & Finance Committee.

### **17 – 06 – 053 Minutes of the Plenary Meeting 24 May**

The Minutes of the 24 May Plenary Meeting were **approved**.

### **17 – 06– 054 Matters Arising**

There were none.

### **17 – 06– 055 Director’s Report**

*Music Generation Partnership 2018-2020*

Members **agreed** a renewal of the Arts Council / Music Generation Partnership Spanning September 2017 – December 2020. Members **agreed** a total investment of €530,000, comprising €80,000 in 2017 and €150,000 per year in 2018-2020. Members **noted** the ongoing success of the project.

*Goodbody Stockbroker Trust Mandate*

Members **agreed** the delegated authority to the Executive and authorised signatories list.

*Response from Gate Theatre to Bonnar Keenlyside Report*

Members **noted** the update and confirmation that the Executive will now meet with the Gate to discuss the progress of the work detailed in the Report.

*Director’s Diary Report*

Members **noted** the Director’s Diary Report.

### **17 – 06– 056 Delegated Authority 2018**

Members **approved** the grants, schemes and awards under Delegated Authority for 2018.

### **17 – 06– 057 Touring and Dissemination of Work Scheme (Round 1) 2018**

Members who had declared a conflict left the meeting. Val Balance, Head of Venues, joined the meeting.

Members considered all recommendations including those shortlisted but not recommended. Following a detailed discussion fourteen tours totalling €506,086 were **approved**. A financial appendix is attached to the minutes. Members **agreed** that the additional funding required should be deducted from the 2018 Round 2 budget.

Members **noted** that Touring will be reviewed as part of the funding review and that options such as the scheme going to a Panel will be considered.

### **17 – 06– 058 Art Form Policy Papers**

Monica Corcoran, Manager, Strategic Development Department, joined the meeting and outlined the overall context behind the preparation of the individual policy papers.

Members expressed some concern that the papers had been developed to an advanced stage without Council input noting their internal focus, the need for better linkage with the wider environmental context and the requirement to further emphasise specific actions that would therefore indicate funding priorities across different artforms. It was noted that these papers only represented phase 1 of the process with the intention being to further review and re-shape over the coming months. It was also agreed that there is significant expertise and experience in

the Arts Council in terms of how to support and develop an artform or area of practice and that further consultation with the sector won't always yield any further direction for an artform.

Members suggested meetings with Council members to assist with this process. It was **agreed** to revert to members with a plan for these meetings over the summer months so that more detailed papers with specific actions would come back to the Policy and Strategy Committee in the Autumn. Members stressed the importance of getting to the action list for each area.

#### *Dance*

Davide Terlingo, Head of Dance, joined the meeting and made a presentation setting out the general context of support for dance as informed by MGAW. Members were updated on immediate priority areas and proposed policy actions and planned interventions. Members **noted** the update and looked forward to inputting on the more specific actions over the course of the summer.

#### *Film*

Fionnuala Sweeney, Head of Film, joined the meeting and made a presentation setting out the general context of support for film as informed by MGAW. Members were updated on immediate priority areas and proposed policy actions and planned interventions. Members **noted** the update.

#### *Architecture*

Claire Doyle, Head of Architecture, joined the meeting and made a presentation setting out the general context of support for Architecture as informed by MGAW. Members were updated on immediate priority areas and proposed policy actions and planned interventions. Members **noted** the update.

#### *Visual Arts*

Claire Doyle, Head of Visual Arts, joined the meeting and made a presentation setting out the general context of support for Visual Arts as informed by MGAW. Members were updated on immediate priority areas and proposed policy actions and planned interventions. Members **noted** the update.

#### *Public Art*

Toby Dennett, Head of Public Art, joined the meeting and made a presentation setting out the general context of support for Public Art as informed by MGAW. Members were updated on immediate priority areas and proposed policy actions and planned interventions. Members **noted** the update.

#### *Theatre*

Rachel West, Head of Theatre, joined the meeting and made a presentation setting out the general context of support for Theatre as informed by MGAW. Members were updated on immediate priority areas and proposed policy actions and planned interventions. Members **noted** the update and looked forward to inputting on the more specific actions over the course of the summer.

