**THE NATIONAL LOTTERY COMMUNITY FUND
UK FUNDING COMMITTEE**
THURSDAY 9th JUNE 2022

10:00 – 14:00 *Online via Teams*

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| **MEMBERS:** |  |
| Blondel Cluff (Chair)Kate StillPaul SweeneyJohn MothersoleSimone Lowthe-Thomas | Chair of the BoardScotland Committee ChairNorthern Ireland Committee ChairEngland Committee ChairWales Committee Chair |
| **IN ATTENDANCE:** |  |
| Emma AckermanDavid KnottStuart FisherHannah PatersonLiz WatchornMel EaglesfieldCatherine RobertsDominic NewlynLucy Taylor | Funding Strategy DirectorChief ExecutiveFinance DirectorSenior Portfolio ManagerSenior Portfolio ManagerDeputy Director, Funding StrategyHead of GovernanceSenior Governance Officer (Minutes)Governance Officer (Minutes) |
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1. **CHAIR'S WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS**
	1. The Chair opened the meeting.Mel Eaglesfield was welcomed to her first Committee meeting as the new Deputy Director for Funding Strategy.
	2. The Chair provided some key headlines to the Committee including:
		1. An update on Platinum Jubilee activity, recognising the hard work going in to the Fund’s programme of activity for the Jubilee celebrations.
		2. An update from the Board meeting, including discussions on grant success rates and exploring the possibility of creating KPIs around these.
		3. Noting the Bringing People Together programme limit increase to one million pounds, and the requirement and expectation of the UK Fund to continue grant giving whilst undertaking the wider Portfolio review.
		4. Highlighting the unallocated funds to be discussed in the Finance Update, and encouraging the team to think differently about reallocating funds to the right projects instead of relying on increased grant activity to meet Financial Year requirements.
2. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**
	1. There were no apologies for absence.
3. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**
	1. There were no further declarations of interest.
4. **MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**
	1. The minutes and decisions of the previous meeting, UKFC(22)M02, were approved as seen.
5. **ACTIONS ARISING**
	1. There were no open actions.
6. **UK PORTFOLIO UPDATE**
	1. The Committee received the Portfolio Update, providing the following feedback:

*Funding Overview*

* 1. The Committee discussed the varying success rates for each programme and requested further information pertaining to the % of overall budget this represented, as well as further clarity on the geographical classifications and distribution figures.
	2. In addition, the Committee requested the overall UK distributed budget be added to the 2021/22 figures for a comparative year-on-year view. The Team would review these reports and make the necessary clarifications and changes by the November Committee meeting.

**ACTION: Liz Watchorn, Sam Freston**

*Learning and Impact*

* 1. The Committee discussed the Fund’s Places Called Home programme, in partnership with IKEA, and the learnings from this project. Work was still progressing to measure the outputs of the programme as projects were coming to an end. The team were working closely with Engagement & Insight to identify strong case studies, to complement the content that IKEA would produce. Learning had already been identified around the IKEA/Participatory City learning platform and grant-holder interaction with this. A detailed impact and learning review would be available by the November Committee meeting.

**ACTION: Hannah Paterson**

*Climate Action Fund*

* 1. The Committee reviewed the CAF Decision Panel minutes and discussed the two areas of focus areas for Round 3. The Decision Panel, as well as the Advisory Panel, had discussed at length the timing of the Energy Efficiency focus. Considerations around government policy and public appetite for addressing energy efficiency had driven the decision to pivot to this focus later in the year, beginning with the Nature and Climate theme.

*International*

* 1. The Committee noted the international update, clarifying some of the wording in the overview. This part of the Portfolio was in the final stages of winding down grants. The Committee encouraged the Team to consider what kind of international dimension the Portfolio could have in the future which fully incorporated the UK, its crown dependencies, territories and the wider Commonwealth that fell more in line with the profile of a national funder.
1. **FINANCIAL UPDATE**
	1. Stuart Fisher provided the Committee with a Portfolio finance update. The Team had reviewed the relevant overspend and underspend on each programme, reprofiling the unallocated funds into next financial year’s budget.
	2. The Committee discussed the threat of income reduction to the shape of the portfolio. Whilst this was not expected, it was noted that flexibility in the later years of the portfolio would ensure that any income reduction would mean unallocated amounts could used to meet existing budgets, rather than having to pull back on any programmes.
2. **UK PORTFOLIO REVIEW AND STRATEGY RENEWAL**

8.1 The Committee discussed the UK Portfolio Review focusing on the definition of UK wide, partnerships, convening, celebration, crisis response and prevention.

1. **UK PORTFOLIO DEVELOPMENT**
	1. The Committee received the development paper, highlighting four options for 2022/23 interim funding;
		1. A flagship large grants programme;
		2. Add a priority area to the Bringing People Together programme;
		3. Increase the Climate Action Fund budget; or
		4. Retain the status quo.
	2. The Committee also offered a fifth option, namely to address crises such as the current cost of living crisis.
	3. Members shared their experiences from with their portfolios of vulnerable communities impacted by the cost-of-living crisis, as well as examples of organisations supporting these communities that would benefit from further Fund support.
	4. The Committee encouraged the team to explore approaches that would help build systems and infrastructure for these organisations, as well as directly addressing the immediate impacts of the cost-of-living crisis, potentially through top-up or stretch style funding that would help existing grant holders build capacity. The position of new grantees affected by the crisis would be interrogated further.
	5. The Committee agreed to prioritise cost of living support, with the potential for another focus alongside this for 2022/23 funding. A workshop would take place following the meeting to determine a more defined approach for the following year.
2. **THE PEOPLE’S PROJECTS**
	1. The Committee noted the update on The People’s Projects and were content with the progress being made.
3. **ANY OTHER BUSINESS**
	1. There was no further business.

 **THE MEETING ENDED AT 14:00.**

**MINUTES AGREED as amended DATE 5th October 2022**

**BLONDEL CLUFF**

**UK FUNDING COMMITTEE CHAIR**