

Date	Wednesday 10 May 2023	
Time	11:00-16.00pm	
Location	The Foundry, Arts Council England Birmingham Office and Microsoft Teams	
Present:	<p>Sir Nicholas Serota CH (Chair)</p> <p>Helen Birchenough</p> <p>Bill Bush</p> <p>Sukhy Johal MBE</p> <p>Andrew Miller MBE</p> <p>Abigail Pogson</p> <p>Paul Roberts OBE</p> <p>Deborah Shaw</p> <p>Baroness Fleet CBE (Veronica Wadley)</p> <p>Kate Willard OBE</p> <p>Roni Brown</p> <p>Jamie Njoku-Goodwin</p> <p>David Bryan CBE</p>	<p>Chair of Arts Council England</p> <p>South West Area Council Chair</p> <p>National Council Member</p> <p>Midlands Area Council Chair</p> <p>National Council Member</p> <p>National Council Member</p> <p>National Council Member</p> <p>National Council Member</p> <p>National Council Member</p> <p>North Area Council Chair</p> <p>South East Area Council Chair</p> <p>National Council Member</p> <p>London Area Council Chair</p>
Apologies:	<p>YolanDa Brown OBE</p> <p>Elisabeth Murdoch</p>	<p>National Council Member</p> <p>National Council Member</p>
Also Present:	<p>Darren Henley CBE</p> <p>Laura Dyer MBE</p> <p>Simon Mellor OBE</p> <p>Mags Patten</p> <p>Navees Rahman</p> <p>Francis Runacres MBE</p> <p>Richard Russell</p> <p>Ruth Alaile</p> <p>Briony Anderson</p> <p>David Broughton</p> <p>Anna Croall</p> <p>Michelle Dickson</p> <p>Karl George</p> <p>Kirsty Grant</p> <p>Joe Hanley</p>	<p>Chief Executive</p> <p>Deputy Chief Executive, Places and Libraries</p> <p>Deputy Chief Executive, Arts and Museums</p> <p>Executive Director, Communication and Public Policy</p> <p>Executive Director Chief Finance & Resources Officer</p> <p>Executive Director, Enterprise and Innovation</p> <p>Executive Director and Chief Operating Officer</p> <p>Director, Governance and Planning</p> <p>Senior Officer, Collaborative Funding (item 9) (RSM) (item 3)</p> <p>Senior Manager, Music Education (item 7-9)</p> <p>Director, Strategy (RSM) (item 3)</p> <p>Senior Officer, Governance (minutes) (RSM) (item 3)</p>

Hannah Fouracre
Catherine Nesus
Phil Stokes

Director, Music Education (item 7)
Director, Development Agency Change
programme (item 8)
(PwC) (item 3)

1.	WELCOME AND APOLOGIES	Action
1.1.	The Chair welcomed members of National Council and the Executive Board to the meeting. Apologies were received from Yolanda Brown and Liz Murdoch.	
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.	Abigail Pogson declared North Music Trust's CRF loan in relation to item 8 CRF Repayable Finance management arrangements.	
3.	NATIONAL COUNCIL REVIEW OF EFFECTIVENESS	
3.1.	National Council held a review of their effectiveness, which was externally facilitated by Karl George, Joe Hanley and David Broughton of RSM with peer review support from Phil Stokes of PwC. The review session was informed by a self-assessment created by the Governance Team and a survey seeking the views of Council and Executive Board members.	
3.2.	National Council felt they had a good working relationship with Executive Board and praised Nick Serota's performance as Chair, noting that he encourages an open and candid committee and has a strong relationship with the Chief Executive and Executive Board. They also expressed admiration for the leadership he had shown throughout the last year.	
3.3.	The following points were also raised for consideration: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> How the contributions and relationships between the National and Area Councils could evolve after the last four years, which have been dominated by developing the new strategy, the outcomes from the pandemic and handling the National Portfolio process. 	

3.4.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The ways in which the Race Advisory Group and Disability Advisory Group could continue to develop and feed into National Council • Finding more time outside of formal meetings to ensure National Council remains a cohesive team. • Whether more use can be made of Key Performance Indicators around outcomes and change to provide National Council with a deeper understanding of Arts Council England's work • Exploring whether more agenda space can be found by handling routine matters and updates through other available channels. <p>The next steps will be a validation of the self-assessment and benchmarking by peers. Following that, a series of recommendations will be developed with National Council.</p>	
4.	MINUTES FROM THE PREVIOUS MEETING (15TH MARCH 2023 AND 27TH MARCH 2023)	
4.1.	The minutes from the meetings of 15 th March 2023 and 27 th March 2023 were AGREED.	
5.	MATTERS ARISING FROM THE PREVIOUS MEETING	
5.1.	National Council were asked to note the Action Point Planner outlining progress on outstanding actions.	
5.2.	Members noted that the action from the meeting of the 15 th March relating to the Equality Analysis action plan for the 2023-26 also relates to IPSOs providing support for diverse led orgs and not just the lack of diverse-led IPSOs.	
5.3.	National Council noted they had taken an E-Decision on 27 th March where they approved in principle the Draft DCMS-ACE Framework Document for 2022-25 and its associated Annexes.	
6.	PERFORMANCE AND AUDIT COMMITTEE 16 MARCH 2023 UPDATE	
6.1.	Paul Roberts introduced this item which updated National Council on the key discussions and actions from the 16 th March 2023 Performance and Audit Committee meeting. National Council AGREED to note the update.	

