

The Arts Council/An Chomhairle Ealaíon

786th Plenary Meeting

13 March 2024

In Person attendance:

Philomena Poole, *Deputy Chair*, Jillian van Turnhout, Brian Lavery, Melatu Uchenna Okorie, Teresa Buczkowska and Andrew Clancy.

Virtual attendance:

None.

Executive in attendance:

Maureen Kennelly, Director, Martin O'Sullivan, *Deputy Director & Company Secretary*, Ciara Branagan, *Council Secretary & Payroll Manager*.

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

Documents before the meeting

Agenda

Minutes of Plenary Meeting held on 7 February 2024

Plenary Action Tracker

Operational Matters for Decision

Director's Report and Matters for Information

[REDACTED]

Delegated Authority Approval 2024/25

Review of Internal Controls

Oversight Agreement 2024

Performance Delivery Agreement 2024

Appeals Panel Recommendations

Aosdána Cnuas Recommendations

For Information:-

- Policy and Strategy Committee minutes;
- Business and Finance Committee minutes;
- Risk Register;
- Communications Report.

24 – 03 – 015 Apologies

Aoife Granville

24 – 03 – 016 Chair's Introduction

Conflicts of Interest- The Deputy 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.

[REDACTED]

24 – 03 – 017 Minutes of Plenary Meeting

Members **agreed** the Minutes of meeting held on 07 February 2024 subject to agreed amendments.

24 – 03 – 018 Matters Arising

Members **noted** the action tracker. Members **agreed** that new Dance Company communications plan should be uploaded to the reading room.

[REDACTED]

24 – 03 – 019 Operational Matters for Decision

[REDACTED]

*Ireland at Venice National Tour 2024 - In Search of Hy-Brasil (Ireland's representation at the Venice Architecture Biennale 2023): Supplementary Funding Request – Members **approved** the recommendation to increase supplementary funding by €20,000, on a once-off basis, to support the island elements of the national tour in 2024.*

[REDACTED]

24 – 03 – 020 Director's Report and Matters for Information

*Culture Night Late and Night Time Economy – Members **noted** the update.*

*Ireland at Venice National Tour 2024 2024 Update – Members **noted** the update.*

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Creative Europe Co Funding Awards Decisions 2024 - Members **noted** the update.

Director's Diary Report – Members **noted** the update.

24 – 03 – 021 Committee Reports

Business and Finance Committee Meeting 6 March 2024

Philomena Poole, Committee Chair, updated Members as follows:-

- Minutes 6 December 2023 meeting agreed and Action tracker noted;
- Draft Committee Performance report was noted;
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
- Draft Committee 2024 Work Plan was noted;
- HR Report was noted. [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
- MGAW 3yr Monitoring update was noted. Members agreed that a comprehensive report will be presented in June. Members agreed that this report should be a dashboard indicating the performance in key areas and the resources being used to achieve it;
- [REDACTED]
- FOI Report was noted. Members agreed that training will be provided to the members.

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

Audit and Risk Committee Meeting 13 March 2024

Niamh Muldoon, interim Committee Chair joined the meeting for this item and updated Members as follows:-

- Minutes 5 Dec 2023 approved;
- Matters Arising noted;

[REDACTED]

24 – 03 – 023 Delegated Authority 2024/25

Liz Meaney, Arts Department Manager joined the meeting for this item.

Members **approved** the Delegated Authority 2024/25 recommendation, for grants. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

24 – 03 – 024 Safe to Create

Liz Meaney, Arts Department Manager remained in the meeting for this item. Niamh O'Donnell, Director of Irish Theatre Institute, joined the meeting for this item.

Members welcomed and acknowledged the positive impact of the Safe to Create programme. Members **agreed** that the matter should be tabled again for discussion at an upcoming Council meeting;

24 – 03 – 025 Oversight Agreement and Performance Delivery Agreement 2024

Members **approved** the Oversight Agreement and Performance Delivery Agreement for 2024. Members **agreed** that the completed 2023 reports should be uploaded to the Reading Room.

24 – 03 – 026 Appeals Panel Recommendations

[REDACTED]

Having reviewed all the paperwork submitted and following a discussion the Appeals Panel found that there was an infringement of the published process and the appeal was upheld.

[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.

Members **approved** the Appeals Panel recommendations. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

24 – 03 – 027 Aosdána Cnuas Recommendations

Members **approved** the Aosdána Cnuas recommendations.

24 – 03 – 028 Matters for Information

Committee Minutes – Members **noted** minutes of the Policy and Strategy Committee and Business and Finance Committee.

Risk Register - Members **noted** the report. [REDACTED]

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

24 – 03 – 029 Review of Internal Controls

This item was deferred until the April meeting.

24 – 03 – 030 Any other business

Smock Alley Theatre – Members **noted** the update.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

There were no other matters arising.