

Cultural Commission

NOTE OF BOARD MEETING:27 APRIL 2005 AT RAMADA JARVIS HOTEL, PERTH

- Present:, Shonaig Macpherson, Colin Marr, Ian Ritchie, Sheena Wellington, James Boyle, Gordon Jeyes, Brian Lang, Bryan Beattie, Rachel Blanche, Margaret Waterston, Martin Osler, Stuart Thomas and Ian Murdoch.
- In Attendance 11.00am to 12.00pm Professor Ian Brown and Ian Doig

1: Apologies	Lucy Mason, George Black
2. Staff Update	James Boyle informed the meeting that Karen Watson had returned to work after her recent illness and that Stuart Thomas and Gaynor Davenport would both be staying with the Commission until the end of May. The board welcomed these positive developments.
3. Minute of meeting	Minutes of 18 April accepted
4. Media/PR Update	<p>Martin Osler presented a verbal PR update.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meeting with P Hutcheon had been postponed at P Hutcheon's request • The Third Phase presentations are likely to provide a media hotspot and holding statements are being prepared in case of leaks from those meetings • Meetings have been arranged with the editors of the Herald & the Scotsman and James Boyle to coincide with the Third Phase presentations.
5. Education Paper: Part 1 and A proposal for a National Cultural & School's Estate & Advisory Service	<p>The Education Papers were thoroughly discussed : Paper 5 & 5a</p> <p>The following points were made</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Higher Education Paper is to be discussed at the next meeting • The importance of play should be expanded as a precursor to enquiry • Reference to community inclusion should be made • Paper 5 should promote Culture in Scotland and not just Scottish Culture • Stress the importance of creativity and confidence building via participation during the Early Years • Explore further the cultural link with young enterprise eg NYO • Consider the use of the voluntary sector to assist with expanding the school day • Implications for transport to be included • Integrated Solutions to be considered eg use of smart cards to allow differentiation & access to entitlements • 'Culture Mark' award for schools to be included • Resource implications for use of schools outwith school day to be fully examined • Emphasis to be given to the design element of schools being important to the learning experience

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All recommendations to be validated <p>S McPherson & G Jeyes agreed to draft a paragraph about school design & planning for inclusion in the report</p> <p>B Lang, G Jeyes and C Marr agreed to read & respond to the Higher Education paper prior to the next board meeting.</p>
6. Rights & Standards	<p>B Beattie gave a verbal update of progress.</p> <p>Agreed that B Beattie present a full update at the next board meeting</p>
7. Options Appraisal of Infrastructure Models Update	<p>James Boyle used a powerpoint presentation to summarise the options for the Infrastructure models.</p> <p>Professor Ian Brown introduced his interim paper which assesses the options against agreed criteria.</p> <p>Ian Doig made a short presentation regarding his progress with costing the options.</p> <p>Stuart Thomas tabled his paper regarding the assessment of the funding gap over 10 years.</p> <p>There have been difficulties with obtaining and interpreting the financial data</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Inconsistencies of accounting presentation between cultural bodies and year on year Boundaries of cultural spend are unclear No universally agreed definition of 'cultural activity' Lottery funding unclear <p>It was agreed that Prof Ian Brown would complete the final Options Appraisal Matrix for 5th May.</p> <p>It was agreed that work would continue on the financial structure in order to verify current spend and to produce a realistic model for the future.</p>
8. Audience Development	<p>Paper 7 was discussed</p> <p>It was agreed that this paper should be rewritten to be less speculative and to recommend a solution to the issues. The following points were made</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Current data is inconsistent and not good enough to interpret and make decisions Strategy & policy needed for national box office Data collection & ownership is fundamental to a meaningful solution
9. Irish Tax System	<p>Rachel Blanche summarised the current Irish Tax System (Paper 9) and presented a paper about the Aosdana or Artists' Peer Council.</p> <p>A discussion took place about both papers and it was agreed that they should be consolidated and reissued with recommendations for use in the final report.</p>
10 Any Other business	
Timetable for Final Report	<p>It was agreed that a revised timetable be issued to the board showing a critical path to the final production.</p>
11. Date and time of next meetings	<p>Friday 13 May 2.30-17:30 Glasgow City Chambers</p> <p>Friday 27 May 2:30-17:30 Edinburgh (tbc)</p> <p>Minister will be invited to meeting 13th May.</p>