



Arts Council of Northern Ireland

ANNUAL REPORT  
2006 - 2007



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**NDPB ARTS COUNCIL OF NORTHERN IRELAND  
ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR  
ENDED 31 MARCH 2007**

Laid before the Northern Ireland Assembly under  
Article 8 (2) (c) and Article 9 of the Arts Council  
(Northern Ireland) Order 1995 by the  
Department of Culture, Arts and Leisure

30<sup>th</sup> April 2008

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## CHAIRMAN'S FOREWORD

Planning for the future has been an important theme for us in the year under review. We published our new 5 year strategy in February 2007, *Creative Connections*, which provides the vision and the framework for the development of the arts in Northern Ireland over the next five-year period, 2007-2012. The strategy is intended to provide a focus for direction to the whole arts community in order to maximise on limited resources.

The Council would want to pay tribute to the high quality of the work going on in large and small arts organisations across Northern Ireland, despite all the financial difficulties encountered in recent years. Stabilising the infrastructure and creating capacity for development has been a constant theme in our planning.

Indeed with this in mind, the Arts Council, in the year under review, prepared a compelling, evidence-based case for additional Government commitment to the arts in Northern Ireland under its 2007/08 Comprehensive Spending Review.

In this year also, we were delighted to play a role in the launch of the new city centre location for the Golden Thread Gallery, which will, I have no doubt, provide greater accessibility and visibility to arts in Belfast. It is a significant development for the Visual Arts infrastructure here and good to note that gtG is now amongst the critical mass of arts organisations within Cathedral Quarter.

Showcasing the work of Northern Ireland artists has been, and will continue to be, an important part of our thinking. In the year under review, work is well advanced on our second exhibition at the Venice Biennale in June 2007, featuring the work of international artist Willie Doherty. Equally, the participation of Northern Ireland artists and arts organisations in the 2007 Smithsonian Folklife Festival event in Washington will provide wide ranging opportunities for those involved as well as adding to the creation of a positive image of Northern Ireland as a place of interest for inward investment, for the growth of cultural tourism, and the development of the creative industries.

A key element in changing perceptions of the role of arts in our society has been the strong coherent voice from the sector. Individual artists and arts organisations have played, and will continue to play, a vital role in what

must be an ongoing campaign. It is crucial that we continue to argue for the intrinsic value of art and artists to society; and to press for acknowledgment of the experience of other places; that art, design and creativity are essential ingredients in the social, cultural, and economic regeneration of cities and regions, as well as being essential components in all our lives.

*Rosemary Kelly*

**Rosemary Kelly**  
Chairman



## THE COUNCIL

The Arts Council of Northern Ireland is a statutory body under the Arts Council (NI) Order 1995. The Chairperson is appointed by the Secretary of State and Vice-Chairperson and members of Council are appointed by the Minister for Culture, Arts and Leisure.

Ms Rosemary Kelly was appointed Chairman of the Arts Council of Northern Ireland in 2003. The appointment is effective for four years.

Rosemary Kelly is a former member of the Content Board of Ofcom; a Governor of the Irish Times and a member of the Council of the University of Ulster. She is a former Head of Public Affairs and Company Secretary for BBC Northern Ireland. Ms Kelly is also a former Chairman of the Ormeau Baths Gallery, Belfast, from 1995 to 2000. She is currently Chairman of Help the Aged, Northern Ireland and a Trustee of the charity in London. Ms Kelly is also a former Deputy Chairman of the Ulster Orchestra and President of AUDF.

Fourteen members of Council, including the Vice-Chairman, Martin Bradley, were drawn from a broad cross-section of representatives from the arts and cultural sector; and were appointed in 2003 to serve a four-year term. The appointments are made in accordance with the guidance of the Commissioner for Public Appointments for Northern Ireland. Council members continue their development in various aspects of corporate governance by undertaking relevant training and by their attendance at events throughout the year.

The Council provides leadership for the executive body, in particular in defining and developing its strategic direction. It monitors performance in order to ensure that the Arts Council fully meets its aims, objectives and performance targets, and acts in a way that promotes the highest standards of public finance.

### Council Responsibilities

The Chairman and members of the Council have individual and collective responsibility to the Minister for Culture, Arts and Leisure through the Department of Culture, Arts and Leisure:

- to provide effective leadership for the Council, in particular in defining and developing its strategic direction and in setting challenging objectives;
- to act in a way that promotes high standards of public finance, including the promotion of regularity, propriety and value for money;
- to ensure that the Council's activities are conducted in an efficient and effective manner;



- to ensure that strategies are developed for meeting the Council's overall objectives in accordance with the policies and priorities established by the Minister;
- to monitor the Council's performance to ensure that it fully meets its aims, objectives and performance targets;
- to ensure that the Council's control, regulation and monitoring of its activities as well as those of any other bodies which it may sponsor or support, provide value for money within a framework of best practice, regularity and propriety;
- to participate in the corporate planning process; and,
- to appoint a Chief Executive.

## Committees and Remits

The **Audit Committee** ensures that the internal control systems, including audit activities, are monitored actively, independently and objectively in order to promote and to ensure high standards of propriety, accountability and financial management within the Council.

The **Lottery, Grants and Capital Committee** reviews the programmes, policies and procedures relating to the disbursement of exchequer and Lottery grants, including capital grants. The committee also advises on policy and strategy relating to arts funding.

The **Finance Committee** proposes the annual budget to Council for approval; it provides financial advice to Council and it reviews information relating to the budget and financial resources for both exchequer and Lottery funding.

The **Remuneration and Staffing Committee** ensures that all selection and appointment procedures of the Council reflect best practice and comply with all relevant employment legislation.

The **Strategy Committee** makes recommendations to Council on policy and planning issues particularly with regard to the Annual Business Plan Objectives. It also plans the annual review of progress.

The **North/South Committee** is a joint committee of the Arts Council of Northern Ireland and An Chomhairle Ealaíon. It makes recommendations on issues of mutual interest in the advancement of arts on the island of Ireland.

The **Acquisitions Committee** agrees the purchasing, showcasing and documentation of works of art as laid out in the Acquisitions Policy.

## Council Members of the Arts Council of Northern Ireland



Ms Rosemary Kelly,  
Chairman



Mr Martin Bradley,  
Vice Chairman



Mrs Eithne Benson



Ms Kate Bond



Ms Lucy Finnegan  
(maternity leave from  
September 2006)



Mr Raymond Fullerton



Ms Jill McEneaney  
(Nee Holmes)



Mr Anthony  
Kennedy



Mr Tim Kerr



Mr Brendan Milligan  
(resigned November  
2006)



Mr William  
Montgomery



Mr Gearóid  
Ó'hEara



Ms Sharon O'Connor



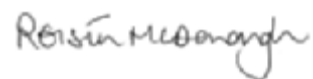
Mr Peter Spratt

## CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S INTRODUCTION

There is much to be proud of in 2006-2007. This Annual Report can only scratch the surface, and the true impact of much that was achieved will be felt over the coming years. The Arts Council-led £3.3 million Re-imaging Communities Programme, launched in July, will help communities across Northern Ireland over the next three years to tackle the visible signs of sectarianism and racism and to create more welcoming environments. The £10.5 million extension to the Grand Opera House made a striking addition to the listed Victorian theatre and introduces a range of modern facilities, allowing a greater variety of productions at one of Belfast's best-known cultural buildings. Larne's Carnegie Museum and Arts Centre opened, and great progress was made towards completing new arts centres for Strabane, Omagh and Ballymena.

We also laid the groundwork for two major international showcase events, which we can look forward to in the coming year. Northern Ireland will participate for the second time at the world-renowned Venice Biennale, with a solo exhibition by Willie Doherty, one of our highest profile contemporary artists. This is a great opportunity to build upon the successes of our first presentation and to reinforce the growing prestige of the visual arts from Northern Ireland. A host of artists and arts groups will participate at the Smithsonian Folklife Festival in Washington DC, in a special programme of events called 'Rediscover Northern Ireland', which will help to elevate Northern Ireland's image on the world stage, through the positive message of our arts and culture.

On a sadder note, the arts community mourned the passing of John Campbell, one of our leading storytellers, and Jim Aiken, one of Ireland's foremost concert promoters and a former board member of the Arts Council of Northern Ireland. Both in their way made a deep and lasting contribution to the arts in Northern Ireland.



**Roisín McDonough**  
Chief Executive



## OUR PRIORITIES

In January 2007, the Arts Council published *Creative Connections*, our new five-year plan for developing the arts in Northern Ireland (2007-2012).

The framework provided by *Creative Connections* is arranged according to four overarching themes:

- (1) **Art at the Heart – Promoting the Value of the Arts.** This theme describes our objectives to place the arts at the heart of society;
- (2) **Strengthening the Arts.** This theme describes our objectives for supporting artists and arts organisations and the physical infrastructure;
- (3) **Growing Audiences and Increasing Participation.** This theme describes our objectives for encouraging people to engage with the arts;
- (4) **Improving our Performance.** This theme describes our objectives for improving our own business processes and developing the organisation and its people.

The specific objectives and activities of the Council are set out in our three-year Corporate Plan (2007-2010) and a series of art form funding policies, both available on our website, [www.artscouncil-ni.org](http://www.artscouncil-ni.org). Taken together with *Creative Connections*, these provide a thorough overview of the activities that you can expect the Arts Council to undertake over the next five years.

The overview of Council's activities in this Annual Report reflects the priorities of the outgoing 5-year strategy as well as the priorities of the incoming strategy, introduced at the latter stages of the period under review. Activities are presented broadly under the headline themes identified in *Creative Connections*.

### Note on Lottery figures

This Annual Report contains references to Lottery funded projects and initiatives. The Arts Council receives Lottery proceeds and distributes these on behalf of the arts in Northern Ireland. Separate Annual Reports and Accounts are prepared for Lottery Distribution activities and are audited by the Comptroller and Auditor General. The accounts contained in the current report refer only to the non-Lottery funded activities of the Arts Council. Copies of the Annual Reports and Accounts on Lottery distribution activities can be viewed at [www.artscouncil-ni.org](http://www.artscouncil-ni.org).

