

## Document 3.1

# The Arts Council/An Chomhairle Ealaíon

761<sup>st</sup> Plenary Meeting

17 November 2021

Kevin Rafter, Chair, Fearghus Ó Conchúir, Mark O’Kelly, Jillian van Turnhout, Melatu Uchenna Okorie, Dónall Curtin, Loughlin Deegan, Paddy Glackin, Helen Shaw, Martina Moloney, Teresa Buczkowska, Pádraig Ó Duinnín.

### **In attendance:**

Maureen Kennelly, *Director*, Martin O’Sullivan, *Deputy Director & Company Secretary*, Ciara Branagan *Finance and Council Executive*.

**Note: Meeting took place via Zoom video conference.**

### **Documents before the meeting**

Agenda

Minutes 7 / 20 October Plenary Meeting

Plenary Action Tracker

Director’s Report

Council Diary 2022

Business Continuity Plan

Expansion of Master Panel List

Acquisitions Committee report on purchases

[REDACTED]

Cnuas Recommendations

Awards and Schemes

For Information-Risk Register and Committee Minutes

### **21 – 11– 145 Apologies**

None.

### **21 – 11 – 146 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 him of any conflicts that may arise during the course of the meeting.

*Appointment of New Council Members*- Members **noted** that a one-day PAS shortlisting meeting has been scheduled for 17 December.

### **21 – 11– 147 Minutes 7 and 20 October Plenary Meetings 2021**

Members **agreed** the Minutes of 7 and 20 October Plenary Meetings.

[REDACTED]

## 21 – 11– 148 Matters Arising

Members **noted** the action tracker. Members asked for all actions to be fully updated in the tracker.

[REDACTED]

## 21 – 11– 149 Director's Report

### *Development of Arts Council's Climate Action Policy - Consultancy Support*

Members were updated on consultancy services required to support the development of the Arts Council's Climate Action Policy. Members agreed the recommendation and set aside a budget of €100k. Separately, Members **agreed** that an update on the policy development should go to the February 2022 Policy & Strategy Meeting.

### *Amateur Arts Pilot Scheme, Round 2*

Members **agreed** the funding recommendation of €125k for the Association of Irish Musical Societies.

[REDACTED]

### *Laureate Irish Fiction 2021-2024*

Members **noted** the selection process for the new Laureate and related programme for 2022.

### *University residencies*

In relation to the Arts Council's increased residency support for 2022, Members **noted** the rationale and welcome the commitment to examine the development of the scheme across the wider third level sector.

### *Clare Leadership Programme Update*

Members **noted** the update. Members **agreed** that a review should be undertaken to establish whether Clare training services could be provided to a wider audience in Ireland along with the provision of short-term training courses.

### *HR Update*

Members **noted** the update.

### *Consultation for new three-year plan 2023-2025*

Members noted the recommendation to procure consultancy services to support the development of a new corporate plan (2023–2025). Members **agreed** an allocation of €40k for the consultancy services.

### *Artists' workspaces*

Members **noted** the update.

### *Premises update*

Members **noted** the update.

### *Arts Council at 70*

Members **noted** the update.

*Director's Diary Report*

Members **noted** the update.

**21 – 11– 150 Irish Theatre Institute- Speak Up**

Siobhán Burke and Jane Daly, Co-Directors, Irish Theatre Institute, Liz Meaney, Arts Director, Stephannie O'Callaghan, Arts Director and Rachel West, Head of Theatre joined the meeting for this item.

Members were updated on the key recommendations. Members welcomed and **noted** the findings.

Separately, Members also **noted** that Siobhán Burke and Jane Daly, are shortly to retire and took the opportunity to thank them for their tremendous work, over the past twenty years and to wish them well in the future.

**21 – 11– 151 Communications Approach**

Catherine Griffin, Communications Consultant, joined the meeting and updated Members on her recent programme of work in the area of digital communications. Members welcome and **noted** the update.

**21 – 11– 152 Reports**

*Policy and Strategy Committee 17 November 2021*

Loughlin Deegan, Committee Chairman, updated Members on the key recommendations from the meeting confirming:-

- Minutes 15 September 2021 were agreed;
- International Policy and related implementation plan were agreed;
- Update on approach to developing a Digital Policy was welcomed and noted;
- Discussion on proposed approach to update MGAW three year plan 2023- 2025;
- Update on Department's Basic Income Scheme & discussion around Arts Council's positioning with regard to the scheme;
- Update on Dance Policy;
- Update on YPCE Policy;
- Update on Visual Arts production models;

Members **agreed** the recommendations of the 17 November Policy and Strategy Meeting.

