

The Arts Council/An Chomhairle Ealaíon

771st Plenary Meeting

16 November 2022

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, Teresa Buczkowska, Linda Coogan Byrne.

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

Minutes 19 October Plenary Meeting

Plenary Action Tracker

Operational Matters for Decision

Director’s Report and Matters for Information

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Three Year Plan

Aosdána

Partnership Funding 2023

Strategic and Arts Centre Grant Pre-Meeting Protocol

Aosdána Cnuas Recommendations

Appeals Panel Recommendations

For Information:-

- Risk Register
- Communications Report

22 – 11 – 143 Apologies

Andrew Clancy.

22 – 11 – 144 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.

Laureate for Irish Fiction Lecture in Galway- Members noted the success of the event. **Agreed** that a copy of the lecture should be uploaded to the Reading Room.

22 – 11 – 145 Minutes 19 October Plenary Meeting 2022

Members **agreed** the Minutes of the 19 October Plenary Meeting.

22 – 11 – 146 Matters Arising

Members **noted** the action tracker. [REDACTED]

22 – 11 – 147 Operational Matters for Decision

Forward Commitment on the Artists Workspaces Scheme 2023

Members **agreed** to commit up to €750,000 towards the scheme.

Venice Visual Arts 2024 – Update and Forward Commitment

Members **agreed** to support Ireland’s representation at the Visual Arts Venice Biennale 2024 at an increased level of €130,000 [REDACTED]

Touring and Dissemination of Work Scheme

Members **agreed** to delegate authority of the scheme to a peer panel. Members sought more clarification around the objectives of the policy so that members have a clearer understanding when nominating a ‘champion’.

[REDACTED]

22 – 11 – 148 Director’s Report and Matters for Information

Office Relocation Visioning Exercise- Members **noted** the proposed procurement

[REDACTED]

Safe to Create- Members **noted** the update.

Tender for AC70 Podcast Series- Members **noted** the update.

Skills Net- Members **noted** the update.

Irish Language Theatre Action Research Project- Members **noted** the update. Members noted the need to make the report & recommendations more of a contemporary read, the need to be mindful of non-language based work, and asked if this project could be incorporated into an existing scheme.

Night Time Economy Taskforce Actions- Members **noted** the update.

Full-time Dance Company Feasibility Study- Members **noted** the update.

Approach to Strategic and Arts Centre Funding Applications- Members **noted** the update.

Gate Theatre Update- Members **noted** & welcomed the update.

RFT for Recruitment Agency €800k Contract Value- Members **noted** the update

Director's Diary Report

Members **noted** the update.

22 – 11 – 149 Committee Reports

Policy and Strategy Committee Meeting 16 November 2022

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

- The minutes of 7 September meeting were approved;
- Members discussed the Three Year Plan in detail and agreed should go to the plenary meeting for approval. The executive will develop the implementation plan with actions, sequencing and timelines, along with KPIs for agreement by Council in early 2023
- Members discussed and agreed the Climate Action & Environment Policy and implementation plan. The policy and implementation plan, incorporating feedback and amendments, will be presented to plenary for approval in December;
- Noted Funding Framework Review Update;
- Members discussed and agreed the Music Policy and implementation plan. The policy and implementation plan, incorporating amendments and feedback, will be presented to plenary for approval in December;
- Members discussed the Visual Arts Production Models discussion document, a final document incorporating feedback will be brought to the February meeting for approval;
- Discussed Touring, Champion required;
- Discussed Circus and Street Arts & Spectacle: key policy issues/themes for consideration as the policy is developed in 2023;
- Noted Traditional Arts: mentoring research update;
- Each member will be contacted to seek champions in the areas of Touring, and Circus and Street Arts & Spectacle to support planned policy development in 2023

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

Private Investment Advisory Working Group Meeting 10 November 2022

Brian Lavery, PIA Working Group Chair, updated Members on the recent meeting and progress to-date. Members were updated on progress with the RAISE review tender process. A briefing update was provided on RAISE phase 4. The current TORs were tabled and will be further reviewed at the next scheduled meeting. Members received a short update on the National Philanthropy Policy preparation. Members **noted** the update.

[Redacted]

22 – 11 – 150 [Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

22 – 11 – 151 [Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

22 – 11 – 152 Three Year Plan

Deirdre Behan, Strategic Director remained in the meeting for this item.

Following a thorough review and discussion of the recommended report by the Policy and Strategy Committee, members welcomed the report and **agreed** the recommendations. Members **agreed**, the next step is for the Executive to develop the three year plan, with actions, sequencing and timelines, along with KPIs for agreement by Council in early 2023.

22 – 11 – 153 Aosdána Update

This agenda item was deferred until the next meeting

22 – 11 – 154 Partnership Funding 2023

Deirdre Behan, Strategic Director and Sinead O'Reilly, Head of Local, Place and Public Art joined the meeting for this item.

Members noted the presentation and **agreed** the recommended budget approach for 2023. Members specifically **agreed** the Partnership Funding Recommendations for 2023.

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

22 – 11 – 155 Strategic and Arts Centre Grant Pre-Meeting Protocol

Liz Meaney, Arts Director and Stephanie O'Callaghan, Arts Director joined the meeting for this item. Members **noted** the proposed approach

22 – 11 – 156 Paying the Artist Update

This agenda item was deferred until the next meeting

22 – 11 – 157 Aosdána Cnuas Recommendations

Members **agreed** the recommendations.

22 – 11 – 158 Appeals Panel Recommendation

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[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.

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

Having reviewed all the paperwork submitted and following a discussion, the panel found that there was an unfair application of the published process. The appeal was therefore upheld. The appeals panel recommends by way of remedy the application be reassessed as a Literature bursary in the upcoming round, and that it is shortlisted to the peer panel with a note to the panellists explaining the circumstances.

[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.

[REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

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

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

22 – 11 – 159 Matters for Information
Risk Register- Members **noted** the Register.

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

22 – 11 – 160 Any Other Business

Peer Panel Review: Members **noted** that the workshop will commence before the end of year. Members also agreed that a follow on paper will be brought to Council early in 2023 for review.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Private Session

There were no other matters arising.