**Our mission is to place the arts at the heart of our social, economic and creative life.**

## **OVERVIEW OF COUNCIL'S ACTIVITIES DURING 2006-2007**

### **Theme 1:**

#### **Art at the Heart – Promoting the Value of the Arts**

The Arts Council's ongoing advocacy work is becoming increasingly important with the impact of the Review of Public Administration, devolved government and the Comprehensive Spending Review on the horizon.

We reach every local council in Northern Ireland through the Forum for Local Government and the Arts (FLGA). The FLGA, which was newly reconstituted in April 2006, will take on a greater role as a co-ordinating and lobbying organisation, ensuring that the arts are a prominent feature in local politics. This strengthening of its engagement with local government is particularly significant in light of the government's Review of Public Administration, which signals major changes to the future of public administration in Northern Ireland.

The Council recognises that the restructuring and strengthening of local government is a positive change, and our new five-year plan addresses the need to position local government as key partners in delivering and achieving a shared vision for the arts. Many more services will come under local control, and there will be new emphasis placed on community planning. The reinvigoration of the community planning process will lead to closer working partnerships across a number of areas. This presents a significant and timely opportunity for the Arts Council and the FLGA to help to embed the arts in local cultural planning and to ensure that historic disparities of spending on the arts between council areas are not replicated in the new system.

In addition to securing the commitment of local political parties to include support for the arts in their Assembly Election manifestos, Council continued to meet with MLAs and MPs and Councillors to press home the case for the arts on behalf of the sector. These meetings are precursors to an intensive series of discussions and presentations planned with ministerial advisors and key ministers elected to the Northern Ireland Assembly, in anticipation of the Comprehensive Spending Review and the implementation of the Review of Public Administration.

The Arts Council made its submission to the Comprehensive Spending Review in February (amended following common agreement amongst the UK Arts Council's to seek 'compensating adjustment' through CSR2007 for re-diversion of Lottery funds). Titled *The Time for the Arts*, the portfolio of evidence was also submitted to Maria Eagle MP, Minister for Culture, Arts and Leisure and Secretary of State, Peter Hain MP, and to Northern Ireland's, MPs, MEPs, MLAs, Peers, party leaders and cultural spokespeople, other government departments and key figures in local

government. *The Time for the Arts* illustrates the capacity of the arts to reinforce stated government priorities for the 2008/9 to 2010/11 funding period.

The Arts Council's campaign for additional funding for the arts has been supported by a media campaign, securing widespread coverage in the Northern Ireland press and broadcast media, and bolstered by celebrity endorsements from international artists such as Barry Douglas and Duke Special.

Complementing the Council's work to raise the profile of the arts, the arts sector in Northern Ireland will reinforce the message to government through a 'sister' campaign called Invest in Inspiration, to be launched in May 2007.

## Research

The Strategic Development Department had lead responsibility for the Arts Council's research, policy development and planning roles. The Council's research programme covers an array of projects, from large-scale public consultations on the future development of the arts sector, to analysis of information and data sources. We work with other departments of the Council: gathering information; identifying trends; evaluating programmes and generating evidence to help inform future policy and to support our advocacy of the arts. We carry out, or commission, field research and conduct horizon scanning to ensure that Council is aware of developments, trends and changes in the medium to long-term that could have an impact on its ability to act as an effective agent for the development of the arts.

**Creative Connections:** The launch of Council's Five-Year Plan, *Creative Connections*, in January 2007 represented the culmination of a lengthy process that began with an evaluation of the outgoing plan, mapping the changing external environment, managing a series of visioning workshops and the most extensive programme of stakeholder consultation that Council has undertaken to date. The plan outlines Council's ambitions for the five year period 2007-12 and sets out the vision of placing the arts at the heart of our social, economic and creative life. This vision will be achieved by delivering on a series of objectives set around four broad themes of promoting the value of the arts, strengthening the arts, increasing audiences and improving organisation performance. The strategic plan is Council's primary planning document; sitting below it is the corporate plan with its annualized targets and strategic indicators.

**Comprehensive Spending Review:** The Arts Council receives its principal core funding through public expenditure lines (DCAL). Council has worked diligently to deliver tangible results from resources that lag far behind the rest of the UK and Ireland. This gap needs to be urgently addressed and the Comprehensive Spending Review (CSR) represents an important opportunity for Council to set out

its case to DCAL: to demonstrate how it delivers good value for money and leverage of resources and to show how the arts are contributing to the cultural, social and economic life of the region. A major strand of our work in Strategic Development this year was building the portfolio of evidence to demonstrate the impact of arts funding and to develop the case for increased arts funding – work which was supported by external expert economic analysis and which, with the restoration of the Northern Ireland Assembly and its institutions, is increasingly engaging with a political audience of ministers and MLAs.

**Survey of Regularly Funded Organisations:** This is the second full year of results from the survey of Regularly Funded Organisations. The survey instrument was developed to provide Council with information that will assist in sectoral growth, will monitor and encourage high standards of effectiveness amongst client organisations and will form a key quantitative monitoring tool, providing evidence of achievement against strategic objectives.

**Arts & Culture in Northern Ireland II:** In 2004 Council published a baseline survey looking at attendance, participation and public attitudes towards the arts in Northern Ireland. This was a highly successful project providing for the first time in almost a decade, key statistics across a range of indicators. Findings from this report have been used extensively in other areas of the Council's research programme, for example, underpinning research into barriers experienced in accessing the arts. During 2006/07 this study was updated with the fieldwork carried out by the Central Survey Unit of NISRA, the statistics agency. The final analysis and report is due to be published in the autumn.

**Development of a Disability Baseline:** Council is committed to improving the quality of access and participation of disabled people in the arts. It supports an Arts and Disability Equality Charter and this year, in association with the Arts and Disability Forum, we completed a major study, establishing, for the first time, a disability baseline. The baseline measures the current level and type of involvement in the arts sector by disabled artists, audiences and project participants across each art form; identifies factors that might prevent disabled people from participating in the arts – such as access to transport, access to information and attitudinal barriers - and establishes the level of provision for and awareness of arts and disability awareness. The survey provides a quantifiable baseline of engagement in the arts by people with disabilities. From this, the Arts Council will be able to use the results to help inform future policy.

**Local Authority Arts Expenditure:** The review of public administration is continuing to re-shape how statutory organisations work together and deliver services. A key commitment in the RPA is the development of strong local government, where councils are at the heart of the local community and where they will have new powers to improve the well-being of the local community or the local area. The arts will have a powerful role to play in achieving these objectives. In light of such large-scale changes it is critical that Council has comprehensive and reliable

information as to the current levels of arts expenditure by local authorities, so that year on year benchmarking and analysis can be undertaken not only throughout the region but with other regions in the UK. In pursuit of this objective, this year we carried out a survey of local authority arts expenditure. The analysis shows that local government in Northern Ireland is spending almost £20 million. As well as financial support, the results also provide other indicators including the levels of dedicated staffing.



## Themes 2 and 3: Strengthening the Arts / Growing Audiences and Strengthening Participation

### Individual artists

The Arts Council demonstrated its continuing commitment to supporting individual artists through 90 awards made in the period under review through the Support for the Individual Artist Programme (SIAP). This programme helps to create opportunities for artists working in all art forms.



*(L-R) Leading Northern Irish writers Carlo Gébler, Glenn Patterson and Damian Gorman, are this year's winners of Major Individual Artist Awards, presented by the Arts Council of Northern Ireland in recognition of special contribution made to the arts in Northern Ireland.*

We recognised the special contribution made to the arts in Northern Ireland by playwrights Damian Gorman and Carlo Gébler, and novelist Glenn Patterson, through Major Individual Artist awards of £15,000 each. The awards made it possible for the writers to develop substantial and ambitious works which will make a significant contribution to the development of their artistic careers.

In November, a former recipient of a Major Individual Artist award, local composer Brian Irvine, won a British Composer Award from the British Academy of Composers and Songwriters for his Opera *The Tailor's Daughter*. Welsh National

Opera commissioned and performed Irvine's youth opera to widespread acclaim, with funding through the Council's New Work Scheme.

Also in this period, Rachel Grimes from Comber, County Down, who studies at the Royal Northern College of Music in Manchester, was awarded the Council's Milton Violin Award. The £80,000 Neapolitan violin, donated to the Arts Council by Professor Alan Milton in 1980, is loaned for a period of three years to exceptional young violinists from Northern Ireland who wish to pursue professional training.

Three of Northern Ireland's most promising young musicians received Young Musician Platform Scheme awards. Catherine Coulter, Ciaran McCabe and Michael McHale each received £5,000 as well as two professional broadcast performances with BBC NI. The award, offered in collaboration with BBC NI, is for talented young singers and musicians who are ready to enter the professional world as artists.

The Arts Council also continued its partnership programmes with An Chomairle Ealaíon to support individual artists. The Arts & Disability Awards Ireland fund continued to attract high quality applications on an all-Ireland basis, and we were pleased to announce a new partnership project, the Curated North South Award. This initiative, run in association with the Douglas Hyde Gallery, Dublin and Void, Derry, and curated by the artist Mike Nelson, represents a significant new opportunity for artists. Two artists – one from the Republic of Ireland and one from Northern Ireland – will be selected by the curator for an award of a combined value of €56,000 to make and exhibit new work at the galleries in late 2007 and early 2008.

## **Collection and Acquisitions**

The Arts Council purchased 14 works of art, including pastel, paint, digital print and sculpture, by Gerry Devlin, Andrew Butler, Ian Cumberland, Majella Clancy, Oliver Jeffers, Kenny McKendry, David Crone, Anne McNulty, Angela Darby and Brendan Jamison. The works were acquired in a variety of ways, including visits to galleries and artist's studios, through the University of Ulster Degree show and the Royal Ulster Academy exhibition, and through our Open Submission scheme.