**21 – 11– 153** [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

**21 – 11– 154** [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

**21 – 11– 155 Local Arts Budget 2022 (incl Partnership Funding Recommendations)**

Deirdre Behan, Strategic Development Director and Sinead O’Reilly, Head of Local Arts, joined the meeting for this item.

Members considered the Local, Place and Partnership budget for 2022. [REDACTED]

Members **agreed** the Partnership Funding recommendations totaling €3m for 2022. [REDACTED]

**21 – 11– 156** [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

**21 – 11– 157 Business Continuity Plan**

Trevor Montgomery, ICT Manager, joined the meeting for this item.

Members **noted** that the draft plan had been reviewed and recommended for approval by the Business and Finance Committee. Members **approved** the draft Business Continuity Plan.

**21 – 11– 158 Expansion of Master Panel List**

Members **agreed** the recommended additions of new members to the Panel Master List. **Agreed** that the individual new member profiles should be circulated to Council with view to assurance that a diverse membership has been assembled. **Agreed** that going forward new additions to the Master List should be highlighted for Members.

**21 – 11– 159 Council Diary 2022**

Members **noted** the Council Diary 2022.

**21 – 11– 160 Cnuas Recommendations**

Members **agreed** the recommendations.

**21 – 11– 161 Awards**

*Engaging with Architecture, 2021*  
Members **noted** the awards.

**21 – 11– 162** [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

**21 – 11– 163 Matters for Information**

*Policy & Strategy Committee 18 May 2021-* Members **noted** the Minutes;  
*Risk Register-* Members **noted** the Risk Register.

**21 – 11 – 164 Any Other Business**

*Collection Acquisitions Committee November 2021 Meeting*

Members **noted** the under €20k acquisitions. Members **agreed** the recommendation to purchase two further pieces:-

- Vanessa Donoso López- *To swallow a ball* 2016- € 30,000
- Elizabeth Cope-*Last Picnic on London City Island* 2020- € 33,000

Members **noted** the total investment of €182k.

*New Aosdána Members*

Members **noted** and welcomed the appointment of new members.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

There were no other matters arising.

Summary of Actions

- *Minutes 15 and 16 September Plenary Meeting 2021* - Members **agreed** the Minutes.  
[Redacted]
- *Action Tracker* - Members asked for all actions to be fully updated in the tracker.  
[Redacted]
- *Development of Arts Council's Climate Action Policy - Consultancy Support* - Members **agreed** that an update on the policy development should go to the February 2022 Policy & Strategy Meeting.
- *Amateur Arts Pilot Scheme, Round 2* - Members **agreed** the funding recommendation of €125k for the Association of Irish Musical Societies.
- [Redacted]
- *Clare Leadership Programme Update* - Members **agreed** that a review should be undertaken to establish whether Clare training services could be provided to a wider audience in Ireland along with the provision of short-term training courses.
- *Consultation for new three-year plan 2023-2025* - Members **agreed** an allocation of €40k for the consultancy services.
- *Policy and Strategy Committee 17 November 2021* - Members **agreed** the recommendations of the 17 November Policy and Strategy Meeting.
- [Redacted]
- *Local Arts Budget 2022 (incl Partnership Funding Recommendations)* - [Redacted]  
[Redacted]  
[Redacted] Members **agreed** the Partnership Funding recommendations totaling €3m for 2022.
- [Redacted]  
[Redacted]  
[Redacted]  
[Redacted]  
[Redacted]  
[Redacted]  
[Redacted]  
[Redacted]  
[Redacted]  
[Redacted]  
[Redacted]
- *Business Continuity Plan* - Members **approved** the draft Business Continuity Plan.
- *Expansion of Master Panel List* - Members **agreed** the recommended additions of new members to the Panel Master List. **Agreed** that the individual new member profiles should be circulated to Council with view to assurance that a diverse membership has been assembled. **Agreed** that going forward new additions to the Master List should be highlighted for Members.
- *Cnuas Recommendations* - Members **agreed** the recommendations.
- [Redacted]
- *Collection Acquisitions Committee November 2021 Meeting* - Members **agreed** the recommendation to purchase two further pieces