7.	MUSIC HUB INVESTMENT PROGRAMME/CAPITAL INVESTMENT IN MUSIC FROM DEPARTMENT FOR EDUCATION (Roni Brown, Hannah Fouracre and Anna Croall joined the meeting)	
7.1.	Hannah Fouracre introduced this item which provided an update on the Music Hub Investment Programme (MHIP). National Council were also asked to consider accepting £25million and associated admin fee from the Department of Education (DfE) for capital investment in musical instruments.	
7.2.	Hannah Fouracre explained that the DfE are looking to commission ACE to deliver £25m funding for capital investment in musical instruments, with an accompanying admin fee of £341,802.30 over three financial years (2023-26). National Council noted that the DfE have indicated the preferred approach would be for the Arts Council to distribute the full £25m capital fund via Music Hubs. It was also noted that discussions with officials are ongoing about how to ensure such an approach is inclusive and widens access for disabled children and young people in particular. A decision from the minister on the capital funding is expected shortly.	
7.3.	Hannah the went on to update members on progress on discussions with the DfE on the Music Hub Investment programme following the close of the sector consultation on hub geographies. National Council noted that the Arts Council was still awaiting confirmation from DfE on Ministerial approval for the final Hub Geographies and the applicant guidance and appendices.	
7.4.	National Council AGREED <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) To note the next steps for the MHIP and related risks b) in principle (pending ministerial approval) to accept the £25million funding and administration fee agreed with DfE for capital investment in musical instruments and noted the related risks. (Hannah Fouracre left the meeting)	
8.	CRF 'REPAYABLE FINANCE' LOANS – 23/24 & 24/25 MANAGEMENT APPROACH (Catherine Nesus joined the meeting)	

	(MEND) grant from Royal Pavilion & Museums Trust (RPMT) to Brighton & Hove City Council (BHCC).	
9.2.	National Council noted that RPMT was awarded £1.46 of MEND funding in March 2022 for urgent repairs to their glass roof. RPMT own the leasehold of the museum and BHCC own the freehold. The leasehold agreement contained items which did not comply with our requirements, as set out in our terms and conditions. A novation of the grant from RPMT to BHCC was proposed in December 2022 as a way forward, with BHCC taking on responsibility for delivery of the project and management of the grant.	
9.3.	National Council noted that a partnership agreement between BHCC and RPMT setting out roles and responsibilities would be a condition on the initial payment.	
9.4.	National Council AGREED to the novation of the MEND grant (MEND-00448414-R1) from Royal Pavilion & Museums Trust to Brighton & Hove City Council. (Anna Croall left the meeting)	
10.	INCLUSION REVIEW UPDATE	
10.1.	The Chair provided National Council with an update on progress with the Inclusion Review which is being delivered by the Nous Group, and is now in its final stage.	
10.2.	National Council noted that Nous Group are working on the final report.	
10.3.	The final report will come to National Council on 21 June.	
11.	CHAIR AND CHIEF EXECUTIVES UPDATE	
11.1.	The Chair and Darren Henley introduced this item.	
11.2.	National Council noted updates on the evaluation of Supporting Grassroots Live Music and an update on the Arts Council's Development Agency Change Programme.	
11.3.	They were also updated on recent developments with Coventry City of Culture Trust. National Council noted that a report from the	

	Administrators is expected and that both the National Audit Office and the Charity Commission are also intending to undertake investigations.	
11.4.	During discussions National Council highlighted that there is important learning for the future approach to City of Culture programmes including lessons on diversity and inclusion and ensuring the right kind of governance structure that reflects the diversity of the area is appointed in the beginning.	
11.5.	National Council also noted an update on the Bristol Beacon Capital project.	
11.6.	National Council AGREED to note the update.	
12.	AREA COUNCIL APPOINTMENTS	
12.1.	The Chair introduced this item which asked National Council to agree 5 appointments to the North Area Council, one reappointment to the London Area Council and two reappointments to the South East Area Council.	
12.2.	<p>National Council AGREED to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) the appointments of Carlos Pons Guerra, Sean Lawless, Julie Gilhespie and Cllr Simon Myers to the North Area Council from the 10th May 2023 – 9th May 2027. b) the appointment of Edenamiuki Aiguobasimwin to the North Area Council from the 1st December 2023 to the 30th November 2027. c) the reappointment of Paulette Long to the London Area Council from 20th June 2023 to 19th June 2026. d) the reappointments of Pamela Roberts and Sho Shibata to the South East Area Council from 1st April 2023 to 30th March 2026 	
13.	NON-EXECUTIVE GOVERNANCE: UPDATE ON DIVERSITY	
13.1.	<p>National Council noted a report setting statistical information on the diversity of National Council and its reporting committees.</p> <p>The report presents the current diversity data for all our committees with external membership. The data was collected during late Autumn 2022 and finalised by the data team in January 2023.</p>	

13.2.	<p>National Council AGREED to</p> <p>a) Note the picture on diversity of our governance which has emerged and the response rates.</p> <p>(Kate Willard and Abigail Pogson left the meeting)</p>	
14.	ANY OTHER BUSINESS	
14.1.	National Council were provided with an update on English National Opera. Francis Runacres confirmed that the organisation is in the process of completing their application for the period 24/25 and 25/25 to be submitted by 26 th May.	
14.2.	National Council noted that ENO has appointed Jenny Mollica as the interim CEO.	
14.3.	Francis Runacres confirmed that we are awaiting a response from the Competition and Markets Authority in regards to the subsidy control position on the 2023/24 grant.	
14.4.	National Council also noted that an independent research company has been identified to undertake an analysis on Opera and Music Theatres and we expect to announce the appointment in two weeks.	
	Meeting Closed: 16:00	