

Minutes National Council



Date	Wednesday 16 November 2022	
Time	1pm-4.45pm	
Location	The Hive, Manchester and Microsoft Teams	
Present:	Sir Nicholas Serota (Chair)	Chair of Arts Council England
	Helen Birchenough	South West Area Council Chair
	Bill Bush	National Council Member
	Sukhy Johal MBE	Midlands Area Council Chair
	Elisabeth Murdoch CBE	National Council Member
	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)	National Council Member
	Kate Willard	North Area Council Chair (Items 1 – 5)
Apologies:	YolanDa Brown	National Council Member
	Roni Brown	South East Area Council Chair
	Laura Dyer	Deputy Chief Executive, Places and Libraries
	Ruth Mackenzie CBE	London Area Council Chair
Also Present:	Darren Henley CBE	Chief Executive
	Elizabeth Bushell	Executive Director and Chief Financial Officer
	Simon Mellor	Deputy Chief Executive, Arts and Museums
	Mags Patten	Executive Director, Communication and Public Policy
	Francis Runacres	Executive Director, Enterprise and Innovation
	Richard Russell	Executive Director and Chief Operating Officer
	Ruth Alaile	Director, Governance and Planning
	Anne Appelbaum	Director, Children and Young People (Item 7-8)
	David Bryant	Senior Governance Officer
	Eliza Burrows	Officer, Governance (minutes)
	Cate Canniffe	Director, Dance and London (Item 6)
	Jane Dawson	Director, Funding Programmes (Item 10)
	Hannah Fouracre	Director, Music Education (Item 7-8)
	Bradley Hackett	Apprentice, Governance (observer)

Sarah Higham
Emmie Kell

Senior Officer, Collaborative Funding (Item 6-8)
Director, Museums and Cultural Property (Item
11-12)

1. WELCOME AND APOLOGIES

- 1.1 The Chair welcomed members of National Council and the Executive Board to the meeting.
- 1.2 Apologies were received from Laura Dyer, Yolanda Brown, Ruth Mackenzie, and Kate Willard.
- 1.3 As this would be their final National Council meeting, Ruth Mackenzie and Elizabeth Bushell were both thanked by the Chair and Council members for their work and contributions.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

- 2.1 National Council members were asked to declare any interests in matters or connections with any organisations due to be discussed.
- 2.2 No interests were declared.

3. MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 7 SEPTEMBER 2022 and 19 OCTOBER 2022

- 3.1 National Council thanked the Governance team for their work on the Investment Programme minutes.
- 3.2 National Council AGREED:
 - a) the minutes of the 7 September 2022 meeting.
 - b) the minutes of the 19 October 2022 meeting.

4. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE PREVIOUS MEETING

- 4.1 National Council were asked to note the Action Point Planner outlining progress on outstanding actions.

5. CHAIR AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S UPDATE

- 5.1 The Chair and Darren Henley introduced this item.
- 5.2 There was a brief discussion about the Levelling Up and Culture Report, following its publication by the Department of Digital,

Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS) select committee. Members discussed what this meant in relation to Arts Council England's current policies and strategies.

- 5.3 National Council celebrated the success of the Culture Recovery Fund (CRF) team, which had disbanded on 30 September 2022 having completed all its objectives. The After Action Review of Arts Council's delivery of the Culture Recovery Fund was completed in September. The findings from the review and the CRF Data Report were presented to Executive Board and to Performance and Audit Committee, where they discussed the next steps for sharing and implementing the learnings from the programme within the Arts Council. The Chair and Council members thanked Simon Mellor, Richard Russell, Francis Runacres and CRF team members for their work over the last two years.
- 5.4 Members were updated about the progress of work happening with DCMS on the Know Your Neighbourhood funding. The aims of this fund are to support improved wellbeing and pride in places by increasing impactful volunteering opportunities and tackling loneliness in areas of high deprivation. Details were given on the plans of two strands of the funding programme.
- 5.5 National Council reflected on the recent Investment Programme announcement on 4 November 2022 and considered the communications approach so far.

6. SADLERS WELLS EAST

(Cate Canniffe and Sarah Higham joined the meeting)

- 6.1 Simon Mellor introduced this item and provided National Council on the background of Sadler's Wells East (SWE) and their application.
- 6.2 The Chair and members agreed that a letter should be written to DCMS outlining Arts Councils expectations to increase the £3 million offer to £4 million in each of these two years. Members felt the letter of comfort from DCMS would provide better assurance to National Council.

