**Minutes of the Sheffield Culture Consortium**

**Town Hall Anteroom**

**Friday 30 September 2022**

**Attending**: Jo Towler (Music in the Round - Chair); Olivier Tsemo (SADACCA); Judith Harry (Site Gallery); Laura Clarke (Arts Catalyst); Rose Wilcox (The Leadmill); Ian Wild (Showroom/ Workstation); Clare Stewart (Doc/Fest); Georgina Kettlewell (YAS); Kirstie Hamilton (Sheffield Museums); Sonia Gayle (African Heritage Culture Forum – via Zoom); Sophie Bush (SHU); Wendy Ulyett (SCC Marketing Sheffield); Rebecca Maddox (SCC).

**Apologies:** Geff Green (SHU);Sara Unwin (UoS); Dan Bates (Sheffield Theatres).

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|  | **Notes** | **Action** |
| **1.** | **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.SCC has formally adopted the Culture Collective Strategy (7/9/22) as an interim before developing their own.EDI and REC Action Plan is a standing agenda item.Rebecca has not yet set out a calendar of future dates with open meetings, as a wider discussion is needed with the sector first, to take into account current, changing and previous networks. What does the sector need?A Code of Conduct can be created once the role and membership of the Consortium is clearer.Sonia and Wendy to talk directly about Welcome to Sheffield website. | Geff and Sara to meetSet up a wider sector meeting Nov/DecSonia/Wendy |
| **2.** | **Strategic Update***Sheffield City Council culture report 7/9/22 - Sheffield Culture Collective -* *Refreshed Culture Strategy for the city / link to Consortium survey.*This became a wide-ranging discussion covering all these themes.At the Economic Development and Skills (and Culture) Committee, Members were very supportive of: adopting the Culture Collective Strategy as an interim; SCC playing a stronger role in fronting EOIs for cultural projects; setting up a Cultural Feasibility Fund using SYMCA funding. Surriya Falconer, Collective Vice Chair and Jo Towler CC Chair attended. Committee Chairs are Martin Smith (LD), Ben Miskell (L) and Paul Turpin (G).Olivier felt that the Collective Strategy is a strong start. Ian noted that the Collective Strategy does not mention film or BFI funding. A refresh/updated strategy can do so, and add more on climate crisis and REC report findings. A new strategy will take up to 12 months and needs to bring in wide voices from the sector.Clare welcomed a more strategic approach by SCC, but asked for more partner input/ offered help with e.g Shared Prosperity Fund development, and proposed a log of what is being bid for by whom. Can headlines from SPF be shared?There needs to be a plan of how the new Strategy - one strategy for the city, co-created - is to be put together, with roles for and input from the Collective, the Consortium, cultural organisations, creatives and communities. The Consortium’s survey can be one part of the information-gathering. There needs to be professional consultancy support and learning from best practice elsewhere.Central Library/Graves Gallery remains a priority.The bid to host Eurovision (gained by Liverpool) was a high-profile culture bid, with opportunities to build on where capacity allows. Mayor Coppard has expressed a wish to have a SY Region of Culture; things like City of Culture are high profile but require proper resourcing and have variable long-term impact.The cultural sector’s issues need to be understood by SCC senior leaders and the Collective: venue sustainability/security of tenure; cost of living/energy crisis; outcome of NPO round in October.Suggestions to improve links and permeability between Consortium and Collective:* 3 Consortium members including Chair to sit on Collective
* Put each other’s minutes on agendas as formal item
* Annual facilitated conversation
* Clear roles / terms of reference
* Non-hierarchical relationship
* Create short video clip organisational updates
 | **Rebecca to ask Diana Buckley** |
| **3.** | **Organisational updates**Members shared successes and pressures, including living wage and energy cost concerns; and audience numbers not yet returning to pre-covid levels. This affects organisations of all sizes. |  |
| **4.** | **AOB**Olivier and Geff have agreed to be Consortium co-Chairs – congratulations! |  |
| **5.** | **Date of next meeting: Friday October 28th, 9.30-11.30, Town Hall Anteroom** |  |