**Culture Consortium Meeting – 27th January 2023 / Site Gallery**

**Present**:

Olivier Tsemo (SADACCA) – Co-Chair

Rebecca Maddox (SCC)

Jenneffer Dennis (SCC)

Kirstie Hamilton (Sheffield Museums)

Laura Clarke (Arts Catalyst)

Ian Wild (Showroom)

Sonia Gayle (African Heritage Culture Forum)

John Tomlinson (Sheffield Theatres)

Judith Harry (Site Gallery)

Jo Towler (Music in the Round)

Sara Unwin (UoS)

Annabel Grundy (Sheffield DocFest)

**Apologies**:

Wendy Ulyett (Marketing Sheffield)

Geff Green (Sheffield Hallam University) – Co-Chair

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| **Notes** | **Action** |
| **Minutes and matters arising**   * The notes of the previous meeting were agreed. * Geff and Sara are still to meet to discuss the role which the Universities can play. * Wider sector meeting is on hold as the shape of the Cultural Consortium is under review. * Rebecca has made £1,000 available to each organisation who were not successful with their bids for NPO status, as match for other funding bids. There will be a peer support group meeting on 8th February. | Geff and Sara to meet |
| **Cultural Strategy**  Rebecca presented a proposal to build on the Culture Collective Strategy which has been adopted as an interim by Sheffield City Council but needs further development. SCC will be commissioning a consultant(s) to work with SCC, SYMCA, and the wider sector to create a refreshed and inclusive city Cultural Strategy as a roadmap for the next 5/10 years. The strategy would be co-created with the sector and Sheffield’s diverse communities, leading to a refreshed strategy with a stronger emphasis on equality, climate crisis, health/wellbeing and the visitor economy. The consultation process would be extensive with specific focus on quieter voices/traditionally underserved communities.  Consortium members recommended building in accessibility issues, moving beyond the S1 post code, referencing the Race Equality Commission Report, sharing some of the strengths and successes of Sheffield’s cultural landscape, mapping the existing infrastructure, linking in the colleges, universities, young people’s voices and the role that culture can play in the economic recovery of the city.  Time frame for the consultant(s)’ work will be 6 months with a fee of 65k. |  |
| **Funding**  Some opportunities to channel funding from South Yorkshire Mayoral Combined Authority (City Region) to the cultural sector are being developed by the City Council.   * A **Cultural Pipeline Fund** to support project development and feasibility, to help projects from across the city to become more ready for national funding rounds, with an officer to administer the process and give outreach support – grants of £10k to £50k. * **Shared Prosperity Fund** – part of Sheffield’s allocation will be used for a 1-year grant fund for cultural organisations, and a two-year cultural programme. It is hoped to submit an ACE Place Partnerships bid to match with elements of these schemes. |  |
| **Sheffield’s Racial Equality Commission Report (SREC) /Rapid Improvement Plan**  Jenneffer shared the Rapid Improvement Plan - which basically outlined the key objectives of the Race Equality Commission Report and the actions Consortium members could take in their own organisations to embed the report.  Olivier informed the Consortium that the NHS, Police, South Yorkshire Housing, etc were not taking SREC report seriously as none of the organisations had returned a Rapid Improvement Plan.  The Rapid Improvement Plan is to be reviewed monthly by the Cultural Consortium to ensure members were meeting the objectives of the plan. |  |
| **Windrush 75 Anniversary**  Rebecca explained that the SCC Equalities team were rightly leading on national Windrush funding opportunities. In addition, she proposed that she used £1000 from her budget to commission the new Sheffield Poet Laureate Danae Wellington to create a poem to celebrate Windrush 75. This idea was warmly supported, with Sara keen to link this into a wider project with Off the Shelf/University of Sheffield.  Sonia is to set up a Windrush steering group and will invite Jenneffer along to it | Rebecca  Sonia |
| **Cultural Consortium Future Shape**  Rebecca presented a paper outlining a proposal for the future shape of the Culture Consortium. Members considered the paper critically and discussed issues around the key roles for members of the proposed working group and associate group. Members agreed that additional work was needed on the paper and that it ought to address the purpose, goals and action required of each group.  Since the refreshed Cultural Strategy is going to look at infrastructure needs and roles, it would be better to wait until the Strategy is in place, rather than create a new model in advance. This would allow the new shape to be based on sector consultation.  In the interim, Consortium members agreed to ask Gut Level and Utopia Theatre whether they wished to become members | Rebecca |
| **Cultural Collective Update**  The Culture Collective is also looking at its own membership and governance, including whether to become formally constituted; is working on developing stronger links between the private sector and cultural organisations; and will be creating clear messaging about culture in Sheffield as an advocacy tool. |  |
| **AOB**  **Theatre Green Book**   * JT gave an overview on how theatres are working together in a more carbon neutral way to share resources such as sets and costumes in order to become more environmentally friendly. He informed the Consortium that Theatres have still to go through a cataloguing process. Other cities such as Liverpool, Leeds and Birmingham have an environmental climate crisis group and are talking about sharing resources.   Sheffield Theatres will convene a sub-group to help organisations work together on this agenda.  **Leeds Year of Culture**   * Rebecca and Jenneffer will be meeting with Leeds CC colleague Pam Johnson to discuss the 9 year journey that Leeds has been on to create Leeds 2023 Year of Culture.   **Children’s Capital of Culture for 2025**   * Rebecca attended the launch of Children’s Capital of Culture 2025 in Rotherham. Rotherham has chosen this title for itself, to give a positive focus on young people. She has offered Sheffield’s support as neighbours.   **Attercliffe Waterside Arts project**   * Part of the Lower Don Valley/Attercliffe areas is being redeveloped for residential use by CITU, who have also worked at Kelham Island creating energy-efficient passiv houses. Via email, Geff suggested inviting a rep from CITU to the group to give a briefing on the associated arts project. This was supported, as either a written briefing/powerpoint or an in-person visit.   **Black History Month**   * Sonia asked Consortium members what they planned to do for BHM and what support they needed. Sonia to send around an email. | JT  Rebecca/Jenneffer to feed back at next meeting  Geff/Rebecca  Sonia |
| **Date of next meeting** |  |
| Friday, 3rd March, Crucible Theatre, Adelphi Room, 9.30-11.30 | All |