All of the works from both the historic collection and new acquisitions have been entered onto the new KeEmu collection management system, which records all movements of work and stores images of the works alongside details about the artists. The system also enables us to publish information about our art works on the internet, and this service will be available in mid-2007.

Our Touring Exhibition programme continued in venues across Northern Ireland, including Omagh Tourist Information Office, Bangor Heritage Centre, The Higher

Bridges Clinton Centre in Enniskillen, and the Market Place Theatre in Armagh. Council loaned new acquisitions to the new Cancer Centre at the City Hospital, the Czech Museum of Fine Art and Siamsa Tire in Tralee; and works from the Collection to the Golden Thread Gallery, the Armagh Museum and the Highlanes Gallery in Drogheda.

## Arts Organisations

### Architecture and Public Art

The Arts Council's remit to promote excellence in design quality for new buildings and public spaces and to encourage greater debate and public participation in critical discussion on the built environment built up further momentum in 2006-7. The Arts Council continued to support key aspects of core and programming costs relating to PLACE, Northern Ireland's built environment centre, now in its third year of existence. Highlights included the *Happy to Live Here?* touring exhibition and series of consultations about problems and issues in house design, and a successful series of events during Architecture Week in June. Millennium Court Arts Centre also ran an innovative, well received and well attended exhibition in Portadown on the museum designs of eminent architect Frank Gehry, culminating in a lively symposium bringing together architects, artists, developers, curators, commissioners and the general public. This was followed in September by the *Urban Alchemy* conference at the Waterfront Hall, in which over 300 delegates discussed the power of art and architecture to transform our towns and cities.

Council was also active in supporting the two Universities, amongst others, in creating projects aimed at generating debate with the general public. The University of Ulster's novel Yellow Space newspaper and exhibition created an impression and afterwards was invited to tour abroad and feature in *Talking Cities: the Micropolitics of Urban Space*. The University of Ulster's architecture course reached its third year of maturity and Council was pleased to sponsor a student award for the 'best contextual response' at degree level. Queen's University was once again active in its engaging architecture-students-in-primary-schools programme, *Connections*.

Council once again supported the prestigious and coveted national Civic Trust Northern Ireland Public Realm Award, Belfast's Custom House Square and Cathedral Quarter streetscape (Paul Hogarth Company) being the worthy winners. Finally on public engagement, the Arts Council was pleased to see the landmark publication *Modern Ulster Architecture* published by the UAHS – a much awaited, beautifully presented source book aimed at a broad audience of those interested in recent and contemporary buildings of quality in Northern Ireland.

As for arts buildings, Larne's Carnegie Museum and Arts Centre and the Grand Opera House's new extension were opened; and Strabane, Omagh and Ballymena Arts Centres all progressed markedly over the period. Imaginative integrated public art commissions feature in all these projects and were also fittingly major elements of new healthcare buildings, with Council-supported new work completed at Marie Curie's Belfast Hospice, Community Treatment and Care Centres at Bradbury Place and Holywood Arches, Muckamore Abbey Hospital and at Musgrave Park Hospital's Regional Acquired Brain Injury Unit.

## Arts & Disability

The Arts Council collaborated with three partner organisations on the first year's delivery of the *Arts & Disability Equality Charter*, supporting arts venues towards practice that is inclusive of disabled people at all levels.

Adapt NI developed a new course to meet arts venue training requirements and several new projects and emergent organisations were given developmental support, which included new work with people with learning disabilities and new work with people experiencing mental ill health. The Northern Ireland Clown Doctors service consolidated pilot work with children, and the Arts for Older People Network conducted a pilot project to encourage older people's involvement in the arts.

Council collaborated with An Chomairle Ealaíon to develop an Arts & Disability website for the island, working closely with the sector to agree the content of the site.

Baseline study research continued, funded by the Arts Council and supported by the Arts and Disability Forum, with the assistance of other key organisations in the sector. The research will establish a baseline for the level of disabled people's involvement in the arts - as artists, audience members and project participants. Findings will be released in 2007-08.

## Arts & Health

In addition to integrated public art work for healthcare environments, the Arts Council continued to contribute core-funding for ArtsCare's programmes, providing new access and participation opportunities for artists, patients, health service staff and visitors on a Northern Ireland-wide basis. Supported by ArtsCare, the Northern Ireland Clown Doctors service continued to develop, with artists using performing arts skills to engage through regular visits with children in hospitals.

In June, the *Dreams* event at the Waterfront Hall launched the results of an action research project, which examines the effectiveness of becoming involved in arts

activity whilst in hospital. The project involved patients, staff and community groups connected with the Mater Hospital Trust and drew in people of all ages and from varied socio-political backgrounds. CENI produced a formal report, and an illustrated summary and a video brought the research to life. Questions relating to the alleviation of stress and symptoms showed particularly interesting results, with 95 per cent of people saying that the workshops had helped make them feel at ease and relaxed, that they had been “good for lifting your mind from other things”. Ninety per cent reported improvement in mood; and 41 per cent even said that their pain and symptoms were relieved. *Dreams* was First Place Professional Winner of the Blair L. Sadler International Healing Arts Competition and representatives were invited to the USA to collect their award.

Another action research project carried out by the Community Development and Health Network moved into its final phase and an Arts for Older People Network seminar drew people together for a full day event exploring arts with, for and by older people. This was the premiere of *The Bench*, a verbatim theatre project with older people that went on to tour to a number of residential care homes and community centres.

One highlight of the year was that the Arts Council was able to support a number of Arts & Health practitioners to participate in Smithsonian 2007. Cahoots took their bedside theatre and *Cuchulain* to Washington, and ArtsCare artists carried out participative arts projects in visual arts, music and creative writing.

### Community Arts and Social Inclusion

This year, two Arts Council clients received SCOPE awards: Wheelworks won in the Publication category for its Respect project and New Lodge Arts won a Promotional Concept Award for its ‘RE:New’ Materials projects.

Increasingly we are working with organisations to develop their international relationships. WheelWorks has embarked upon a partnership with Children's Culture Centre ARX, Hameenlinna, Finland; and with Kinnobus, an arts organisation based in Estonia, to run a digital arts programme for young people.

Carnival in Northern Ireland has continued to develop its regional and international profile. The Beat Initiative presented *Beatfest* in June - two weeks of carnival activity in Belfast with Brazilian band Moleque de Rua - and young people from the Beat Initiative took part in the 2007 Liverpool International Street Carnival. The North West Carnival, based at the Gasyard, Derry continues to develop carnival at community level throughout the north west, with cross-border partnerships.

Circus performances have developed in profile and diversity. Council supported Belfast Community Circus in developing new works and running Belfast-based and

outreach workshops to increase opportunities for youth participation in circus. Streetwise Community Circus workshops engaged adults and young people with disabilities in regional training courses and community showcasing events. The Festival of Fools provided a highly visible and accessible celebration of street theatre in Belfast city centre with national and international performers.

The recognition of growing ethnic diversity in Northern Ireland raises the need for organisations to make provision for multi-ethnic participation and representation. There is a growing consciousness of this need throughout the community arts sector. For instance, BEAM translated their drama scripts into Polish for Polish children, Dairy Farm promoted intercultural connection between 13 different cultural identities through arts-based activity, and An Munia Tober celebrated Traveller heritage and legends with children. One highlight was the Mandarin Speakers Association's highly successful exhibition of landscape ink paintings from the Heilongjiang Province in P.R. China.

Those at risk of social exclusion continue to be identified and supported through the Community Arts sector. Of note this year, as a result of its writers in residence programme, the Prison Arts Foundation published *Magilligan Prison Writing*.

Two major hubs for the support of Irish language, An Gaelaras and An Culturlann Mac Adam O'Fiach, have provided programmes that increasingly aim at new and diverse audiences. Both organisations are preparing for renovation and development of their facilities that will benefit the quality and access of their arts activity in Derry and Belfast; while Club Ealiona Dhun Lathai secured funding for a bilingual arts programme aimed at rurally isolated communities.

## Craft and Applied Art

2006/07 was Craft NI's first full year of operations. Now completely independent of the Arts Council, the organisation ran a full portfolio of projects that included professional and business development training for designer/makers as well as showcasing projects and profile-raising.

Council once again funded the *Making It* programme through National Lottery resources. This developmental and significant initiative places designer/makers with host organisations for a two-year incubation period. The five makers selected this year feature specialists in glass, ceramic and textiles, and hosts include local government arts facilities, higher and further education and craft development networks.

## Dance

Dance Resource Base established itself on a firm footing for the support and development of the dance community in Northern Ireland. The organisation's services include providing office space with equipment and meeting space for members of the dance sector; information and resource provisions to assist with employment opportunities; collaborations and networking events. Dance Resource Base performs a leading advocacy role on behalf of the dance sector.

Derry-based Echo Echo Dance Theatre Company continued to build on its successes over the last number of years by further developing participation and audience for dance. The company continued to expand its performance, education and facilitation functions, while establishing a new dance studio and administrative base at the Waterside Theatre.

## Drama

The year saw new writing from Northern Ireland reach an award-winning level. Tinderbox Theatre Company's production of Lisa McGee's debut play *Girls & Dolls* enjoyed a highly successful ten venue tour of Northern Ireland, with McGee going on to win the 2007 Stewart Parker Trust New Playwright Bursary.

In Irish-language theatre, Aisling Ghéar Theatre Company toured its moving and powerful production of Peter Sheridan's play *Dialann Ocráis (Diary of a Hunger Strike)*. The critically-acclaimed production provided audiences throughout Northern Ireland with quality Irish language theatre.

Council continues to fund the Dramaturgy project, which is facilitated by Tinderbox Theatre Company. This project, provides professional expertise, manages excellence and facilitates the sharing of creative knowledge. It has been embraced by the theatre sector and has proven to be an invaluable catalyst for the creation of collaborative and innovative theatre.

