

Document 3.1

The Arts Council/An Chomhairle Ealaíon

766th Plenary Meeting

27 April 2022

Kevin Rafter, Chair, Fearghus Ó Conchúir, Mark O’Kelly, Jillian van Turnhout, Melatu Uchenna Okorie, Dónall Curtin, Teresa Buczkowska, Aoife Granville, Brian Lavery, Philomena Poole, Róise Goan, Linda Coogan Byrne, Andrew Clancy.

In attendance:

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

Note: Meeting took place in-person and also via Zoom video conference.

Documents before the meeting

Agenda

Minutes 16 March Plenary Meeting

Plenary Action Tracker

Director’s Report

Risk Management Review Report

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Basic Income Scheme Update

[REDACTED]

Workspaces Update

[REDACTED]

Code of Governance Framework

Appeals Panel Recommendations

Awards and Schemes

Minutes- Policy & Strategy Minutes 9 February

Communications Report

Risk Register

22– 04– 049 Apologies

None.

22 – 04 – 050 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.

Committee Governance – Members **noted** 1) Philomena Poole appointed as incoming Business & Finance Chair and 2) Brian Lavery as incoming Private Investment Advisory Committee Chair.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Shared Ireland- Members noted recent meetings on proposals submitted to the Department of the Taoiseach

[REDACTED]

Irish National Opera and Niamh O'Malley- Members **noted** their recent outstanding achievements.

22- 04- 051 Minutes 16 March Plenary Meeting 2022

[REDACTED]

22 – 03 – 032- *Committee Governance- Arts Participation champions*- Members **noted** that Mark O’Kelly’s name should be added;

22 – 03– 035- *Collection repair matter*:- Members **agreed** that the emphasis should be on the Collection Policy rather than individual art pieces.

Members **agreed** the Minutes of the 16 March Plenary Meeting minutes, subject to the agreed changes being made.

22 – 04– 052 Matters Arising

Members **noted** the action tracker. Members **agreed** that additional formatting work remains to be undertaken.

22 – 04– 053 Director’s Report

Opera Project and Production Award 2023

Members **agreed** to allocate €870k for the Opera Project and Production Award 2023.

Procurement of Creative Associate Services for Creative Schools Alternative Settings

Members **agreed** the recommendation.

Procurement of Youth Voice Advisor Services for Creative Schools

Members **agreed** the recommendation.

Partnership with Pavee Point Traveller and Roma Centre

Members **agreed** the recommended approach and indicative three year budget allocation.

Members **noted** that once finalised, the proposed performance delivery agreement and related budgeted implementation Plan would come back to Council for final approval. Additionally, Members **agreed** that a due diligence type template incorporating standardised eligibility and governance criteria such as tax & charity code compliance, trading history & board composition should be advanced for such developmental initiatives.

Beyond Borders

Members **noted** the update.

Collection– Storage and capacity update

Members **noted** the update. Following detailed discussion Members **agreed** the following 1) re proposed tender – reconsider whether scope of service required is sufficient 2) consider if more pieces can be loaned out & what resource needs are required to progress 3) explore is there

potential for the storage requirements to be shared with other state bodies 4) Update Paper to May/June plenary around Collection- purpose/role of collection, acquisition approach including selection criteria & funding history for past five 5ys.

Arts & Health National Partnership Update

Members **noted** the update. In relation to the joint symposium event Members **noted** that one of the Deputy Secretary Generals in the Dept. of Health is an artist and **agreed** that an invitation to attend should be extended.

HR Update

Members **noted** the update.

Director's Diary Report

Members **noted** the update.

Separately, Members **noted** that matters for agreement should be listed as separate agenda items going forward and the Director's Report should mainly deal with updates.

