



ALBA | CHRUTHACHAIL

NOTES

BOARD CALL 14 January 2021 - 1000 to 1100 Via Teams

Present:

Robert Wilson (RW)	Chair
Ewan Angus (EA)	Board Member
David Brew (DB)	Board Member
Duncan Cockburn (DC)	Board Member
Philip Long (PL)	Board Member
Sarah Munro (SM)	Board Member
Stephanie Fraser (SF)	Board Member
Elizabeth Partyka (EP)	Board Member
David Strachan (DS)	Board Member

In Attendance:

Iain Munro (IM)	Chief Executive
Gary Cameron (GC)	Interim Director, Strategy (for item 3)
Lyndon Jones (LJ)	Notes

1.	Apologies
1.1	There were no apologies.
1.2	Declarations of Interest
	Congratulations were given to SF on her appointed to the House of Lords and it was noted with this appointment there were no current conflicts with being a CS Board member.
2.	COVID-19 Emergency Fund update
	The Board were appraised of the status of the various emergency funds.

	<p>The GRMV fund was reopening with additional support of £4m aimed at bridging support from November through the end of the financial year.</p> <p>Hardship Fund for Creative Freelancers reopened at the beginning of the year with CS solely running the process. The budget was approaching the limit.</p> <p>Youth Arts had been boosted by an additional £1m which would be used to top up various strands of support.</p> <p>Culture Collective fund was current going through assessment, there is a prospect of further funding and more information would be shared with Board when known.</p> <p>There would be an announcement made for a stabilisation package from SG, processed through CS for three independent creative organisations, Aberdeen Performing Arts, Eden Court and Capital Theatres. It was noted that the Board would need to approve the awarding of these ring-fenced funds as part of CS governance process. It was also noted that any further conversations in relation to APA would require DC to absent himself from those.</p> <p>There is a prospect of £1m fund, Creative Digital Innovation, to be jointly handled with the Enterprise bodies to support organisations in moving content to a digital platform. This was still in development stage and more information would be shared with the Board when available.</p> <p>Also, to note the announcement of an award of £7.9m for the development of Kelvin Hall in Glasgow to provide a complementary offer to other studio facilities in Scotland. Aimed more at the TV market and would be developed by Glasgow City Council and to be operated by an independent partner from the screen sector. Screen Scotland had helped secure this award and would continue to work with all involved to ensure full sector benefits to Scotland. It was noted that the Board would need to approve the awarding of these ring-fenced funds as part of CS governance process.</p> <p>For all Covid-related funds being handled by CS, it was confirmed that this information was provided on the CS website and Board members can refer people to it if asked. It was also noted that ongoing conversations around further support would continue.</p> <p>Connected to the provision of emergency funds, the Board were informed of an organisation that had received £125k from COVR but had since ceased trading. SG had been informed, plus Public Sector partners to ensure that the information was known to other funders. COVR contracts provide for recovery of funds and a formal response from the organisation is awaited. The CS Board would be kept up to date with progress.</p>
<p>3.</p>	<p>Strategy Refresh</p>
	<p>GC joined for this agenda item.</p>

	<p>The Board received the current working draft of the strategic framework, with developments highlighted. It was noted that this work built on previous Board strategy discussions and refreshed in the current context.</p> <p>The Board fed back on structure and content and offered views on strengthening wording around priorities to better express intended impact. A discussion took place on geographic provision and infrastructure. The Creative Industries were also discussed. Support was given to the clear articulation for EDI, Sustainability, Fair Work, and International. There was recognition of the need to ensure the KPI's reflect the objectives as part of next steps.</p> <p>Further consideration would be given to the points raised and a further discussion would take place at the February Board meeting with the aim of securing Board sign-off. There was an open invite to Board members to speak further with GC as the work continued.</p>
4.	Budget Update
	<p>The Board were informed that later today IM was meeting with SG on budgets. The timeline was still SG announcement of the draft budget on the 28 January.</p> <p>It was noted that there are three budget component parts for CS:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Core Annual Grant 2. National Lottery 3. COVID related support. <p>The SG draft budget announcement was expected to relate to the provision of the Core Annual Grant. More information would be shared with the Board when available, noting that whilst the SG are setting their draft budget, there may be further considerations when the UK Government set their budget in March.</p>
5.	AOB
	<p>Correspondence with Unions was shared with the Board, noting the extensive resources in place to support staff during the pandemic and homeworking. It was noted that there was a new external Union Rep for PCS, Karen Lannigan had reported she had held a positive first meeting with them.</p>
6.	Date of next meeting
	<p>February 24th 0930-1230 Via Teams</p>