## International Arts

The Arts Council offers a wide range of travel grants, international residencies and international profiling opportunities for Northern Ireland's artists and arts organisations, working in all disciplines. This year, 73 artists received travel awards to places as far afield as Hong Kong, Germany and Palestine, which helped the artists to enrich their work through interaction with international counterparts, to observe international developments in their field of interest, and to raise the international profile of the arts from Northern Ireland.

Visual artists Nicholas Keogh and Paddy McCann, curator Brian Kennedy and musical performer Margaret Keys, took advantage of our New York Residency, to broaden their career experience, work alongside international counterparts and develop contacts. Established composer, Eibhlis Farrell was able to further her professional development by devoting a concentrated period of time to her work in the artistically stimulating environment of the Banff Centre, Canada. Photographer Amy Russell was also able to develop her practice during an exchange residency at Winnipeg in Canada, and talented young jazz musician Tom Wall received one-to-one tuition from leading international musicians at the Skidmore Jazz Studentship at the Skidmore College in upstate New York.

### Literature and Language Arts

In January 2007, the Verbal Arts Centre in Derry launched the first issue of its monthly literary review, *Verbal*, promoted in partnership with the *Belfast Telegraph*. *Verbal* presents new creative work and intelligent reviews in an attractive and accessible format. The print-run – at close to 100,000 – has greatly boosted the profile of writing and publishing in Northern Ireland.

The Verbal Arts Centre is also working to develop a 'reading tour' across Northern Ireland, providing opportunities for international, national and regional authors to showcase their writing.

The Creative Writers' Network rolled out a programme of skills enhancement through mentoring, outreach projects and the piloting of a professional reading service providing feedback to emerging writers. Coupled with professional and business skills training, this initiative, with funding from the Arts Council's Business Support Programme, proved a popular intervention in the sector.

Blackstaff Press enjoyed a highly successful year, launching *The Ulster Anthology*, *The Blackbird's Nest*, *The Road to Gobblers Knob* by travel writer Geoff Hill, and *John Hewitt: Selected Poems*. Production of the Anthology was assisted by Lottery funds and the considerable research by a Major Individual Award to the editor, Patricia Craig, in 2004.

Lagan Press published a debut collection from Maria McManus, *Reading The Dog*, shortlisted for the Strong Prize – an award won by another Lagan poet, Matt Kirkham, for *The Lost Museums* (2005). Also published were new collections by Moyra Donaldson, Tom Morgan, Robert Welch and Cherry Smyth; and new novels from John Campbell and Tony Bailie.

Among titles from Guildhall Press were *Reckoning* by Felicity McCall, *Johnny Tell Them*, new poems by John Walsh, and *The Mist of Remember*, stories by Liam Black. The Press also published *Eve: A Celebration of Creative Women*, a major anthology of writing from the north west.



Organisations critical to the literary infrastructure – such as *An tUltach*, *Books Ireland* and *Irish Pages* – maintained high standards thanks to three-year funding security under the Multi-Annual Programme. *Fortnight* magazine secured Lottery funding to re-design its pages and boost marketing of the product; *Poetry Ireland* returned as a client of the Council with a significantly increased investment.

The Linen Hall Library hosted the Celebrate Literary Belfast festival during September 2006 and also published *Dear Mr McLaverty– The Literary Correspondence of John McGahern and Michael McLaverty, 1959-1980*.

The Arts Council supports a full-time Arts Cultural Development Officer hosted by the Ulster Scots Heritage Council – an important piece of the jigsaw in language arts; and is pursuing other partnerships in the environment to extend the role of the arts in Northern Ireland’s linguistic and cultural self-expression.

## Music

In February, the Arts Council, in partnership with the Mandarin Speakers Association and the Ulster Orchestra, facilitated a performance of popular Chinese Orchestral music to mark the Chinese New Year celebrations in Belfast. Violinist Yan Jie and conductor Min Lekang from the Jiangsu Symphony Orchestra flew in for the event alongside several other acts. This concert built on previous collaborations between the Arts Council and the Jiangsu province of China.

In March, the Council, in partnership with the Department of Culture, Arts and Leisure, facilitated the Northern Ireland Music Industry Commission in presenting an extensive contemporary and popular music programme as part of the ‘Rediscover Northern Ireland’ Arts and Culture Programme in Washington DC. Snow Patrol, Duke Special, as well as a number of other up-and-coming acts participated in the event.

Council awarded funding to 36 local bands through the Musical Instruments for Bands Scheme. A review of the scheme has confirmed that Arts Council funding has provided a wide range of benefits to all types of bands across the community and made a valuable contribution to musical culture across Northern Ireland.

Regularly funded organisations such as the Ulster Orchestra and Moving on Music continued to provide varied programmes of high quality music.

## Traditional Arts

Interest and participation in the traditional arts continues to grow in Northern Ireland, which is evidenced by the rising number of new funding applications received as well as by the growth and development of existing clients.

The Arts Council continues to support dedicated traditional music schools - such as the Francis McPeake School of Music, The Belfast & District Set Dance & Traditional Music School and the Andersonstown School of Traditional and Contemporary Music - as well as peripatetic teaching initiatives such as The All Set Schools Programme and The Jig-Time Programme of Irish Music. These education-based programmes are essential to the continued successful transmission of the traditional arts in Northern Ireland.

The Council played a significant roll as a co-curator in preparation for the Smithsonian Institution's Folk Life Festival in Washington DC in 2007. Working closely with the Smithsonian Institution, the Arts Council helped to identify traditional musicians, singers and dancers who would best represent the diverse and unique talent that exists in Northern Ireland.

The Arts Council of Northern Ireland and An Chomhairle Ealaíon successfully negotiated a North South Traditional Arts Funding Scheme to be piloted by both Arts Councils and launched in 2007.

A project to digitize recordings from the late Geoff Harden's field recordings of Belfast folk clubs in the 1960s, 70s and 80s will feature in the new traditional arts element of the Northern Ireland Music Archive at Belfast Central Library, to be launched in 2007.

## Visual Arts

There have been some excellent exhibitions and performances in District Council-run facilities across Northern Ireland. Antrim, Lisburn, Coleraine and Ards (amongst others) have provided strong and varied programmes in the visual arts as well as in other areas. The exhibitions and the classes on offer have involved a wide range of children and adults in the arts.

The print workshops have continued to develop. Belfast Print Workshop focussed on international links and exchanges as well as developing its links with businesses and sales through its gallery. Seacourt moved premises within Bangor and is making great strides in its plans to develop and use greener and safer printmaking techniques. Artists from both workshops have shown internationally. Paragon has been working on its Space Shuttle project, involving a range of artists in an imaginative and well-documented outreach programme centred on a portacabin structure which was manoeuvred on 'missions' to different spaces.

The Tyrone Guthrie Centre celebrated 25 years of providing its unique facilities to artists and aims to develop its facilities further under the care of its new Director, Dr Pat Donlan.

Millennium Court Arts Centre (Portadown 2000) produced a strong programme and its education work, supported by an Access award, has become a core part of its work in terms of involving the communities in the surrounding area.

One of the most notable features of the year was the Arts Council's assumption of direct managerial responsibility for the Ormeau Baths Gallery. In doing so, Council fulfilled two commitments it had made following the demise of the previous management company of the gallery in February 2006: that the gallery would reopen to the public as soon as possible; and that the long term future of the gallery would lie in the hands of a new management company with a board made up of openly recruited individuals.

In June the first exhibition, *Collectors' Collections*, opened to the public and a new programme was launched at the Ormeau Baths Gallery. Over 24,000 visits were recorded to the gallery and the wide and varied programme of exhibitions received considerable media interest.

On April 1st 2007 the management, development and future programming of the gallery will be handed over to an independent company. Council is confident that it has laid firm foundations on which this company can build and looks forward to the continued development of the gallery as a centre of excellence in visual arts.

The six Arts Council-funded studio groups remain an essential element of the visual arts infrastructure and a key support resource for individual artists. Of particular note is the continuing development and growing local and international profile of the digital arts facilities at Queen Street Studios. The situation with respect to studio provision in Belfast, however, remains of concern to the Council, with little security of tenure and poor working conditions typifying the situation for the majority of groups. In December 2006, Orchid Studios was forced to leave its King Street premises due to the redevelopment of the area. They managed to secure an alternative location on Corporation Street, but at a commercial rent - a less than ideal situation.

## Voluntary Arts

The Arts Council's New Work programme encouraged young people's involvement in voluntary arts activity, and a grant awarded through the Business Support Scheme enabled Voluntary Arts Ireland to set up a project supporting business skills development amongst the voluntary arts sector. The aim of the award is to

strengthen the infrastructure and create lasting change in the voluntary cultural sector.

## Youth Arts

This has been an important year for the youth arts sector, with the launch of the Children's Ten-Year Strategy for Northern Ireland, which is underpinned by the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child. The strategy names the Creative Youth Partnership (CYP) programme as one of the 'Drivers for Change' in supporting children and young people in their 'Enjoying, Learning and Achieving'. This contribution was illustrated at the CYP Conference, *Inside Out*, held at the Waterfront Hall in June 2006. CYP delivered 446 arts-led projects to 18,412 young people during the year across the five Education and Library Boards.

To enhance the opportunity for young people to engage in quality arts activity, the Arts Council awarded a bursary to two artists based in Northern Ireland to participate in the NUI Certificate in Youth Arts. The certificate provides an understanding of the principles underpinning youth arts as well as a practice-based learning approach to using the arts with young people.

Other significant developments included: Cahoots NI's participation at the Bremen International Street Theatre Festival in Germany and their selection to participate in the Smithsonian Festival 2007; the Play Resource Warehouse, *Waste to Art* appeal, which attracted 200 firms to contribute over 250 tonnes of waste material, recycled for reuse in arts projects across Northern Ireland; recognition of Young at Art International Children's Festival as the second largest children's arts festival in Ireland and the UK; Sticky Fingers winning the top prize for their contribution to peace and reconciliation at the National Resource Rural Tourism Initiative Awards; continued partnership with the Youth Council of Northern Ireland to improve consultation with young people on their perceptions and experiences of the arts; exploring the possibility with An Chomhairle Ealaíon of developing an island-wide Youth Arts Network.