22 – 04– 054 Reports

Business and Finance Committee Meeting 26 April 2022

Dónall Curtin, Committee Member, updated Members as follows:-

- Members approved the minutes of 23 February 2022;
- Members approved the Management Accounts for Quarter 1 2022;
- Members approved the proposed reallocation of €2.5 million savings brought forward from 2021;
- Members approved the Corporate Procurement Plan for 2022. Members agreed that a more developed Procurement Training Implementation Plan should be prepared and brought back for approval;
- Members noted the HR report. Members agreed that the Executive should report to Council on progress re staff sanction requests and the effect of on-going delays, to the Corporate Workplan and the mitigation measures which the Executive are putting in place to address;
- Members noted the FOI report. Members agreed that the current process as it applies to Council Members should be provided to Members. Members also agreed that an update should also be provided on how broader learnings around FOI development and implementation are feeding into Arts Council FOI policy;
- Members noted the Property report. Members agreed that the recommendation on future leases should go to the May Plenary;
- Members noted the Risk Register report;
- [REDACTED]
- Members noted the ICT BAU report;
- Members noted the Trust Fund update. Members agreed that once the distribution plan has been finalised, a recommendation should be brought to Council for final approval;
- Additional Budget 2022 considerations - Members agreed 1) International Residence Pilot Scheme – an increased budget of between €400k - €600k with recommendation to come back to the May Plenary and 2) Arts Grant Funding – Arts Managers may vary decisions by up to 5% from savings within their Artform budget.

Members **agreed** the report and recommendations of the Business and Finance Committee.

Policy and Strategy Committee Meeting 20 April 2022

Jillian van Turnhout, Committee Chairman, updated Members as follows:-

- The minutes of 9 February meeting were approved;
- Digital Policy update noted;
- Climate Action Policy timeline noted;
- Safeguarding update noted;
- Three year Plan planning approach to complete was outlined;
- Irish Language policies incorporating Irish Language Literature & Irish Language based arts. Members welcomed approach outlined;
- Discussion on findings from Framework for Collaboration mid term review;
- Dance Policy progress update and timeline noted;
- Music Policy progress update and revised timeline noted;
- Update on Theatre Policy areas for development;
- Capacity Building Support Scheme review noted;
- Guidance for Policy champions and list of current champions was noted;
- Review of 2022 Policy Budget and its application for discussion at next meeting;

Members **agreed** the report and recommendations of the Policy and Strategy Committee.

22 – 04– 055 [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

22 – 04– 056 Workforce Plan update

Alison Sleeth, HR Director, joined the meeting for this item.

Members **noted** the update. Members **noted** particular concern the continued delay in Departmental approval of the Workforce Plan and note current staffing retention risk. Members **agreed** that it would welcome an extension of HR report to include current vacancies and outstanding sanction requests.

22 – 04– 057 [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

22 – 04– 058 [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

22 – 04– 059 [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

22 – 04– 060 Basic Income for the Arts Pilot Scheme Presentation

Stephanie O’Callaghan, Arts Director joined the meeting for this item.

Members **noted** and welcomed the presentation.

22 – 04– 061 Workspaces Update

Stephanie O’Callaghan, Arts Director and Claire Doyle, Head of Visual Arts joined the meeting for this item.

Members **noted** the update. Members **agreed** 1) arrange Chair to Chair meeting around Dublin Port proposal 2) wider update required around strategic approach/options to be prepared.

22 – 04– 062 [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

22 – 04– 063 Corporate Governance Framework

Members **noted** the recommended updates to the Council’s Corporate Governance Framework. Members **noted** that the amendments to draft document were administrative in nature to better reflect previous decisions of Council. Members **agreed** that the Final Draft could then be circulated by mail, for agreement.

22 – 04– 064 Appeals’ Panel Recommendations

[REDACTED] having reviewed all the paperwork submitted and following a discussion the panel found that there was no infringement or unfair application of the published process. The appeal was not upheld.

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found that there was no infringement or unfair application of the published process. The appeal was not upheld.

Members **agreed** the Appeals' Panel recommendations.

22 – 04– 065 Awards & Schemes

Dance Artist Residency Scheme 2022

Members **noted** the awards.

Deis Recording 2022

Members **noted** the awards. Director to discuss panel composition with Council member Aoife Granville

Theatre Artist Residency Scheme 2022

Members **noted** the awards.

Theatre Resource Development Scheme 2022

Members **noted** the awards.

22 – 04– 066 Matters for Information

Policy and Strategy Committee Minutes 9 February 2022- Members **noted** the Minutes.

Communications Report- Members **noted** the report.

Risk Register- Members **noted** the Register.

22 – 04– 067Any Other Business

New External Member of Audit and Risk Committee

Members **agreed** the recommendation to appoint Paul Barry as an external Member of the Audit and Risk Committee. Members asked for the new Member's bio to be circulated.

There were no other matters arising.