- 6.3 Sadler’s Wells is one of the UK’s leading dance organisations with a strong reputation for talent development within the sector. During the period 2018-23, Sadler’s Wells received an annual NPO grant of £2.4m. DCMS have invested a total of £2,131,000 throughout 2020-23, with funds being routed through Arts Council England via the managed funds process (without application). In April 2022, DCMS indicated to Arts Council that it would commit to funding SWE for the remainder of the current spending round, a total of £5.96m for 2023-25. DCMS has stated there will not be any additional GIA funds for 2025+.
- 6.4 Following discussions between DCMS and Arts Council, SWE were invited to apply in September 2022 and their assessment was completed in October 2022.
- 6.5 National Council AGREED to:
- a) That should DCMS approve the additional £5.96m for 2023-2025, a further £3 million National Lottery funds will be recommended for 2025-2026.
 - b) All funds will be routed through Arts Council England.

(Cate Canniffe left the meeting)

7. MUSIC HUB INVESTMENT 2023+

(Anne Appelbaum and Hannah Fouracre joined the meeting)

- 7.1 Hannah Fouracre and Richard Russell presented this item, which gave members an update on the Music Hub investment programme, including details on the activity to date, the investment timeline and the next steps.
- 7.2 In June 2022, Department for Education (DfE) and the DCMS published a refreshed National Plan for Music Education (NPME). The NPME outlines the Government’s 10-year vision for music education, both inside and outside of school. Within the NPME, there is a revised set of expectations for Music Hubs (formerly known as Music Education Hubs), including the ambition to have fewer hubs in the future. The budget remains the same, at £76million per year. Each hub will continue to be led by a Hub Lead Organisation (HLO), who will retain the responsibility for the administration of the Hub grant and will be expected to coordinate

and manage the Music Hub partnership through the provision of five strategic functions. Arts Council will facilitate the open competition process to decide on HLO's from September 2024.

- 7.3 The DfE's Investment Committee have agreed that Arts Council will continue as fundholder for at least the first year of the new Music Hub programme, until August 2025.
- 7.4 The subject of who would assess the Music Hub applications was raised, and National Council were informed that this was within Arts Council England's remit. The team at Arts Council are currently working closely with the DfE to agree the key criteria.
- 7.5 National Council members also raised the point that care and attention would need to be given to the way in which the current cohort of Music education hubs continue delivering work to a good standard.
- 7.6 It was agreed that Area Councils should be updated on the investment programme.
- 7.7 National Council NOTED the update and the progress made.

8. LOTTERY FUND FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

- 8.1 Richard Russell and Anne Appelbaum provided members with an overview of the Arts Council's activity to deliver the ambition of supporting the creative lives of Children and Young People and a background to Youth Music and the rationale for the award recommendation.
- 8.2 Let's Create sets a high bar for ACE's support for the Creative Lives of children and young people. The strategy states: 'Securing the creative and cultural lives of all our children and young people is critical to realising this strategy's vision for 2030'. The delivery plan activities, the policy work with DfE and DCMS across music education and other forms of creativity are essential to realising our ambitions, and our investment decisions have a direct impact on children and young people's creative lives.
- 8.3 The new National Portfolio plays an essential role in making this connected infrastructure a reality. 85% of the new Music portfolio will support programmes for children and young people, which is an increase from the 2018-2023 portfolio and opportunities are

provided which will offer boosted support for all phases of a child's musical journey.

- 8.4 Although, it was highlighted that the new portfolio contains only a small number of applications from organisations specialising in pre-school children, meaning this remained an area for future strength building. A number of youth sector organisations with expertise in this area are helping Arts Council England to find ways of building momentum in this area.
- 8.5 The National Foundation for Youth Music is an independent charity originally founded in 1999 by Arts Council England and the DCMS. From 1999 to 2023, Youth Music has received Arts Council funding through an external delegation agreement.
- 8.6 Discussions were held about the opportunities offered by using some of the available funding for Youth Music to invest in other art forms beyond music, and National Council members discussed allocating £4.5 million the funding on projects beyond music, introducing these incrementally over the three-year period.
- 8.7 It was recognised by National Council that the initiative was proposed by Arts Council England, and Youth Music received it positively.
- 8.8 National Council AGREED to:
- a) Approve the recommendation to award a grant of £28,953,000 (£9,651,000 per annum throughout 2023-26) for Youth Music to administer the National Lottery Fund for Children and Young People's Creativity, subject to the funding conditions set out in Point 21. Of that £28,953,000, £4.5 million should be allocated to projects that extend Youth Music's remit beyond music over a three year period.

