**CULTURE CONSORTIUM MEETING**

**Friday 28th April 2023**

**Site Gallery**

**Present:**

Geff Green Sheffield Hallam (Co-Chair)

Olivier Tsemo SADACCA (Co-Chair)

Georgina Kettlewell Yorkshire Artspace

Kirstie Hamilton Sheffield Museum

Jo Towler Music in the Round

Annabel Grundy Sheffield DocFest

Sonia Gayle AHCF

Frazer Scott Gut Level

Judith Harry Site Gallery

Hilary Coulson SCC/Library

Sara Unwin University of Sheffield

Wendy Ulyett SCC/Marketing

Ian Wild Showroom

Tom Bird Sheffield Theatres

Rebecca Maddox SCC/Culture

Jenneffer Dennis SCC/Culture

Diana Buckley SCC/Economic Development, Skills and Culture

**Apologies:**

Mojisola Kareem-Elufowoju Utopia Theatre

Laura Clarke Arts Catalyst

John Tomlinson Sheffield Theatres

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Notes** | **Actions** | **Deadline** |
| Geff and Olivier chaired |  |  |
| Minutes of the previous meeting and matters arising agreed subject to minor tweaks being made |  |  |
| **Diana Buckley – SCC Director of Economic Development, Skills and Culture*** Diana stressed the importance of culture for Sheffield and welcomed the repositioning of culture within the Economy and Skills Department since this signalled the importance of culture for the economic future of the city
* She highlighted the importance of the work that Kate Brindley had carried out at SYMCA which she said had helped to raise the profile of culture regionally
* The adoption of the Culture Collective Strategy, although imperfect, sent a signal to funders that SCC were serious about culture
* The tender for the new Cultural Strategy would be reworked to include, among other KPI’s, a roadmap and will capture REC’s report. It would also seek to integrate cultural aspects of the City Goals project and SYMCA’s developing regional cultural strategy
* SCC has a £250,000 Pipeline fund which they are recruiting for somebody to run. Organisations would be able to bid for between £10k and £50k. The programme will run to March 2025 and match funding would be sought
* In response, Consortium members felt that mentoring, equalities, outreach, and the professionalisation of mentoring were critical to ensuring the equitable distribution of the Pipeline Fund
* Other funding coming on stream includes a Sustainability Fund to help community and cultural groups to access energy audits and energy efficiency measures; and a cultural grant fund to be administered by Site Gallery, funded from Shared Prosperity Fund.
 |  |  |
| * Shared Prosperity Fund Years 2 and 3 will be used to develop a cultural destinations programme. The Culture Consortium will be key partners in this. It is hoped to gain match funding from the Place Partnership Fund.
 |  |  |
| * Jo reported that Harmony Works had received NLHF. This additional development funding will enable Harmony Works to apply for more capital funding.
* Kirstie felt the NLHF had started to view Sheffield more positively re funding
 |  |  |
| * Sonia argued home grown talent should be supported rather than importing talent. She said that a dynamic cultural sector should enable diverse cultures to be sustainable
 |  |  |
| * Geff said that the city policing policy especially around music was felt to be discriminatory. Going forward it was suggested that SAG (Safety Advisory Group) look into issues around race/music in order to find a solution
 | SAG to be approached |  |
| * Frazer, Gut Level, said that grass root organisations are forever chasing funding and that a reduction of business rates would help with space insecurity.
 |  |  |
| * **Diversity and inclusion** Concern was shared that the Pakistani, Indian and Chinese communities were missing from the Consortium membership. Members had agreed that the Cultural Strategy would inform a new membership programme. Both Chairs felt, however, that representation was important and that all cultures should be made visible. A discussion on diversity followed and it was agreed to start conversations with Asian arts reps.
 | Rebecca, Jenneffer, Olivier, Geff |  |
| **REC** * Olivier reported that SCC had agreed to fund the Sheffield REC report to enable it to act on key findings of the report. Olivier welcomed this move as he pointed out that other cities with REC’s, like Liverpool, had invested considerable sums.
* Sonia informed members that the Legacy task and finish group had been set up as a subcommittee that would report to Sheffield City Partnership
* Kirstie thought that it would be a good idea if members dedicated the session in June to sharing what each organisation had done regarding progressing REC’s findings
* Gut Level informed members that their organisation essentially provided social and creative opportunities for women and LGBTQ+ people. These activities ranged from parties to gigs. Frazer added that they were hoping to acquire new premises on Chapel Walk
 | Members to share their organisation’s work on addressing REC  | 30th June |
| **Climate Emergency Measures*** JT is moving on from Sheffield Theatres, so the Consortium is looking for a new Green Champion.
* Judith said some of her staff members were going on the Climate Literacy training course in September which she had already attended in Manchester. She gave an overview of what the course covered. There will be some places available for other Consortium members – which will need to be funded – and she will keep the group updated.
* Sonia said that the Consortium’s Climate Emergency policy should be informed by the City Goals, which include the Net Zero 2030 pledge. Members felt it was important to invite someone from SCC/universities to talk about what actions SCC were taking on climate change and how SCC plan to achieve its net zero credentials.
 | To invite someone from SCC or one of the universities to talk about Sheffield becoming a net zero city by 2030  |  |
| **AOB*** Tom announced the unexpected passing of a member of the Crucible’s staff, Emily Hutchinson, and paid tribute to her contribution to the theatre and the sector.
 |  |  |
| **Date & venue for next meeting**Friday 19th May 9.30 – 11.30Crucible, Adelphi Room |  |  |