

The Arts Council/An Chomhairle Ealaíon

773rd Plenary Meeting

15 February 2023

Kevin Rafter, Chair, Fearghus Ó Conchúir, Mark O’Kelly, Jillian van Turnhout, Dónall Curtin, Aoife Granville, Brian Lavery, Philomena Poole, Róise Goan, Melatu Uchenna Okorie (until 4.15pm), 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 via Zoom video conference.

Documents before the meeting

Agenda
Conflicts of Interest
Minutes 7 and 8 December Plenary Meeting
Plenary Action Tracker
Operational Matters for Decision
Director’s Report and Matters for Information
Workforce Plan



Pay the Artist
Workforce Plan
B & A audience research and ‘Live is....’ response
FOI Report
Revised Risk Register
Return to Office
Night Time Economy
Aosdána Cnuas Recommendations
Appeals Panel Recommendations
Awards and Schemes
For Information:-

- Policy and Strategy Committee – Minutes 7 September
- Communications Report

23 – 02 – 001 Apologies

Teresa Buczkowska.

23 – 02 – 002 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.

[REDACTED]

23 – 02 – 003 Minutes 7 and 8 December Plenary Meeting 2022

[REDACTED]

Members **agreed** the Minutes of the 7 and 8 December Plenary Meeting subject to the listed amendments above.

23 – 02 – 004 Matters Arising

Members **noted** the action tracker.

23 – 02 – 005 Operational Matters for Decision

Arts in Early Learning and Care and School-Age Childcare Pilot – Movement of Funds and Delegated Authority

Members **agreed** that €80k of 2022 savings should be allocated towards the project and that related grantee decisions should be delegated to a specially convened Panel;

[REDACTED]

Theatre Development Centre, Cork-

Members **agreed** to fund up to €210k for 2023.

[REDACTED]

23 – 02 – 006 Director's Report and Matters for Information

Wexford Festival Opera - Members **noted** the update.

HR Update - Members **noted** the update.

[REDACTED]

Council and Committee Performance Review Update - Members **noted** the approach.

Venice Architecture Biennale 2023 Update - Members **noted** the update.

Visual Artists' Workspace Scheme - Members **noted** the update.

Laureate na nÓg nomination and selection process 2022/2023 - Members **noted** the update.

Energy Support Scheme - Members **noted** the update **and agreed** that round 2 recommendations should include more supporting information.

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

23 – 02 – 007 Committee Reports

Policy and Strategy *Committee Meeting 1 February 2023*

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

- The minutes of 16 November meeting were approved subject to amendment of the attendance list which should include Róise Goan as attending;
- Members had a wide ranging discussion on the value and role of Policy and Strategy Committee and reflected on Terms of Reference.
- Members agreed to develop the P&S work-plan to ensure that work is focussed and strategically aligned to the three-year plan and the corporate goals.
- Members agreed that a review of terms of reference should form part of the forthcoming Board evaluation.
- [REDACTED]
- Review of Resource Organisations – presentation and general discussion on findings to date
- Touring Policy update - presentation and general discussion on new approach to touring and MDA more generally.
- Theatre Policy update – general discussion
- John Broderick bequest evaluation and recommendations were agreed

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

Private Investment Advisory Working Group

Brian Lavery, Committee Chair, updated Members regarding the ongoing RAISE review and immediate priorities for 2023.

23 – 02 – 008 [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

23 – 02 – 009 Dublin Port Plan, Other Updates and Workspaces Audit

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

[REDACTED]

Separately, members noted the *Availability of Visual Artists’ Workspaces (O’BFA Report)* and **agreed** that the report and its findings should go to Policy and Strategy for a more in depth discussion.

Members congratulated Claire Doyle for her work on the project to-date. Members **agreed** that the presentation should be uploaded to the reading room.

23 – 02 – 010 [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

23 – 02 – 011 Pay the Artist

Toby Dennett, Strategic Development Manager joined the meeting for this item.

Members discussed the paper and noted that that the policy will now go to Policy and Strategy committee for revision. Members acknowledged Toby Dennett’s work to date and **agreed** that a blank version of the Basic Income for artists questionnaire should be uploaded to the reading room.

23 – 02 – 012 Workforce Plan Update

Ciara Joseph, HR Director joined the meeting for this item.

Members **noted** the update. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

23 – 02 – 013 B &A Audience Research and ‘Live is....’ Response

Liz Meaney, Arts Director and Tina Leonard, Communications Director joined the meeting for this item. Members welcomed Tina Leonard to her new role as Communications Director.

Members **noted** the updated paper. Members **agreed** that the presentation should be uploaded to the reading room.

23 – 02 – 014 [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

23 – 02 – 015 Revised Risk Register

Aidan Burke, Corporate Services Director remained in the meeting for this item. Members **noted** the revised format and asked that further work be done on the content of the register. Members **agreed** that the Audit and Risk Committee will now review in detail and revert back to Plenary with final recommendations.

23 – 02 – 016 Return to Office

This item was noted without discussion.

23 – 02 – 017 Night Time Economy

Liz Meaney, Arts Director joined the meeting for this item.

Members **noted** the update and programme of work. Members **agreed** the recommendation that the night time arts pilot scheme and related proposals could be reviewed and decided upon by an Arts Council convened panel.

23 – 02 – 018 Aosdána Cnuas Recommendations

Members **agreed** the recommendations.

23 – 02 – 019 Awards and Schemes

Festival Investment Scheme 2023 (Round 2)

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

[REDACTED]

23 – 02 – 020 Matters for Information

Policy and Strategy Committee 16 November Minutes – Members **noted** the minutes.

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

23 – 02 – 021 Any Other Business

Appeals' Panel Recommendation

[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 **agreed** the recommendation of the Appeals' Panel.

Council Diary 2023 Change- Members **agreed** in principle that Arts Grant Funding 2024 decisions could go to the September Council Meeting and that the exact date & timing should be confirmed with members.

There were no other matters arising.



Chair: _____

Date _____