#### *Literature*

Marcella Bannon, Head of Literature, joined the meeting and made a presentation setting out the general context of support for Literature as informed by MGAW. Members were updated on immediate priority areas and proposed policy actions and planned interventions. Members **noted** the update and looked forward to inputting on the more specific actions over the course of the summer.

Members **noted** that the remainder of artform policy areas will be brought to the September Policy and Strategy meeting.

#### **17 – 06– 059 Aosdána**

The Director and Company Secretary were the only members of the Executive present for this agenda item.

Members discussed the on-going impasse with Aosdána and in this regard considered a draft communication from the Chair. Following a detailed discussion, members **agreed** the communication and **agreed** that it should be issued to the Toscaireacht. Members also **agreed** an approach in relation to the on-going Patrick Pye matter.

#### **17 – 06– 060 MGAW Funding Framework**

Deirdre Behan, Project Manager MGAW, joined the meeting.

Making Great Art Work Funding Framework 2018–2020- **agreed**;  
Strategic Funding Agreement Framework- **agreed** subject to textual changes;

Members were briefed on the paper *Update on approach to New Funding Framework*. Members considered a number of high-level principles and subject to textual changes **agreed** 9.3.1- 9.3.5 inclusive. Members **did not agree** 9.3.6- it was noted that additional research would be undertaken and that a proposal would be brought to the September Plenary Meeting.

Members **noted** the planned information sessions and the fact that live streaming of the Dublin event was also planned. Members asked whether all sessions could be streamed and it was **agreed** to review the options available. Members also **agreed** that a social media campaign should be put in place.

Members **noted** the relevant extracts from the multi-annual strategic funding guidelines.

#### **17 – 06– 061 Opera Production Award 2018**

Members who declared a conflict left the meeting. Niall Doyle, Head of Music & Opera, joined the meeting.

Members considered all recommendations including those shortlisted but not recommended. Following a detailed discussion two applications totalling €505,000 were **approved**. A financial appendix is attached to the Minutes.

Members also **agreed** that the next iteration of the Opera Production Award would go to a Panel for decision.

Also **agreed** that where Council Members want to review applications access can be provided, subject to conflicts of interest protocols, via the panel's module.

#### **17 – 06– 062 New Music Dublin- 2017 Review & Funding 2018 & 2019**

Niall Doyle, Head of Music & Opera, updated Members on the paper.

Members sought additional clarity on the initiative's objectives. Members were informed of the need for the initiative to be delivered at a particular scale and the importance of having RTÉ and the National Concert Hall as joint partners. It was **agreed** that further consideration on shared performance metrics for artist and audience engagement would be considered and brought back to the September Council Meeting. It was also **agreed** to provide full income and expenditure analysis, to members, for the 2017 festival.

Members noted the 2017 festival review and **agreed** a budget allocation of €200kpa for 2019 and 2020.

#### **17 – 06– 063 Awards**

##### *Dance Artist Residency*

Members **noted** the awards. A financial appendix is attached to the Minutes.

##### *Deis Recording 2017*

Members **noted** the awards. A financial appendix is attached to the Minutes.

##### *Invitation to Collaboration*

Members **noted** the awards. A financial appendix is attached to the Minutes.

##### *Theatre Artist Development Scheme*

Members **noted** the awards. A financial appendix is attached to the Minutes.

##### *Theatre Artist Residency*

Members **noted** the awards. A financial appendix is attached to the Minutes.

##### *Theatre Resource Sharing*

Members **noted** the awards. A financial appendix is attached to the Minutes.

##### *Open Call 2018*

Members **noted** the awards. A financial appendix is attached to the Minutes. It was **agreed** that an event should be organised to celebrate the Open Call 2018 awardees announcement in July.

#### **17 – 06– 064 Cnuas**

Members **agreed** the recommendations. A financial appendix is attached to the Minutes.

#### **17 – 06– 065 Festival and Events Scheme review**

Karl Wallace, Head of Festivals, joined the meeting. Members were provided with a high level overview of the review process and further details on the key recommendations. Following a detailed discussion Members **agreed**:-

- To replace the current FES Scheme with a three tiered Festival Investment Scheme 1) up to €5k 2) €5k-€20k and 3) greater than€20k-€35k;
- To replace panel assessment with executive assessment for band 2 & 3- in the case of band 3 to put in place a festival's audit panel to spot check decisions against scheme criteria;
- To provide grants further in advance to allow festivals to plan more effectively.

