

The Arts Council/An Chomhairle Ealaíon

790th Plenary Meeting

19 June 2024

In Person attendance:

Maura McGrath, *Chair*, Philomena Poole, *Deputy Chair*, Jillian van Turnhout, Gary Granville, Gaby Smyth, Andrew Clancy, Brian Ó Gaibhín, Richard Yarr, Melatu Okorie, Teresa Buczkowska, Róise Goan and Aoife Granville.

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

Conflicts of Interests

Minutes of Plenary Meeting held on 22 May 2024

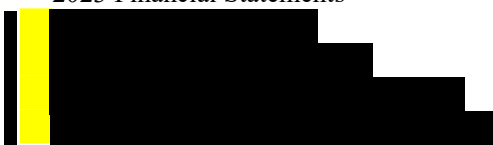
Plenary Action Tracker

Operational Matters for Decision

Director’s Report and Matters for Information

Financial Statements 2023

- 2023 Financial Statements



Arts Grant Funding Recommendations 2025

Disability Access Card Scheme

Grants and Awards 2025

Peer Panel Review



Aosdána Cnuas Recommendations

Awards and Schemes


Matters for Information

- Policy and Strategy Minutes
- Audit and Risk Committee Minutes
- Risk Register
- Communications Report

24 – 06 – 068 Apologies

Brian Lavery.

24 – 06 – 069 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. 

[REDACTED]

The Chair took the opportunity to extend a welcome to the five new Council Members and highlighted the obligation and privilege of being a member of Council.

Committee Governance- Members **agreed** the appointment of Gaby Smyth as the new Chair of the Audit and Risk Committee.

24 – 06 – 070 Minutes of meeting held on 22 May 2024

Members **agreed** the minutes of meeting held on 22 May 2024.

24 – 06 – 071 Matters Arising

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

24 – 06 – 072 Operational Matters for Decision

Ireland at Venice 2026 – Members **approved** the recommendation to increase the budget by €50k to a total budget of €180k [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

24 – 06 – 073 Director’s Report and Matters for Information

RAISE Update – Members **noted** the update. Members **noted** Gaby Smyth asked to be involved in the shaping of next steps. Members **agreed** that the independent Review of RAISE by Advisory Board for the Arts should be made available to members via the Reading Room.

Arts 2023 Report – Members **noted** and welcomed the update.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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

24 – 06 – 074 Committee Reports

Audit and Risk Committee Meeting 18 June 2024

Niamh Muldoon, Interim Committee Chair, updated Members as follows:-

- Chair's Intro - noted
- Minutes 21 May - approved

[REDACTED]

Members **agreed** the report and recommendations of the Audit and Risk Committee.

Members took the opportunity to thank the Interim Chair for her oversight of the ARC and **agreed** that a formal acknowledgement from Council should issue.

Business and Finance Committee Meeting 18 June 2024

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

- MINUTES 23 APRIL 2024 approved subject to correcting date & list of apologies;
- Minutes 1 May 2024 approved;
- Matters arising update noted;
- Q2 Management Accounts – budget updates were reviewed and approved and the Q2 Managements accounts were recommended to Council for approval; :-

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

- B&F work planning session in October should look at approach to setting the annual budget
- MGAW three year plan progress update- report & overview on progress was welcomed. Members noted that a project selection and project resourcing protocol is being developed. Agreed also that a PMO review should be added to the Budget 2025 process;
- ICT BAU Update- noted and welcomed the standard of the report; noted also that Director of ICT is working closely with ARC around building the Arts Council's cyber security resilience;
- HR Report- noted

[REDACTED]

- FOI Update on Requests- noted;

[REDACTED]

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

24 – 06 – 075 Financial Statements 2023

Emer O'Connor, Senior Finance Manager joined the meeting for this item.

Members **approved** the Financial Statements 2023 [REDACTED]

24 – 06 – 076 Arts Grant Funding Recommendations 2025

Liz Meaney, Performing Arts Director, Stephanie O’Callaghan, Creative Arts Director and Sinead O’Reilly, Combined Arts Director joined the meeting for this item. Heads of team joined the meeting for each of their individual artforms as recommendations came before Council. All artform comments & observations were recorded and will form part of a feedback review paper to Council.

Members **agreed** the recommendations.

Members **agreed** the Arts Grant funding recommendations as recommended [REDACTED]

Members expressed sincere thanks to all involved in preparing the recommendations and related meeting logistics.

24 – 06 – 077 Disability Access Card Scheme

Tina Leonard, Communications Director and Monica Corcoran, Strategic Development Manager joined the meeting for this item.

Members **approved** the recommendation. Members **agreed** that the referenced Evaluation Report should be made available to Members via the Reading Room.

24 – 06 – 078 Grants and Awards 2025

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

Members **noted** the process update. Members **agreed** the Delegated Authority Schedule for 2025 noting a typo correction required in relation to the Touring approval process.

24 – 06 – 079 Peer Panel Review

Liz Meaney, Arts Director remained and Phil Deverell, Arts Advisor joined the meeting for this item.

Members **approved** the report and recommendations. Members also **agreed** that each Council Member should observe at least one Panel per annum with nomination/allocation to form part of the Council Diary setting process for 2025.

24 – 06 – 081 Aosdána Cnuas Recommendations

Members **approved** the Aosdána Cnuas recommendations. Members asked that the location be added to the Cnuas approval template going forward. [REDACTED]

24 – 06 – 082 Awards and Schemes

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

24 – 06 – 083 Matters for Information

Committee Minutes – Members **noted** minutes of the Policy and Strategy Committee and Audit and Risk Committee.

Risk Register - Members **noted** the report. Members **agreed** it should be tabled as an agenda item at the September Plenary meeting.

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

24 – 06 – 084 Any other business

Members Private Session - Placing on the agenda- suggested that this should be moved to the top of the agenda for future meetings.

There were no other matters arising.