## **Theme 4: Improving our Performance**

### **Service Charter**

In July 2006, the Arts Council published a Service Charter, laying out clearly our commitments to providing the best possible service and to maintaining high standards of customer care. One of our stated commitments is to monitor our performance against the list of service standards contained in the Charter, and to aim to continually improve the service we offer. Responding to a recent survey asking what was most important to our clients, the Charter includes our promises to: act as an advocate for the arts, campaigning for more support; remain committed to developing the arts throughout Northern Ireland and encouraging artistic talent; managing our funds effectively; and communicating our objectives clearly.

### **Service Complaints Procedure**

The Arts Council is committed to delivering a quality service at all times. However, we do accept that occasionally things do go wrong, and we invite feedback on all aspects of our services. We aim to respond to complaints within seven working days.

From April 2006 – March 2007, the Council received 12 complaints, seven of which were 'third party' complaints, i.e., relating to client rather than Arts Council activities. Complaints about the Arts Council related to: a Freedom of Information request; a delay in publishing the SIAP programme; not including Omagh in a public consultation meeting; a late application; an unsuccessful ASOP application.

### **Information Systems**

A series of ongoing projects underpins our commitment to improving our performance. We are taking steps to enhance our service to the public through the integration of internal management information systems and ongoing improvements to the website.

Over the past year, the Arts Council has redesigned its website to ease navigation. A survey undertaken in January 2007 indicated that 70 per cent of users rate the website overall as good or excellence. There has been an increase over the last year in hits by 6.8 per cent, page views by 4.2 per cent, and of unique visitors by 29 per cent.

We continued to make increased amounts of information available through our website, including the development of sub-sites for various projects, including

Creative Youth Partnerships and the Composers Database and, to be launched early next year, an International Arts website. Council is also working with other organisations to develop new sites, including a planned portal site that will enable tickets to be purchased from arts venues across Northern Ireland.

Council is enhancing its internal information systems. A key part of this project is the integration of the GIFTS Grants Management System with other business systems within the organisation. The GIFTS system allows online grant applications; 35 per cent of applications in 2006-2007 were received online.

The new financial accounting system, SAGE 200, was implemented in 2006-07, enabling more timely reporting on the financial performance of the Council and providing key data to assist the Council's case for increased funding of the arts. The robustness of the systems in place is evidenced by the positive reports from both internal and external auditors.

We continue to develop our file planning and archival policies in preparation for the introduction of Electronic Document Records Management. The Public Record Office and the Office of the First Minister and Deputy First Minister are leading this project, which will be rolled out across the Northern Ireland Public Service over the coming years.

## **Valuing and Developing our People**

The restructuring of staff in 2005-06 continues to bring benefits to the sector as staff focus on the needs of the Council's client base. The Assistant Arts Development Officers are now well established in their posts and provide direct support through their engagement with artists and arts organisations.

Training and development continued throughout the year for all staff. The Council has supported a number of staff studying for further degrees. The Chief Executive successfully completed the Institute of Directors' Company Direction programme, thus bringing a wider business perspective to her strategic leadership of the organisation.

Dr Philip Hammond, Arts Development Director, was seconded to the Department of Culture, Arts & Leisure to oversee the involvement of Northern Ireland's cultural activities in the Rediscover Northern Ireland programme at the Smithsonian Institution's Folk-Life Festival in Washington DC in the summer of 2007.

Staff from the Arts Council also played an important role in the re-establishment of the Ormeau Baths Gallery as a high profile venue, overseeing the management of the Gallery throughout the year as well as recruiting and establishing the new Board.

## GRANTS AWARDED 2006-07

### Annual Support for Organisations Programme:

| Organisation   | Award   |
|--|---------|
| ADAPT NI   | 56,806  |
| Aisling Ghear  | 67,320  |
| An Gaelaras Ltd  | 44,550  |
| Andersonstown Traditional & Contemporary Music School        | 50,000  |
| Armagh Pipers Club   | 27,225  |
| Arts and Disability Forum                                    | 76,271  |
| ArtsCare   | 45,292  |
| Audiences Northern Ireland                                   | 97,020  |
| Belfast & District Set Dancing and Traditional Music Society | 19,107  |
| Belfast Community Circus School                              | 89,100  |
| Belfast Exposed Photography                                  | 65,157  |
| Belfast Festival at Queen's                                  | 69,500  |
| Belfast Print Workshop                                       | 71,379  |
| Big Telly Theatre Company                                    | 94,050  |
| Blackstaff Press Limited                                     | 69,300  |
| Cahoots NI Ltd   | 54,450  |
| Castleward Opera   | 159,000 |
| Community Arts Forum   | 81,576  |
| Context Gallery  | 39,600  |
| Crafts Development Northern Ireland                          | 79,200  |
| Crescent Arts Centre   | 130,000 |
| Culturlann McAdam O'Fiaich                                   | 155,836 |
| Derry Theatre Trust  | 165,132 |
| Drake Music Project Northern Ireland                         | 35,000  |
| Dubbeljoint Theatre Company                                  | 76,725  |
| Echo Echo Dance Theatre Company                              | 34,650  |
| Feile an Phobail   | 99,000  |
| Flaxart Studios  | 37,852  |
| Kabosh Theatre Ltd   | 80,190  |
| Lagan Press Ltd  | 39,600  |
| Lyric Players Theatre  | 606,722 |
| Maydown Youth Training Project Ltd - Waterside Theatre       | 49,104  |
| Mid Armagh Community Network                                 | 23,000  |
| Moving on Music  | 103,950 |
| North West Play Resource Centre (The Playhouse)              | 127,000 |
| Northern Ireland Piping & Drumming School                    | 48,510  |
| Old Museum Arts Centre                                       | 232,650 |
| Open Arts  | 70,081  |
| Opera Theatre Company  | 100,000 |
| Play Resource Warehouse                                      | 54,450  |

|  |                  |
|--|------------------|
| Portadown 2000 (Millennium Court Arts Centre)                | 40,788           |
| Prime Cut Productions Ltd                                    | 100,950          |
| Prison Arts Foundation                                       | 71,280           |
| Queen Street Studios   | 33,000           |
| Replay Productions Ltd.                                      | 112,635          |
| Seacourt Print Workshop Limited                              | 44,550           |
| Sticky Fingers Early Years Arts                              | 44,550           |
| Streetwise Community Circus Workshops                        | 33,531           |
| The Armagh Rhymers Workers Co-operative Ltd                  | 65,000           |
| The Beat Initiative  | 75,000           |
| The Cathedral Quarter Arts Festival                          | 69,300           |
| The Francis McPeake School of Music                          | 50,000           |
| The Grand Opera House Trust                                  | 492,921          |
| The Nerve Centre   | 98,911           |
| The Void Art Centre  | 38,511           |
| Tinderbox Theatre Company                                    | 100,950          |
| Tyrone Guthrie Centre at Annaghmakerrig                      | 79,200           |
| Ulster Association of Youth Drama                            | 34,650           |
| Ulster Orchestra Society Ltd                                 | 1,925,113        |
| Verbal Arts Centre   | 165,657          |
| Voluntary Arts Network (on behalf of Voluntary Arts Ireland) | 50,985           |
| Wheelworks   | 60,000           |
| Young at Art   | 64,350           |
|  | <b>7,477,187</b> |

## Rediscover Northern Ireland:

| <b>Organisation</b>                              | <b>Award</b>   |
|--|----------------|
| Belfast Exposed Photography                      | 27,560         |
| Crafts Development Northern Ireland              | 35,000         |
| Golden Thread Gallery                            | 50,000         |
| Northern Ireland Film and Television Commission  | 25,000         |
| Northern Ireland Music Industry Commission       | 30,000         |
| Northern Ireland Press Photographers Association | 7,500          |
| Open House Traditional Arts Festival Ltd         | 25,350         |
| Queen's University Belfast                       | 1,940          |
| Sonorities Contemporary Music Festival           | 9,980          |
| The Queen's University of Belfast                | 17,450         |
| Tinderbox Theatre Company                        | 31,620         |
| Tinderbox Theatre Company                        | 6,010          |
| Ulster Orchestra Society Ltd                     | 17,080         |
| University of Ulster                             | 770            |
| Visiting Arts                                    | 30,000         |
|  | <b>315,260</b> |



**Travel Awards:**

| <b>Artist</b>        | <b>Award</b> |
|----------------------|--------------|
| Adam Patterson       | 600          |
| Adele Pound          | 300          |
| Alan Lynn            | 600          |
| Alastair MacLennan   | 650          |
| Alastair Wilson      | 300          |
| Andrea Spencer       | 600          |
| Andrew Wilson        | 300          |
| Angie Halliday       | 650          |
| Angie McManus        | 250          |
| Brendan Jamison      | 650          |
| Brian Patterson      | 300          |
| Claire F Rollinson   | 600          |
| Clive Lyttle         | 600          |
| Conor O'Doherty      | 250          |
| David Lyttle         | 300          |
| David Morris         | 300          |
| Eddie Rafferty       | 500          |
| Edele Lindsay        | 800          |
| Eileen McClory       | 300          |
| Elaine Burke         | 150          |
| Emma Berkery         | 650          |
| Fiona Larkin         | 650          |
| Flora Herberich      | 800          |
| Frances Gordon       | 300          |
| Fuyuka Shindo        | 650          |
| Gearoid MacLochlainn | 600          |
| Gwen Stevenson       | 750          |
| Helen Sharp          | 300          |
| Hillas Smith         | 250          |
| Hugh Brown           | 250          |
| Imelda Foley         | 250          |
| J Smyth              | 300          |
| Jane McCulla         | 100          |
| Jennie McCullough    | 100          |
| Jennifer Jordan      | 800          |
| Jennifer Trouton     | 100          |
| Jill McKeown         | 500          |
| Joe Kelly            | 500          |
| Jonny Black          | 600          |
| Josephine Keegan     | 1,000        |

