

THE NATIONAL LOTTERY COMMUNITY FUND
UK FUNDING COMMITTEE MEETING
 10th December 2019 10am
 Plough Place, London, EC4A 1DE

MINUTES

PRESENT:

Tony Burton	Chair
Stella Everingham	Scotland Committee Member
Kevin Bone	England Committee Member
Michael Dobbins	Northern Ireland Committee Member
Sian Callaghan	Wales Committee Member

IN ATTENDANCE:

Dawn Austwick	Chief Executive Officer
John Knights	Senior Head of UK Portfolio
Yvonne Campbell	Senior Portfolio Manager
Hannah Paterson	Senior Portfolio Manager
Dominic Newlyn	Governance Officer (minutes)
Cassie Robinson	Head of Digital Grant Making [item 6]
Emma Robinson	Portfolio Manager [item 7]
Liz Watchorn	Portfolio Manager [item 7]
Tamsin Shuker	Senior Head of Evaluation [item 7]
Conor Cross	Portfolio Officer [item 8]
Peter Stewart	Eden Project [item 11]
Lindsey Brummitt	Eden Project [item 11]

1. CHAIR'S WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

- 1.1. Tony Burton opened the meeting as Chair. He welcomed the Committee and highlighted that this would be the final UK Funding Committee meeting that Stella Everingham and Michael Dobbins were attending. The Committee thanked them both for their contributions during their tenure.

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

- 2.1. Apologies were received from Elizabeth Passey.

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

- 3.1. There were none.

4. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING - UKFC(19)M03

- 4.1. Ian Hughes was to be added to the list of attendees.
- 4.2. Assuming this change was made, the minutes from previous meeting were approved as an accurate record of the meeting.

5. ACTIONS ARISING - P19

- 5.1. The Committee noted that a summary of grant awards and timescales was included in the meeting papers. The only action remaining open, relating to a cashflow update, was down to be addressed in the March 2020 meeting.

6. PORTFOLIO OVERVIEW - P20

- 6.1. The Committee received UKFC(19)P20 and John provided a verbal overview.
- 6.2. The proposals the team had been working on were near the end of the assessment process as the portfolio pipeline had been paused.
- 6.3. There had been significant staff changes within the team, some of which would be addressed later in the meeting. John extended great thanks to Yvonne for stepping up to cover and keep the team running whilst John and Hannah had been away. The Committee noted and seconded this.

- 6.4. In addition, the Committee noted that the Climate Action Fund had been launched and that recruitment for the senior head of the UK Portfolio was in an advanced state.

Financial Update

- 6.5. The portfolio had seen a renewed focus on cashflow following the previous meeting.
- i. Awarding at 80% would see an overspend of £3m, assuming an average grant duration of four years.
 - ii. With the Manx Lottery award being structured over a longer term, there would be £3.6m falling outside of the next four years, counteracting the potential overspend from current grant awards.

Yvonne Campbell left the meeting.

- 6.6. The Committee discussed the application of the NCB due at the June Committee meeting. It was raised that if approved, the NCB would be both a grant holder and a distributor of funds..

Yvonne Campbell rejoined the meeting.

People's Projects Update - P21

- 6.7. The Committee received UKFC(19)P21 with the ask to approve Option 2 as proposed in the paper.
- 6.8. The Committee discussed the competition for The People's Projects broadcast slots, noting that there was interest from other lottery distributors in this space.
- 6.9. It was noted that ITV had driven a lot of the engagement for the project, and it formed a key part of their Corporate Social Responsibility policy.
- 6.10. The Committee noted the potential that The People's Projects represented, and approved Option 2 as a future approach.

Evidence and Insight in Civil Society - P22

- 6.11. Tamsin Shuker presented plans for a programme to provide capacity building and support to improve the use of evidence and insight. The development of this programme had been supported by extensive research undertaken with the sector, existing grantholders, other funders and an external advisory group.
- 6.12. Furthermore, a market testing phase would happen in Q4 to explore potential applicants, and to co-design how reach and impact can be measured.
- 6.13. The Committee were supportive of the proposed strategy overall, and provided the team with the following suggestions;
- i. To reduce the number of proposed areas from 3 to 2, to ensure resources and focus are not too thinly spread given the relatively small size of the fund;
 - ii. To consider a focus on an achievable target customer;
 - iii. To confirm with the legal team any potential state aid issues.
- 6.14. The Committee would receive an update following the completion of the market testing.

ACTION: Governance

Digital Fund - P23

- 6.15. Cassie Robinson provided an update on the Digital Fund. The team has approached the larger grantholders in Strand One of the Digital Fund to discuss how they use their funding to impact the wider sector.
- 6.16. Stripe Partners has been commissioned to undertake a three-month discovery piece on the support needs of micro-organisations, which will help segment this part of the sector.
- 6.17. Round 2 of the Digital Fund is being scoped out and the available funds will be dependent on the outcome of the discovery work. The Committee fed back on the four options scoped

out by the Digital team. Three options were to be revised and refined, and then return in March for decision.

7. UK PORTFOLIO FUNDING DECISIONS - P24

7.1. Decisions on proposals presented for UKFC's consideration are restricted and can be found at Annex A.

8. INTERNATIONAL PORTFOLIO - P26

8.1. The Committee noted the staff changes in the portfolio.

International Overview

8.2. The Committee heard an update on the safeguarding allegations against INGOs in Uganda and Tanzania, and discussed the Fund's handling of the situation and lessons learned throughout.

8.3. The Committee noted the changes to safeguarding processes within the Fund, including the creation of a Fund wide safeguarding policy for grant holders. The Fund would focus on providing continued safeguarding support throughout the entire duration of grants.

EADF Review

8.4. The Committee discussed the short-term and long-term priorities for the EADF Programme.

8.5. The key points agreed with the Committee were that the Fund should move away from the EADF in the long term, commit to funding existing grants, and stop any funding assessments currently in progress.

8.6. The Committee discussed the potential of committing further funds to ensure a clean exit and enable all learning to be captured. Safeguarding top-up funding were agreed in principle.

8.7. In addition, the Committee agreed to the principle of the Fund signing up to a cross-funded safeguarding fund, with any commitments to be brought back to UKFC for final decision.

8.8. The team would discuss the international environment and the future of the international portfolio, with input from the Senior Head of UK once appointed.

9. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

9.1. There being no further business the meeting closed at 1245.

MINUTES AGREED

DATE

**TONY BURTON
UK FUNDING COMMITTEE CHAIR**