

Document 3.1

The Arts Council/An Chomhairle Ealaíon

795th Plenary Meeting

04th December 2024

In Person attendance:

Maura McGrath, *Chair*, Philomena Poole, *Deputy Chair*, Jillian van Turnhout, Aoife Granville, Brian Ó Gaibhín, Brian Lavery, Gary Granville, Richard Yarr, Gaby Smyth, Caroline O’Sullivan, Rosaleen McDonagh, and Noyona Chundur.

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

[REDACTED]

24 – 12 – 141 Apologies

Andrew Clancy.

24 – 12 – 142

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

24 – 12 – 143 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 her of any conflicts that may arise during the course of the meeting.

The Chairperson welcomed new Member Noyona Chundur.

Members also noted that Jillian van Turnhout will be stepping down from the Business and Finance Committee. Members acknowledged her contribution and commitment to the work of the Committee.

24 – 12 – 144 Minutes of meeting held on 20 November 2024

Members **agreed** the minutes of meeting held on 20 November 2024 subject to the agreed amendment to minute no. 24 – 11 – 133 *Committee Reports* being made. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

24 – 12 – 145 Matters Arising

Members **noted** the action tracker. In addition, the Director highlighted all material changes since the November update. Members **noted** and welcomed the updates.

Members particularly noted the following:-

- A 4 page manifesto extract is being finalised and will be circulated to Members.



24 – 12 – 146 Director's Report including Matters for Information

Acquisitions for Collection - Members **noted** the update. Members also **noted** that Monica Spencer had agreed to Chair the 14 December Collection Acquisitions Committee meeting.

Arts Council Pavee Point Traveller and Roma Centre Partnership - Members **noted** the update.

Climate Leadership Training - Members **noted** the update

All In Access Scheme UK & Ireland - Members **noted** the update

Director's Diary Report- Members noted the Director's Diary Report and **agreed** that Members should be notified of all key events over the coming weeks.

24 – 12 – 147 Matters for Decision



[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Arts Adviser Services Procurement for Traditional Arts & Opera- Subject to the tender values being broadly in line with the indicative values as indicated, Members **approved** the proposed procurements and subsequent contracting, with the preferred bidders.

Participatory Arts Policy Statement – Members **approved** the Participatory Arts Policy Statement for publication.

MDA Policy Statement – Members **approved** the Multidisciplinary Arts Policy Statement for publication.

Circus Policy - Members **approved** the Circus Policy and **agreed** that the communications approach should address Traditional Circus in particular. Members thanked the team for their work on the Policy.

24 – 12 – 148 Committee Reports

Business and Finance Committee Meeting 03 December 2024

Philomena Poole, Committee Chair, updated Members as follows:

- Minutes 9 Oct **approved**;
- Matters arising Tracker – **noted**;
- FOI update- **noted**

[REDACTED]

- FOI Process o/s actions

[REDACTED]

- **Noted** Members training being planned for Q1 2025;

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

- [REDACTED]
- 2025 Workplan-**agreed** w/plan for 2025 noting that it will need to be refined during Q1 & Q2 2025;
- MGAW- Members **noted** the 2025 list of strategic projects and the planned update approach for 2025;
- ICT update- Members **noted** & welcomed the report. Separately updated that process underway re new ICT Digital Strategy & Members' assistance will be requested;
- [REDACTED]
- AOB- None

Members **approved** the report and recommendations of the Business and Finance Committee and noted that a written report will be brought back to the next meeting.

Audit and Risk Committee Meeting 03 December 2024

Gaby Smyth, Committee Chair, updated Members as follows:

- Mins 10 October **approved**
- Matters arising - noted;
- 2025 W/Plan Update- Members **noted** the range of matters identified and agreed that all should be consolidated into a w/plan & brought for agreement to first meeting of 2025.

[REDACTED]

- Progress Update on o/s IA actions- **noted** update. Members noted resources to implement recommendations now in place & asked for them to be materially implemented by the next ARC meeting;
- IA plan 2025 was **noted** & agreed- Agreed also that a copy of the IA Plan should be made available to Members via the Reading Room;

[REDACTED]

- C&AG 2024 audit programme- **noted**;

[REDACTED]

- AOB -

[REDACTED]

Members **approved** the report and recommendations of the Audit and Risk Committee and noted that a written report will be brought back to the next meeting.

Members **noted** the written Policy and Strategy Committee Report following the approval of the verbal report given at the 20th November meeting.

24 – 12 – 149 Performance Delivery Plan 2025

Following discussion, Members agreed a list of matters for inclusion in the proposed delivery plan for 2025.

24 – 12 – 150

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

24 – 12 – 151 Appeals Panel Recommendation

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

24 – 12 – 152 Aosdána Cnuas Recommendations

Rosaleen Mc Donagh declared an interest with this item and left the meeting.

Members **approved** the Cnuas Recommendations.

24 – 12 – 153 Awards and Schemes

Members **noted** the Project awards. Members noted with concern the number of non-shortlisted applications and asked how this can be addressed in future funding rounds.

24 – 12 – 154 Matters For Information

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

24 – 12 - 155 Strategic and Arts Centre Funding 2025 Recommendations

Liz Meaney, Arts Director, Stephanie O’Callaghan, Arts Director and Sinead O’Reilly, Arts Director, joined the meeting for this item. Managers joined the meeting for each of their individual artforms as recommendations came before Council. Members who declared conflicts of interests left the meeting as they arose throughout the meeting.

Members **agreed** the Strategic and Arts Centre funded recommendations as recommended.

Additionally, Members **agreed** all Multi Annual Funding recommendations as recommended.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Members were informed that all funding agreements will issue week beginning 9 December and that Members will be notified in advance of their release.

Members also **noted** that a short survey regarding the funding process will be undertaken with Members early in the New Year.

23 – 12 – 156 Local Authority Partnership Funding 2024 Recommendations (including Culture Night, Creative Places and Ealaín na Gaeltachta)

Liz Meaney, Arts Director, Stephanie O’Callaghan, Arts Director and Sinéad O’Reilly, Arts Director, remained in the meeting for this item.

Ealaín Na Gaeltachta 2025 recommendation was also **agreed**.

Members **agreed** the Local Authority Partnership Funding recommendations for 2025.

Members **agreed** the Culture Night 2025 recommendation, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Members **agreed** the Creative Places 2025 recommendation, **noting** that there is a need to secure engagement by other government stakeholders on the Creative Places programme.

Members also **noted** the Public Art approach for 2025.

Members thanked the Executive and all involved both in terms of artform preparedness and logistical management which lead to such a successful meeting.

24 – 12 – 157 Any other business

There were no other matters arising.

Chair:_____ Date_____