

Minutes National Council



Date	Friday 30 September 2022
Time	1pm-3pm
Location	Microsoft Teams

Present:	Sir Nicholas Serota (Chair)	Chair of Arts Council England
	Helen Birchenough	South West Area Council Chair
	Roni Brown	South East Area Council Chair
	YolanDa Brown	National Council Member (Items 1 – 3)
	Bill Bush	National Council Member
	Sukhy Johal MBE	Midlands Area Council Chair
	Ruth Mackenzie CBE	London Area Council Chair (Items 1 – 3)
	Elisabeth Murdoch CBE	National Council Member (Items 3 – 6)
	Andrew Miller MBE	National Council Member
	Jamie Njoku-Goodwin	National Council Member
	Abigail Pogson	National Council Member
	Paul Roberts OBE	National Council Member
	Deborah Shaw	National Council Member
	Baroness Fleet (Veronica Wadley CBE)	National Council Member
	Kate Willard OBE	North Area Council Chair (Items 3 – 6)

Apologies:

Also Present:	Darren Henley CBE	Chief Executive
	Liz Bushell	Executive Director and Chief Financial Officer
	Laura Dyer MBE	Deputy Chief Executive Places, Engagement & Libraries Executive
	Simon Mellor	Deputy Chief Executive, Arts and Museums
	Mags Patten	Executive Director, Communication and Public
	Francis Runacres, MBE	Executive Director, Enterprise and Innovation
	Richard Russell	Executive Director and Chief Operating Officer
	Jane Dawson	Director, Funding Programmes
	Michelle Dickson	Director, Strategy
	Eddie de Souza	Director, Investment Operations and Resources
	Alex Middleton	Senior Manager, Funded Organisations
	Claire Mera-Nelson	Director, Music and London
	Tonya Nelson	Area Director, London
	Tharsini Joganathan	Director of Legal Services
	Ruth Alaile	Director, Governance and Planning

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David Bryant
Eliza Burrows
Laura Doherty

Senior Governance Officer (minutes)
Officer, Governance (minutes)
Officer, Governance (observer)

1. WELCOME AND APOLOGISES

- 1.1 The Chair welcomed all attendees to the meeting. He noted that this was a continuation of the meeting held on Monday 26 September.
- 1.2 There were no apologies.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

- 2.1 National Council members were asked to declare any additional interests or relationships with organisations which are not on the circulated list, particularly in relation to any organisations who are likely to be discussed at the meeting.
- 2.2 Jamie Njoku-Goodwin noted that Music Managers Forum Ltd is a member of UK Music of which he is the Chief Executive.
- 2.3 YolanDa Brown advised that she is also a member of the Educational Board of the Southbank Centre.
- 2.4 No further declarations were made.

3. 2023-26 INVESTMENT PROCESS (Continued)

(Elisabeth Murdoch and Kate Willard joined the meeting)

- 3.1 Simon Mellor reiterated that the main purpose of the meeting was to continue discussions from the meeting held on 26th September regarding the proposed portfolio, and in particular to focus on the over £1million applications in the London area.
- 3.2 Members discussed the proposals for four organisations currently receiving the largest grants in the London portfolio. Members agreed that a differential approach towards reduction based on the rationale for the reduction awards and cuts should be used when making decisions on the portfolio.

(YolanDa Brown declared her role as a member of the Educational Board of the Southbank and did not take part in the discussion.)

(Jamie Njoku-Goodwin declared an interest as a board member of the London Philharmonic Orchestra and left the meeting for this aspect of the discussion)

- 3.3 The proposed orchestra portfolio in London was reviewed. National Council noted that the aim was to diversify and grow audiences for classical music, and this would partly be achieved by moving money outside the London portfolio and investing in a wider range of classical music ensembles.
- 3.4 Council members noted that the aim for opera was to grow small to mid-scale organisations in the portfolio by increasing investment in them through the portfolio.
- 3.5 Members asked for information on how employees of the companies might be affected by reductions.

(Jamie Njoku-Goodwin joined the meeting)

- 3.5 Tonya Nelson provided National Council with a breakdown of the proposed portfolio by artform in the London Area.

4. NPO/IPSO BUDGET STRANDS FOR 2022/23 TO 2025/26

(YolanDa Brown and Ruth Mackenzie left the meeting)

- 4.1 Members were asked if there were any comments or questions about the paper on budgets circulated for decision.

5. NEXT STEPS

- 5.1 Simon Mellor took members through what will happen next in the lead up to Decision Making meeting in October. The revised proposals would go on to Area Councils for consideration and decision, with recommendations on organisations that applied for over £1m, Investment Principle Support and Transfer Organisations being decided at the next meeting of National Council on 19th October 2022.

6. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- 6.1 There was no additional business.

The meeting closed at 15:20.