

THE NATIONAL LOTTERY COMMUNITY FUND MEETING OF THE ENGLAND COMMITTEE

27th of January 2021

Microsoft Teams

MINUTES

PRESENT:

John Mothersole	Chair
Kevin Bone	Member
Rosie Ginday	Member
Ray Coyle	Member
Tarn Lamb	Member
Maggie Jones	Member

FOR SPECIFIC ITEMS:

Alex Hayes	Funding Manager
Sue Ormiston	EU Programme Manager
Laura Furness	Head of Funding
Caron Walton	Funding Manager
Anne-Marie Twumasi	Funding Manager
Kiren Lewis	Funding Manager
Sarah Gibbs	Head of Funding
Jason Flynn	Funding Manager
Roger Winhall	Head of Funding
Susan Connor	Funding Manager

IN ATTENDANCE:

Kimberley Forsyth	Young People in the Lead
John Rose	Director, Wales
Elly De Decker	Director, England
Shane Ryan	Deputy Director, England
John Eastwood	Deputy Director, England
Mark Purvis	Deputy Director, England
Sophy Proctor	Deputy Director, England
Catherine Roberts	Head of Governance (minutes)
Katie Crystal	Governance Officer (minutes)

1. CLOSED SESSION

1.1. The Committee held a closed session ahead of the main business meeting.

SMT members, the Young People in the Lead Participants, the Head of Governance and the Governance Officer joined the meeting.

2. WELCOME AND APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

2.1. The Chair opened the meeting and welcomed all. Apologies were received from Ruhina Begum. Kevin Bone also sent apologies for joining the meeting at 10:30.

Declarations of Interest

2.2. Tarn Lamb declared an interest as her organisation, cn4c, receives funding from Building Better Opportunities. The Chair deemed this a disqualifying interest. It was agreed that Tarn would leave the meeting for the agenda item addressing BBO funding.

Minutes of the Meeting Held on the 11th of November 2020

The Committee noted that line 5.3 in the minutes stated that the expected impacts of Covid on the sector had not yet come to fruition. The members requested that this be amended as the predicted impacts are beginning to be felt.

- 2.3. Subject to the above amendment, the minutes of the previous meeting held on the 11th of November 2020 were approved as an accurate record of the meeting.

Matters Arising

- 2.4. The Chair requested that the closed sessions at the beginning of Committee meetings be extended from 15 minutes to 30 minutes.
- 2.5. **ACTOIN: Closed sessions at the beginning of Committee meetings be extended from 15 minutes to 30 minutes.**
- 2.6. As it was Shane Ryan's last meeting with the England Committee, the Chair thanked Shane for all his contributions to the organisation, noting that he will be greatly missed.

3. UPDATE FROM COMMITTEE MEMBERS

- 3.1. The Committee had been in touch with staff working on A4A and noted that Covid has added increased pressures and additional workloads. The members were assured that this would be considered as teams submit their business plans over the coming weeks. The executive is also currently looking at this to further develop an approach that will best support staff.
- 3.2. Maggie provided the Committee with feedback from her involvement with the #IWill fund. It was noted that the limits of engaging online are now being felt by young people who feel they cannot make an impact in the ways they wish to.
- 3.3. Elly informed the Committee that the strategic day on the 9th of February will be focused on young people, mental health and the impact of Covid.

4. ENGLAND UPDATE

- 4.1. Elly provided the Committee with an update on the December relaunch. Nearing the end of last year, the Fund relaunched its standard products following the conclusion of the delivery of the emergency funding. Applications were slow in December, but demand is beginning to increase. The message we are sending to the sector is that we are prioritising flexibility in grant making.
- 4.2. The Committee questioned whether the recent applications were Covid focused. Mark noted that applications are currently focused on adapting services to delivery models that are permitted under Covid restrictions. There has also been an uptake in applications to increase services as well as to launch new projects in response to the pandemic. Mark informed the

Committee that the Fund's help line is currently providing an unprecedented amount of guidance to the sector.