Members **noted** the transitional changes proposed for 2018 and the need for it to be communicated comprehensively to the sector. Members **agreed** that a communications plan should be prepared and brought back to the September Council Meeting for approval.

The Report was complemented and noted as being well researched and collated.

#### **17 – 06– 066 Private Investment**

Kieran MacSweeney, Private Investment adviser, joined the meeting and made a presentation to Members. Members **noted** the presentation including the indicative three year timeline and **agreed** the 2017 workplan.

#### **17 – 06– 067 Any Other Business**

*Council Members Meeting in accordance with section 2.7.13 of the Arts Council's Code of Governance Framework*

Members **agreed** that a half-day meeting should be scheduled for Council members only.

*Opera Main Scale Announcement*

Members **agreed** that an appropriate communications plan should be put in place to promote the announcement.

*Summary of Decisions*

- *Minutes of the Plenary Meeting 24 May*- were **approved**;
- *Music Generation Partnership 2018-2020*- **agreed** a renewal of the Arts Council / Music Generation Partnership Spanning September 2017 – December 2020. Members **agreed** a total investment of €530,000, comprising €80,000 in 2017 and €150,000 per year in 2018-2020;
- *Goodbody Stockbroker Trust Mandate*- **agreed** the delegated authority to the Executive and authorised signatories list;
- *Delegated Authority 2018*- **approved** the grants, schemes and awards under Delegated Authority for 2018;
- *Touring and Dissemination of Work Scheme (Round 1) 2018*- fourteen tours totalling €506,086 were **approved** and **agreed** that the additional funding required should be deducted from the 2018 Round 2 budget;
- *Art Form Policy Papers*- noted and also **agreed** to revert to members with a plan for meetings with Council Members over the summer months so that more detailed papers with specific actions would come back to the Policy and Strategy Committee in the Autumn;
- *Aosdána*- **agreed** the communication and **agreed** that it should be issued to the Toscaireacht. Members also **agreed** an approach in relation to the on-going Patrick Pye matter;
- *MGAW Funding Framework*- Making Great Art Work Funding Framework 2018–2020- **agreed**; Strategic Funding Agreement Framework- **agreed** subject to textual changes; *Update on approach to New Funding Framework* Members considered a number of high-level principles and subject to textual changes **agreed** 9.3.1- 9.3.5 inclusive. Members **did not agree** 9.3.6; Members also **agreed** that a social media campaign should be put in place;
- *Opera Production Award 2018*- two applications totalling €505,000 were **approved** also **agreed** that the next iteration of the Opera Production Award would go to a Panel for decision and also **agreed** that where Council Members want to review applications access can be provided, subject to conflicts of interest protocols, via the panel's module;
- *New Music Dublin- 2017 Review & Funding 2018 & 2019*- **agreed** that further consideration on shared performance metrics for artist and audience engagement would be considered and brought back to the September Council Meeting; also **agreed** to provide full income and expenditure analysis, to members, for the 2017 festival; and **agreed** a budget allocation of €200kpa for 2019 and 2020;
- *Open Call 2018*- **agreed** that an event should be organised to celebrate the Open Call 2018 awardees announcement in July;
- *Cnuas*- **agreed** the recommendations;
- *Festival and Events Scheme review*- **agreed**:-
  - To replace the current FES Scheme with a three tiered Festival Investment Scheme 1) up to €5k 2) €5k-€20k and 3) greater than€20k-€35k;
  - To replace panel assessment with executive assessment for band 2 & 3- in the case of band 3 to put in place a festival's audit panel to spot check decisions against scheme criteria;
  - To provide grants further in advance to allow festivals to plan more effectively

- *Festival and Events Scheme review* - **agreed** that a communications plan should be prepared and brought back to the September Council Meeting for approval;
- *Private Investment*- **agreed** the 2017 workplan;
- *Council Members Meeting in accordance with section 2.7.13 of the Arts Council's Code of Governance Framework*- **agreed** that a half-day meeting should be scheduled for Council members only;
- *Opera Main Scale Announcement*- **agreed** that an appropriate communications plan should be put in place to promote the announcement.