|                               |               |
|-------------------------------|---------------|
| Josephine McCormick           | 800           |
| Justin McKeown                | 650           |
| Karl Harron                   | 150           |
| Keith Doran                   | 400           |
| Ken Fanning                   | 800           |
| Lesley-Ann Eaton              | 650           |
| Liam Bradley                  | 300           |
| Lisa May                      | 250           |
| Lorna Hastings                | 300           |
| Lyndon James Stephens         | 800           |
| Malachi O'Doherty             | 250           |
| Martin McDowell               | 800           |
| Mary Torney                   | 250           |
| Michelle McLearn              | 800           |
| Miss Andrea Claire Montgomery | 650           |
| Patricia Downey               | 800           |
| Paula Gallagher               | 600           |
| Pauline Hadaway               | 650           |
| Peter Lloyd                   | 300           |
| Peter Wilson                  | 600           |
| Rachael Lindsay               | 250           |
| Raymond Watson                | 650           |
| Ricardo Climent               | 750           |
| Rita Duffy                    | 300           |
| Ruth McCullough               | 650           |
| Sean Graham/Beoga             | 300           |
| Simon Mawhinney               | 250           |
| Stephen Batts                 | 300           |
| Struan Hamilton               | 250           |
| Susan MacWilliam              | 250           |
| Tammy Moore                   | 150           |
| The Beat Poets                | 400           |
| Ursula Laeubli                | 300           |
|                               | <b>34,050</b> |

**International Residencies:****Type**

Banff Residency  
 New York Residency  
 New York Residency  
 New York Residency  
 New York Residency  
 Skidmore Jazz Studentship  
 Winnipeg Exchange Residency

**Artist**

Eibhlis Farrell  
 Brian Kennedy  
 Margaret Keys  
 Nicholas Keogh  
 Paddy McCann  
 Tom Wall  
 Miss Amy Russell

**International Awards:****Artist**

Brian Kennedy  
 Brian Patterson  
 Carol Kelly  
 Fiona Larkin  
 Michael Moore  
 Rhoda Barfoot  
 Ruth McCullough  
 Susan MacWilliam

**Award**

1,300  
 1,484  
 4,500  
 1,070  
 1,135  
 5,000  
 1,400  
 4,111  
 20,000

**International Artists' Profile:****Artist**

Lisa Malone

**Award**

n/a

**Major Individual Awards:****Artist**

Carlo Gébler  
 Damian Gorman  
 Glenn Patterson

**Award**

15,000  
 15,000  
 15,000  
 45,000

## Milton Violin:

### Artist

Rachel Grimes

n/a

## Art Acquisitions:

| Artist          | Title                                | Purchase Price |
|-----------------|--------------------------------------|----------------|
| Peter Richards  | Set of Venice Biennale related works | 5000           |
| Cara Murphy     | Growing reflection                   | 3500           |
| Cara Murphy     | Gathered lava                        | 1350           |
| Michael McCrory | Silver teapot with Lava knob         | 2995           |
| Michael McCrory | Silver teapot with long handle       | 1500           |
| Deirdre McCrory | Running wild                         | 340            |
| Deirdre McCrory | Prickly Trio                         | 220            |
| Gerry Devlin    | Untitled                             | 3500           |
| Andrew Butler   | In control                           | 395            |
| Andrew Butler   | Absorbed                             | 395            |
| Andrew Butler   | Wistful                              | 395            |
| Ian Cumberland  | The Mercy Seat                       | 1250           |
| Majella Clancy  | Doubting Blue                        | 525            |
| Majella Clancy  | Invisible Distance                   | 525            |
| David Crone     | Meadow                               | 4000           |
| Oliver Jeffers  | The Substitute Window                | 4500           |
| Kenny McKendry  | The Emigrant                         | 3500           |
| Anne McNulty    | Rhythm 1                             | 900            |
| Anne McNulty    | Rhythm 2                             | 900            |
| Angela Darby    | American Express                     | 550            |
| Brendan Jamison | Yellow Helicopter                    | 1200           |

# ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2007

## Annual Report

### Background Information

#### Statutory Background

The Council, presently known as the Arts Council of Northern Ireland, is the statutory body through which public funding for the arts in Northern Ireland is channelled. It was established by the Arts Council (Northern Ireland) Order 1995 and came into existence on 1 September 1995. The Council took over the assets and liabilities of the Arts Council of Northern Ireland Limited which was a company limited by guarantee established in 1994 as an interim body between the previous Arts Council (established in 1943) and the new statutory body.

The Arts Council dates from 1943 when it was set up as the Council for the Encouragement of Music and the Arts in Northern Ireland. Initially funds were provided by the Pilgrim Trust and matched by the Ministry of Education for Northern Ireland. At the present time the Arts Council is funded via grant-in-aid by the Department of Culture, Arts and Leisure. The affairs of the Council are managed by a Council consisting of fifteen members. The current Council members are listed below. The Chief Executive is the principal executive officer of the Council and is supported by a professional staff responsible for subject and functional areas of the Council's programme.

#### Principal Functions Related to Grant-in-aid Activities

The Arts Council of Northern Ireland is charged with four statutory functions under the Arts Council (Northern Ireland) Order 1995. These are:

- (a) to develop and improve the knowledge, appreciation and practice of the arts;
- (b) to increase public access to, and participation in, the arts;
- (c) to advise the Department of Culture, Arts and Leisure and other government departments, district councils and other bodies on matters relating to the arts; and,
- (d) such other functions as are conferred on the Council by any other statutory provision.

## Council Members of the Arts Council of Northern Ireland

The Council performed its functions during the year ending on 31 March 2007 by making grants to organisations engaged in the arts either on a revenue or on a project basis; by granting awards and bursaries to individuals engaged in the arts; by organising tours of performing and creative artists; by organising and participating in the Forum for Local Government and the Arts; and by advising the Department of Culture, Arts and Leisure and various other public and private bodies on a range of issues relating to the arts. The Council is also one of the distributing bodies of the National Lottery. Lottery distributing activities are reported upon separately under the National Lottery Etc. Act 1993.

The appointment of Council members is approved by the Minister of Culture, Arts and Leisure. The Chair and members of the Council have individual and collective responsibility to the Head of the Department of Culture, Arts and Leisure:

- to provide effective leadership for the Council, in particular in defining and developing its strategic direction and in setting challenging objectives;
- to act in a way that promotes high standards of public finance, including the promotion of regularity, propriety and value for money;
- to ensure that the Council's activities are conducted in an efficient and effective manner;
- to ensure that strategies are developed for meeting the Council's overall objectives in accordance with the policies and priorities established by the Minister;
- to monitor the Council's performance to ensure that it fully meets its aims, objectives and performance targets;
- to ensure that the Council's control, regulation and monitoring of its activities as well as those of any other bodies which it may sponsor or support, ensure value for money within a framework of best practice, regularity and propriety;
- to participate in the corporate planning process; and,
- to appoint a Chief Executive.

The Council of the Arts Council of Northern Ireland for the year ended 31 March 2007 is shown below.

### Council:

Ms Rosemary Kelly (Chairman)

Mr Martin Bradley (Vice Chairman)

Mrs Eithne Benson

Mrs Katherine Bond

Mr Gearóid Ó hEara

Ms Lucia (Lucy) Finnegan

Mr Anthony Kennedy

Mr Brendan Milligan (resigned November 2006)

Mr Tim Kerr

Mr Raymond Fullerton

Mr William Montgomery

Ms Sharon O'Connor

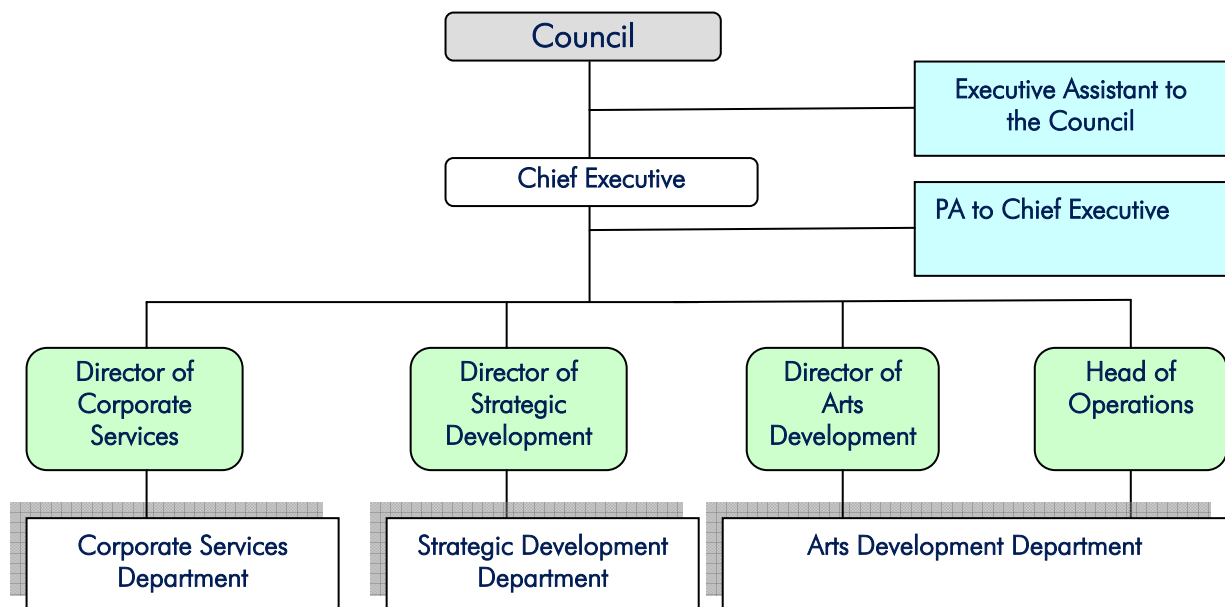
Mr Peter Spratt

Ms Jill McEaney

Vacancy

Several members of the Arts Council and members of key management staff are also involved with other arts organisations in Northern Ireland either directly or indirectly as a result of a family relationship, a close friendship or business relationship. These individuals make an annual declaration of their interests and do not take part in discussions and decisions to make grant awards to those organisations with which they have a declared interest. A list of awards made to the organisations concerned and details of who made the declaration of interest is detailed in Note 13. All of the transactions relating to the organisations were conducted at arms length by the Council.