(Anne Appelbaum, Hannah Fouracre and Sarah Higham left the meeting)

9. PERFORMANCE AND AUDIT COMMITTEE UPDATE

- 9.1 Paul Roberts introduced this item which updated National Council on the key discussions and actions from the 22nd September 2022 Performance and Audit Committee meeting.
- 9.2 Paul expressed his gratitude to Liz Bushell for her involvement on the Performance and Audit Committee.
- 9.3 National Council NOTED the update.

10. QUARTERLY INVESTMENT RISK REPORT

(Jane Dawson joined the meeting)

- 10.1 Jane Dawson introduced this item which updated National Council on the risk profile of the National Portfolio and risk assessment compliance rates.
- 10.2 Members discussed the post pandemic issues that organisations are facing, including Covid rates, the impact of the war in Ukraine and supply chain and Labour Market issues. Alongside this, issues such as the economic crisis and potential blackouts were flagged as upcoming risks, though power supply issues were currently deemed to be a low risk.
- 10.3 [.....
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[Information has been withheld here in line with the requirements of section 43(2) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 – prejudice to commercial interests. A public authority is entitled to withhold information under this provision where disclosure of that information would be likely to prejudice the commercial interests of any persons or organisations, including the Arts Council itself.]

- 10.4 National Council NOTED the contents of the risk report.

(Jane Dawson left the meeting)

11. MUSEUM AND CULTURAL PROPERTY UPDATE

(Emmie Kell joined the meeting)

- 11.1 Emmie Kell introduced a presentation which updated members on the work of the Museum and Cultural Property team, aiming to familiarise members with the impact of the team, the headlines from the new Investment Programme portfolio in relation to Let's Create, reflect on sector insight and to share some strategic challenges and opportunities.
- 11.2 The team is made up of thirty-three full time employees, with wide ranging responsibilities, who work closely with museum staff in area teams and the Investment Centre. The team are united by a common purpose to help more people benefit from museums and historical collections, across the UK.
- 11.3 Arts Council England were given responsibility for museums and cultural property in 2012, formerly the responsibility was held by the Museums, Libraries and Archives Council.
- 11.4 The principal stakeholders for the team include DCMS, the commercial art trade, and UK wide arms-length bodies.
- 11.5 Members were provided with an update of the investment in museums, and the 2023-2026 Investment Programme. With the new investment in museum organisations, the portfolio now includes museums of all types covering Archaeology, Arts, Belief & Identity, Communications, Food & Drink, Industry & Manufacture, Sport, Local History, Medicine, Personality, Natural World, Rural Industry, Science & Tech, Maritime, Transport, War & Conflict.
- 11.6 Emmie gave a brief overview of Export Licensing, Government Indemnity Scheme and Museum Accreditation and the work the team does in facilitating these functions.

- 11.7 There are significant short, medium and long term challenges facing the museums sector. Some of the short-term challenges are the cost-of-living crisis and the energy crisis. Museums face similar challenges to other arts buildings. Museums will need to address their energy consumption through work such as switching to passive environment controls and LED instead of fluorescent or halogen lighting. The medium to long term challenges includes the pressures on Local Authority funding and the ongoing impact of climate change.
- 11.8 The Chair and National Council thanked Emmie and the Museums and Cultural Property team for all their work.

12. AIL CHAIR APPOINTMENT

- 12.1 The Chair introduced this item which sought National Council's approval on the appointment to the Acceptance in Lieu panel chair (AIL).
- 12.2 National Council AGREED to:
- a) Appoint Dr David Dibosa as the Chair of the AIL panel.

(Emmie Kell left the meeting)

13. AREA COUNCIL APPOINTMENTS

- 13.1 David Bryant introduced this item which asked National Council to agree the appointment of Councillor Emma Wil to the London Area Council and the extension of the term of Jacqui Burnett in the South East Area Council.
- 13.2 National Council AGREED to:
- a) the appointment of Councillor Emma Wil to the London Area Council for a 4-year term from 17th November 2022 to 6th May 2026.
- b) The extension to the term of South East Area Council member Jacqui Burnett to 9 December 2023.

14. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

14.1 The Chair updated members on the recruitment of new London Area Council Chair and confirmed that David Bryan will be filling the post.

14.2 The Council thanked Manchester City Council and Manchester International Festival for the visit to The Factory site on 16 November 2022.

Meeting Closed: 16:45

Next Meeting: 25 January 2023