- 4.3. Jon Eastwood provided the Committee with an update on the regional teams. The teams are now working through the applications that were paused at the beginning of the pandemic. Two thirds of grants are due to finish within the financial year. The teams are in discussion with grant holders regarding continuation funding to allow organisations time to plan for the future.
- 4.4. The teams are working diligently to ensure that as much money as possible is reaching communities. Due to this, the financial outlook is extremely robust. Elly emphasised how hard the teams have worked and congratulated them for their continued commitment.
- 4.5. Elly informed the Committee that Joe Rich, the Head of Youth Voice at the Fund, will be moving into the UK portfolio to ensure there is a Fund wide remit for amplifying youth voice.

Alex Hayes, Sue Ormiston, Sarah Gibbs, Jason Flynn, Roger Winhall, Susan Connor, Laura Furness, Caron Walton, Anne-Marie Twumasi and Kieran Lewis joined the meeting.

5. FUNDING DECISIONS

- 5.1. Funding decisions are restricted and can be found in ANNEX A

Alex Hayes, Sue Ormiston, Sarah Gibbs, Jason Flynn, Roger Winhall, Susan Connor, Laura Furness, Caron Walton, Anne-Marie Twumasi and Kieran Lewis left the meeting.

6. EQUITY OF OUTCOME – MOVING BEYOND THE PHOENIX FUND

- 6.1. Shane introduced the paper and provided the Committee with a recap on the work of the Phoenix Fund. Eighty percent of the additional £1 million agreed for the Phoenix Fund in November has now been distributed. Shane noted that the success of the Phoenix Fund can be attributed to offering people with lived experience the chance to be involved in the decision-making process and proposed that the Fund continue to use this way of working through the development of an Equitable Futures Fund.
- 6.2. The Committee Steer on the potential of an Equitable Futures Fund is restricted and can be found in Annex A.

7. ENGLAND NARRATIVE

- 7.1. Elly introduced the paper to the Committee. There are currently significant challenges and changes within the sector, but the Fund's strategic framework still holds. The need to be more explicit regarding our ambition to not only support but also shape the sector was emphasised. The need to strengthen the Fund's ability to highlight the impact of our funding was also noted.

- 7.2. Elly noted that the funding mechanisms currently in place enable the Fund to distribute our funding efficiently. The focus is now on developing ways to use these mechanisms in a more flexible manner.
- 7.3. Elly highlighted the need to begin to focus on thematic areas within the sector that communities are expressing are important. We have expertise in some of these areas that would be beneficial to the sector.
- 7.4. The Committee noted that we are not just a funder, but instead a partner with funds.

8. FORWARD LOOK

- 8.1. Elly presented the forward look for future meetings to the Committee. The mornings will be used for addressing business at hand, the England portfolio update and funding decisions. The afternoons will be used for strategic conversations and will aim to incorporate external voices from the sector. Information data will be available to aid in guiding the conversation.
- 8.2. The upcoming meetings of the Committee will focus on:
 - i. February: Young people, mental health and the impact of Covid
 - ii. March: End of financial year – where are we now?
 - iii. May: Learnings from CCSF & the Fund’s role in social investment
 - iv. July: Our responsive funding
- 8.3. The Committee suggested that their responsibilities be more closely linked to the developmental areas of the narrative. It was noted that there is a need to connect strategic thinking with the areas that would benefit most.

ACTION: Elly to take this away and develop ideas.

9. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- 9.1. The committee suggested that papers surrounding People in the Lead be circulated to the YPIL for learning purposes before they are circulated more widely.
- 9.2. **ACTION: People in the Lead papers to be circulated to YPIL before they are circulated more widely.**

10. CLOSED SESSION

- 10.1. The Committee held a closed session following the main business meeting.
- 10.2. There being no further business, the meeting concluded at 16:15.

SIGNED:



**John Mothersole
CHAIR**

DATE:

09/02/2021