### Organisational Structure



### Accounts and Appointment of Auditors

The accounts of the Arts Council of Northern Ireland are prepared in a form directed by the Department of Culture, Arts and Leisure with the consent of the Department of Finance and Personnel in accordance with Article 8 of the Arts Council (Northern Ireland) Order 1995.

The financial statements are audited by the Comptroller and Auditor General (C&AG) in accordance with the Arts Council (Northern Ireland) Order 1995. He is Head of the Northern Ireland Audit Office and he and his staff are wholly independent of the Arts Council of Northern Ireland. He reports his findings to the Northern Ireland Assembly.

The audit of the financial statements 2006-07 resulted in an audit fee of £12,410. This cost is included in other operating costs in the financial statements. So far as the Accounting Officer is aware, there is no relevant audit information of which the entity's auditors are unaware.

The Accounting Officer has taken all steps that she ought to have taken to make herself aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the entity's auditors are aware of that information.

### **Policy on Disabled Persons**

The Arts Council of Northern Ireland is committed to equality of opportunity between persons of different religious belief, political opinion, gender, marital status, disability, ethnic origin or sexual orientation. The Council has implemented equality legislation and codes of practice to ensure that procedures and policies are fair and lawful. The Council actively encourages this within its client/partner network. The Council particularly supports equality of opportunity in training and employment for disabled people.

### **Employee Consultation**

On matters of policy and procedure which affect the employees of the Arts Council, the Council normally consults with the recognised trade union of which the staff are members. This trade union is also a member of the Whitley Council which negotiates on the terms and conditions of members with the Northern Ireland Department of Finance and Personnel.

### **Payment of Suppliers**

The Arts Council is committed to the prompt payment of bills for goods and services in accordance with the Confederation of British Industry's Prompt Payment Code. Unless otherwise stated in the contract, payment is due within 30 days of receipt of the goods or services, or presentation of a valid invoice or similar demand, whichever is later.

A review conducted at the end of the year to measure how promptly the Arts Council paid its bills found that 93% of the bills were paid within this standard. The comparative figure for 2005-06 was 93%.

### **Political and Charitable Donations**

The Arts Council of Northern Ireland made no political or charitable donations during the year.



## Management Commentary

### Financial Results

At the end of the year the Council realised total net operating costs of £11,374,090 (2005-06: -Restated £12,670,937). The current year total net operating costs and prior year restated total net operating costs result from implementation of the FreM which requires Non-Departmental Public Bodies to account for grants and grants-in-aid received for revenue purposes as financing because they are regarded as contributions from a controlling party which gives rise to a financial interest in the residual interest of NDPBs. This is a change in accounting policy from earlier periods when such items were recorded as income. The reserves at the year end are £38,532 (2006: £363,536). This results from the implementation of FRS17 – Accounting for Retirement Benefits which requires the Council to include its share of the NILGOSC pension fund deficit within Council reserves.

### Review of Grant-in-aid Activities

During the year 2006-2007, the Arts Council made awards totalling £10,274,852 (2005-06: £11,534,522) to artists and art organisations. This represents a decrease of £1.26 million on the previous year. Excluding in-year capital grants to arts organisations, the decrease reduces to £0.66 million on the prior year. Regularly funded organisations, including the cultural traditions, received £7.8m (2005-06: £7.6m) – a commendable achievement given the difficult funding environment.

### Fixed Assets

The movement on fixed assets is reported upon in note 6(a). Assets to the value of £152,789 were purchased during the year and £17,500 of fully depreciated assets were disposed of using government guidelines on disposal.

### Future Grant-in-aid Activities

In 2007/08 the Arts Council will begin work on the implementation of its recently launched five year strategy, *Creative Connections*. In order to deliver that strategy the Council will advocate its case for further funds through its bid to the Comprehensive Spending Review 2007. Northern Ireland will once again have a presence on the international stage through the Council's participation at the Venice Biennale. In partnership with An Chomhairle Ealaíon, the Council will

develop a pilot programme to promote cross-border working between groups involved in all aspects of the traditional arts.

### **Post Balance Sheet Events**

There have been no post balance sheet events which would affect the reader's understanding of the financial statements on pages 55 to 76.

Roisín McDonough  
Accounting Officer

24 January 2008

## Remuneration Report

### Remuneration Policy

All of the staff costs were incurred by the Arts Council of Northern Ireland and an appropriate amount was recharged to the Lottery Distribution Account. The staff costs were recharged to the Lottery Distribution Account on the basis of average Lottery caseload from the Arts Development Department and on other appropriate bases from the rest of the Council.

The remuneration of senior civil servants is set by the Prime Minister following independent advice from the Review Body on Senior Salaries.

The Review Body also advises the Prime Minister from time to time on the pay and pensions of Members of Parliament and their allowances; on Peers' allowances; and on the pay, pensions and allowances of Ministers and others whose pay is determined by the Ministerial and Other Salaries Act 1975.

In reaching its recommendations, the Review Body has regard to a number of recommendations, more information on which may be found at [www.ome.uk.com](http://www.ome.uk.com). The Review Body takes account of the evidence it receives about wider economic considerations and the affordability of its recommendations.

The remuneration of all senior civil servants is entirely performance based. Senior staff pay awards are determined by the Northern Ireland Civil Service (NICS) Remuneration Committee.

Within the Arts Council, the Chief Executive is employed at a Senior Civil Service grade, while all other executive directors are employed at Grade 7.

The Arts Council Remuneration and Staffing Committee is responsible for approving the Chief Executive's salary and assessing her performance and its membership is made up as follows from Council members:

R Kelly            M Bradley            G O'hEara

All other senior staff positions above Deputy Principal are approved by DCAL.

### Service Contracts

Civil service appointments are made in accordance with the Civil Service Commissioners for Northern Ireland's Recruitment Code, which requires appointment to be on merit on the basis of fair and open competition but also includes the circumstances when appointments may otherwise be made.

Unless otherwise stated below, the officials covered by this report hold appointments, which are open-ended until they reach the normal retiring age of 60. Policy relating to notice periods and termination payments is contained in the Northern Ireland Civil Service (NICS) Staff Handbook. In relation to the position of Roisin McDonough, Chief Executive, she was appointed on the 16th of October 2000. This position is permanent within the definition above as are the executive director positions.

Further information about the work of the Civil Service Commissioners can be found at [www.nicscommissioners.org](http://www.nicscommissioners.org).

Salary and Pension Entitlements - Senior Staff (Audited)

|                        | 2006-07:        | 2005-06:        |
|------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
|                        | SALARY<br>£'000 | SALARY<br>£'000 |
| R McDonough            | 75-80           | 70-75           |
| P Hammond              | 45-50           | 45-50           |
| N McKinney             | 40-45           | 40-45           |
| P Burns                | 40-45           | 40-45           |
| N Livingston           | 40-45           | 35-40           |
| L McDowell (Acting Up) | 35-40           | 30-35           |

***Salary***

'Salary' includes gross salary and performance pay or bonuses, to the extent that they are subject to UK taxation. This report is based on payments made by the Arts Council of Northern Ireland before any recharge of costs is made to the Lottery fund.

***Benefits in kind***

The monetary value of benefits in kind covers any benefits provided by the employer and treated by the Inland Revenue as a taxable emolument. No benefits in kind were paid to any employee noted above.

***Arts Council Pensions***

The Arts Council participates in the Northern Ireland Local Government Officers' Superannuation Committee Scheme (NILGOSC) and made contributions for 58 employees during the year (not all 58 were employed throughout the year). The NILGOSC scheme is a "multi employer", defined benefit scheme, which provides members of participating employers with the benefits related to pay and services at rates which are defined under statutory regulations. To finance these benefits,

assets are accumulated in the scheme and are held separately from the assets of the employers. The scheme is funded by employers participating in the NILGOSC scheme who pay contributions at rates determined by an independent professionally qualified actuary on the basis of regular valuations using the projected unit method. During the year ended 31 March 2007 the Arts Council contributed 12.9% of gross salary. The disclosure below represents the full employer pension costs before any recharge of costs is made to the Lottery fund.

|            |                |                |
|------------|----------------|----------------|
|            | <b>2006-07</b> | <b>2005-06</b> |
|            | <b>£</b>       | <b>£</b>       |
| Employer's | 175,734        | 215,690        |

|              | PENSION-<br>ABLE<br>EARNINGS<br>£'000 | ACCRUED<br>PENSION<br>£'000 | REAL<br>INCREASE<br>£'000 | ACCRUED<br>LUMP<br>SUM<br>£'000 | REAL<br>INCREASE<br>£'000 | CETV<br>31MAR06<br>£'000 | CETV<br>31MAR07<br>£'000 | REAL<br>INCREASE<br>£'000 |
|--------------|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|
| R McDonough  | 65-70                                 | 21.3                        | 2.2                       | 63.9                            | 6.7                       | 304.0                    | 358.7                    | 48.8                      |
| P Hammond    | 45-50                                 | 18.5                        | N/A                       | 55.4                            | N/A                       | 275.3                    | 289.6                    | 9.0                       |
| N McKinney   | 40-45                                 | 10.7                        | 0.5                       | 32.0                            | 1.4                       | 132.2                    | 147.9                    | 11.9                      |
| P Burns      | 40-45                                 | 8.9                         | 0.2                       | 26.9                            | 0.7                       | 128.9                    | 143.5                    | 11.0                      |
| N Livingston | 40-45                                 | 12.4                        | 0.1                       | 37.3                            | 0.2                       | 181.6                    | 195.0                    | 8.3                       |
| L McDowell   | 35-40                                 | 12.3                        | 1.0                       | 37.0                            | 3.0                       | 169.5                    | 197.0                    | 22.8                      |

### **Cash Equivalent Transfer Values**

A Cash Equivalent Transfer Value (CETV) is the actuarially assessed capitalised value of the pension scheme benefits accrued by a member at a particular point in time. The benefits valued are the member's accrued benefits and any contingent spouse's pension payable from the scheme. A CETV is a payment made by a pension scheme or arrangement to secure pension benefits in another pension scheme or arrangement when the member leaves a scheme and chooses to transfer the benefits accrued in their former scheme. The pension figures shown relate to the benefits that the individual has accrued as a consequence of their total membership of the pension scheme, not just their service in a senior capacity to which disclosure applies. The CETV figures, and from 2003-04 the other pension details, include the value of any pension benefit in another scheme or arrangement which the individual has transferred to the Civil Service pension arrangements and for which the CS Vote has received a transfer payment commensurate with the additional pension liabilities being assumed. They also include any additional pension benefit accrued to the member as a result of their purchasing additional

years of pension service in the scheme at their own cost. CETVs are calculated within the guidelines and framework prescribed by the Institute and Faculty of Actuaries.

