**MINUTES**

**LONDON AREA COUNCIL**

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| Date | Tuesday 11 July 2023 |
| Time | 10:00-13:30 |
| Location | The Cube Studio, Fairfield Halls, Croydon, CR |
| Area Council | David Bryan CBE, (Chair), Angie Bual, Lucy Kennedy, Paulette Long, OBE, Thomas Ryalls, Imran Sanaullah, MBE, Justine Simons, OBE,Matt Steinberg |
| ApologiesArts CouncilApologies | Cllr Darren Rodwell, Shawab Iqbal, Stella Kanu, Victoria Dela Amedume, MBE, Cllr Emma WillDarren Henley, CBE, Chief Executive; Tonya Nelson, London Area Director; Cate Canniffe, Dance Director, Neil Darlison, Theatre Director; Teresa Drew, minute-taker; Natalie Jones, London Head of Advocacy and Comms; Heidi Mayhew, Senior Operations Manager, London; Sabine Unamun, Director, London; Rebecca Blackman, Director Audience and Engagement; Beci Jamieson, Senior Relationship Manager; Clare Titley, Director Philanthropy Claire Mera-Nelson, Director, Music |

**1. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS**

 The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting. Apologies were noted. Chair advised the meeting that Cllr Andreas Kirsch had been replaced by Cllr Ruth Dombey as one of the London Councils nominations. Cllr Dombey would be joining in time for the September meeting.

**2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

2.1 Declarations were noted. Everyone to keep their conflicts of interest up to date by contacting the PA to the Area Director with any changes.

**3. MINUTES OF MEETING OF 16 MAY 2023**

3.1 The minutes were approved.

3.2 Matters arising:

* Item 4 NPO update: clarify the difference between Transition and Transform funding.
* **Action:** PA to Area Director to set up a forward planner log of items that Area Council Chair and Members want to discuss at future meeting and add to that list ‘arts and culture workforce review’ and ‘support for individual artists and practitioners’.

**4. INCLUSION REVIEW**

The Chief Executive Officer provided the meeting with a top-line summary of findings and recommendations. London Area Council noted the work with appreciation and related their own expertise and experience in this area.

**5. REVIEW OF CAPITAL PROJECTS IN LONDON**

The London Area Director provided the meeting with a list of capital projects – not exhaustive - pulled together from staff intelligence. More iterations will follow in time. Area Council will want to be aware of these projects as they will be part of the complex mix of factors that may impact on future funding criteria and decisions. The meeting noted the need to incorporate digital into this mix.

 **Action:** PA and Area Director to add ‘review of capital projects’ to the forward planner log as a future agenda item.

**6. CREATIVE PEOPLE AND PLACES (CPP)**

Rebecca Blackman, Director Audience and Engagement, led the meeting through an overview of the impact and learning from the past 10 years of CPP funding, and outlined the timeline for funding 2025-28 as agreed by National Council.

 The presentation was well received, and the following points were made:

* Illuminate, Arts Council England’s audience data platform, is being used by CPPs.
* The vital role and value of community-based practitioners was noted.
* CPP work is an important part of *Let’s Create.*
* CPP work is asset based and is not linked to a specific agenda or outcome around other issues, for example employment or health - unless a community actually wants that tie-in.

 **Action:** CPP to return to a later Area Council meeting to update on the 2025-28 funding programme. PA to Area Director to add to the forward planner log of agenda items.

**7. PHILANTHROPY**

Clare Titley, Director Philanthropy, took the meeting through a presentation on ACE and philanthropy and outlined four priorities for 2023-26 to raise the profile of philanthropy in the mixed-model of funding for arts and culture: skills development and capacity building; growing philanthropy and investment for arts and culture; responding to levelling-up and future place-based working; innovation and strategic partnerships.

 Area Council members shared their observations and key points raised were:

* + The need for philanthropy to be available to small, community-based organisations for wider social impact.
	+ The need to learn from sport, and the research around social issues being addressed by sport.
	+ Regarding endowments Clare Titley is convening a round table in the autumn to garner learning from the last round (10 years ago) noting changes to regulations and circumstances since 2013.

 And, more detailed information on Catalyst: Evolve can be found here:

 <https://www.artscouncil.org.uk/research-and-data/catalyst-evolve-evaluation>

**8 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S AND AREA DIRECTOR’S REPORT**

 The meeting noted the report.

8.1 Disability Advisory Group (DAG) update

The social model of disability has been endorsed by the DAG and approved by National Council.

The Arts Council has commissioned work on a scheme that aims to improve the experience of D/deaf, disabled and neurodivergent people when attending arts and cultural events in the UK. By working closely with customers and the sector, the scheme hopes to introduce a new audience and increase overall attendance by simplifying the booking process for access needs. More information is here:

<https://www.artscouncil.org.uk/developing-creativity-and-culture/diversity/access-scheme>

8.2 Race Advisory Group: no update.

**9. RISK REGISTER**

 The meeting noted the risk register and the financial challenges facing arts organisations following the pandemic.

**10. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

10.1 Novation: TL Universal to Deaf Rave CIC (approved by EB on 8 June 2023) - the meeting noted the change of name.

10.2 Creative Enterprise Zones: the Mayor of London will be announcing a further expansion to help creative industries recover from the pandemic.

 *The meeting closed at 13:30.*