

Cultural Commission

NOTE OF BOARD MEETING: 27 SEPTEMBER 2004

Present: Sheena Wellington, Gordon Jeyes, Ian Ritchie, Colin Marr, Lucy Mason, Brian Lang
James Boyle, Bryan Beattie, Martin Osler, Rachel Blanche and Karen Watson

1: Apologies	Apologies from Shonaig MacPherson, Richard Smith and George Black
2: Note of last meeting & matters arising	Note of last meeting agreed as an accurate record.
3: Papers circulated in advance	Concern was expressed by the Board on the lack of contingency funds in the budget, and the absence of funds for hiring venues and providing refreshments. Concern was also expressed at the amount being spent on the 2) studies.
4: Cells	No comments
5: Topics for discussion	James Boyle summarised the consultation process and in particular the sector meetings that he had held. Key points that arose during the discussion: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Board noted the widespread concern at the Scotsman and Scotland on Sunday's negativity. • Significant effort is now being expended on promoting the CC in the regional press and the urban evening papers.
5.1: BBC Charter Renewal	James Boyle updated the Board on progress noted that he was in touch with Professor Schlesinger, had written to BBC Controller Scotland and flagged that he would be bringing back to the Board, at relatively short notice, a draft submission. It was also agreed that separate meetings would be arranged with Ofcom and Channel 4.
5.2: Curriculum Review and Schools' PPP	James Boyle noted his continuing liaison with the Scottish Executive on the Curriculum Review. Key points that arose during the discussion were: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To look beyond the school day • The Board agreed that the CC should contact Learning and Teaching Scotland. • The importance of the CC continuing to examine the many very good projects that are running across Scotland and collating information on models and examples of best practice. • Schools' PPP to be discussed at the next meeting.
5.3: National Identity Studies	Key points that arose during the discussion were:- <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Board expressed his desire for the CC to have a view on this. • Concern expressed at the lack of knowledge that school pupils have of Scottish culture. • We have a duty to protect Scottish culture because it is ours and that we should know about our heritage.
5.4 and 5.5 : Tax Matters & Charity Law	James Boyle summarised progress on these 2 issues and commented on proposals to set up work cells.
5.6: International Comparators	James Boyle summarised why this information is important and asked the Board for any examples which the CC should pursue.
5.8: Regional Planning Hubs	James Boyle summarised his Aberdeen discussion on this issue and asked the Board whether or not the CC should pursue the idea of a modelling exercise on the lines discussed in Aberdeen. Key points from the discussion included: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The silence in community planning on the arts. • Reference to the Cultural Partnership Group in Edinburgh. • The Board agreed that the CC needs to keep up to date with the various initiatives and that it should try to find funding for modelling exercises.
5.9: The Think Tank	Abertay and Aberdeen Universities have been asked by the CC to develop

	thinking on the Think Tank concept.
5.10: National Companies' Seminar	The Scottish Council Foundation has been asked to facilitate workshops on the "national companies".
5.11: The Commission's Interim Report	Karen Watson summarised the SE's expectations and confirmed that an outline would be circulated to the Board within days.
5.12: Management training in the creative & performing arts	Brian Lang outlined and led a discussion on a St Andrews University initiative in training for business life in the arts.
5.7: Cultural Rights	<p>Bryan Beattie spoke about the Agenda 21 paper on rights and entitlements, the groupings that have been set up by CoSLA and VOCAL to look at these issues, and how they have taken the Agenda 21 paper as their starting point. Key points from the discussion included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Agenda 21 document and summary to be circulated to the Board • It was agreed that audience development was a complex issue. • It was highlighted that Scotland is at the forefront on cultural rights
6: OAB	None
7: Date and time of next meeting	Monday 25 th October at the Hub from 5:30pm to 7:30pm, with refreshments from 5pm.