***Real increase in CETV***

This reflects the increase in CETV effectively funded by the employer. It takes account of the increase in accrued pension due to inflation, contributions paid by the employee (including the value of any benefits transferred from another pension scheme or arrangement) and uses common market valuation factors for the start and end of the period.

Roisín McDonough  
Accounting Officer for the Council

24 January 2008

## STATEMENT OF THE COUNCIL'S AND ACCOUNTING OFFICER'S RESPONSIBILITIES

Under Section 8 of The Arts Council (Northern Ireland) Order 1995 the Arts Council of Northern Ireland is required to prepare a statement of accounts for each financial year in the form and on the basis determined by the Department of Culture, Arts and Leisure with the approval of the Department of Finance and Personnel. The accounts are prepared on an accruals basis and must show a true and fair view of the Council's state of affairs at the year end and of its income and expenditure, total recognised gains and losses and cash flows for the financial year.

In preparing accounts the Arts Council of Northern Ireland is required to:

- observe the accounts direction issued by the Department of Culture, Arts and Leisure on behalf of the Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport (formerly National Heritage), including the relevant accounting and disclosure requirements and apply suitable accounting policies on a consistent basis;
- observe the current version of the Government Financial Reporting Manual (FReM).
- make judgements and estimates on a reasonable basis;
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, and disclose and explain any material departures in the financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on a going concern basis, unless it is inappropriate to presume that the body will continue in operation.

The Accounting Officer for the Department of Culture, Arts and Leisure has designated the Chief Executive of the Arts Council of Northern Ireland as the Accounting Officer for the Arts Council of Northern Ireland. Her relevant responsibilities as Accounting Officer, including her responsibility for the propriety and regularity of the public finances for which she is answerable and for the keeping of proper records, are set out in the Non-Departmental Public Bodies' Accounting Officer Memorandum, which is issued by the Department of Finance and Personnel.

## STATEMENT ON INTERNAL CONTROL

### Scope of Responsibility

As Accounting Officer, I have responsibility for maintaining a sound system of internal control that supports the achievement of the Council's policies, aims and objectives, whilst safeguarding the public funds and departmental assets for which I am personally responsible, ensuring compliance with the requirements of the Council's Management Statement, Financial Memorandum and Statement of Financial Requirements. This responsibility is supported by the functions of Council, various Committees (particularly the Audit Committee), the internal auditor, external audit work and active management of the Arts Council's risk register.

### The Purpose of the System of Internal Control

The system of internal control is designed to manage risk to a reasonable level rather than to eliminate all risk of failure to achieve policies, aims and objectives as detailed by the corporate plans of the organisation; it can therefore only provide reasonable and not absolute assurance of effectiveness. The system of internal control is based on an ongoing process designed to identify and prioritise the risks to the achievement of Arts Council policies, aims and objectives, to evaluate the likelihood of those risks being realised and the impact should they be realised, and to manage them efficiently, effectively and economically. The system of internal control has been in place for the year ended 31 March 2007 and up to the date of approval of the annual report and accounts, and accords with HM Treasury guidance. The organisation will at all times ensure that it meets its statutory reporting and regulatory obligations, that it is accountable to both its sponsoring department and, ultimately, to the public and that it will maintain systems to protect, and ensure value-for-money in the use of its resources in the meeting of its aims and objectives.

### Capacity to Handle Risk

The identification and impact of risk has been incorporated into the corporate planning and decision making processes of the Arts Council since 2003 across a number of key headings including strategic, operational, financial, external, reputational, human resources and compliance, among others. Consequently the Arts Council ensures that there are procedures in place for verifying that internal control and aspects of risk management are regularly reviewed and reported on and are supplemented by detailed best practice guidelines on whistle-blowing and fraud management policies among others. The Council currently receives periodic reports concerning internal control and steps are taken to manage risks in significant areas of responsibility and monitor progress on key projects.



The Audit Committee has lead responsibility for periodic review of the risk framework and other records of risk. Management of risk categories has been allocated appropriately within the organisation. Any revision to the framework is discussed within Audit Committee and recommended to Council. In accordance with these functions, the Chair of the Audit Committee has received appropriate training during the year in accordance with Best Practice guidelines and Corporate Governance principles.

The Audit Committee also agrees the internal audit work schedule and internal audit reports are reviewed periodically by the Committee.

Finally, the Audit Committee reviews the final reports and accounts and the ensuing management letter.

Various other committees, including Finance and Lottery and Grants, take lead responsibility for periodically monitoring, and reporting on, expenditure activities of the Arts Council across both grants and core costs with detailed reviews of grant programme type and need etc forming part of future grant decisions, with reporting and recommendations to Council.

Finally, the Arts Council maintains a register of related party transactions in order to ensure opportunities for conflicts of interest are avoided. This register is maintained centrally and updated regularly and features as a supplementary support to ensure the exclusion of those with a perceived conflict of interest from the decision-making process on relevant grants.

## **The Risk and Control Framework**

In addition to the above, the Arts Council plans to set up a system of key performance and risk indicators – these have been incorporated into the Business Plan and, from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2007 onwards will include value-for-money measures on key areas.

The Council has an Internal Audit Unit, provided by a shared internal post with the Sports Council, which operates to standards defined in the Government Internal Audit Manual. The internal auditor submitted regular reports which included an opinion on the adequacy and effectiveness of the Council's system of internal control together with recommendations for improvement.

During the year the Council's grant monitoring procedures have been reviewed and amended in line with current guidelines to incorporate a more systems-based approach to grant monitoring activities. The rollout of these revisions continues to be monitored and further improvements or adaptations are ongoing, with both internal finance and internal audit expertise being availed of. I have been assured by my executive managers that the procedures continue to be developed to

incorporate more sophisticated aspects such as multiple application fraud detection in line with policy and financial directions.

The framework is also guided by Best Practice in the areas of Whistle-blowing and Fraud Risk Management. The Arts Council introduced a Whistle-blowing Policy during 2006-07 in accordance with central government guidelines and a revised policy document on Fraud and the Management of Fraud Risk is now ready for implementation early in 2007-08.

### **Review of Effectiveness**

As Accounting Officer, I have responsibility for reviewing the effectiveness of the system of internal control. My review of the effectiveness of the system of internal control is informed by the work of the internal auditor and the executive managers within the department who have responsibility for the development and maintenance of the internal control framework, and comments made by the external auditors in their management letter and other reports. In addition, as noted above, the various Committees of the Arts Council report to Council at its periodic meetings on the functional areas falling within each Committee's terms of reference and Council makes appropriate recommendations where necessary.

Following the publication of the Northern Ireland Audit Office report *Collections Management in the Arts Council of Northern Ireland* in August 2006, a full plan was drawn up detailing twelve key actions to be undertaken in relation to the recommendations contained in the report. This plan was agreed by the Arts Council and the Audit Office.

Of the 12 actions identified, six, including the write off of missing works with Departmental approval, were fully completed by 31<sup>st</sup> March 2007. The value of the write offs is included in this report. The other key actions have been completed since that date.

As part of its review of the collections, the Council is seeking permission through the Department of Finance and Personnel to gift the majority of its collection to registered museums in Northern Ireland. This process is ongoing.

The Internal Audit work-plan for 2006-07 and statement of assurance concludes that relevant satisfactory controls are in place and that these continue to be reviewed and amended where appropriate and in accordance with best practice guidelines. Any outstanding recommendations will be incorporated into work plans for the incoming financial year.

In so far as the outcome of grant monitoring, as supplemented by internal audit activity and internal financial controls, indicates, the Arts Council is not aware of

any attempted incidents of grant or other fraud being perpetrated on the organisation during the financial year under review.

I have been advised on the implications of the result of my review of the effectiveness of the system of internal control by the Council and the Audit Committee and a plan to address weaknesses, implement internal audit and external audit management letter recommendations and ensure continuous improvement of the system is in place.

Roisín McDonough  
Accounting Officer for the Council

24 January 2008

## **The Certificate of the Comptroller and Auditor General to the Northern Ireland Assembly**

I certify that I have audited the financial statements of the Arts Council of Northern Ireland for the year ended 31 March 2007 under the Arts Council (Northern Ireland) Order 1995. These comprise the Income and Expenditure Account, the Balance Sheet, the Cashflow Statement and the Statement of Total Recognised Gains and Losses and the related notes. These financial statements have been prepared under the accounting policies set out within them. I have also audited the information in the Remuneration Report that is described in that report as having been audited.

### **Respective responsibilities of the Council, Accounting Officer and Auditor**

The Council and the Chief Executive as Accounting Officer are responsible for preparing the Annual Report, the Remuneration Report and the financial statements in accordance with the Arts Council (Northern Ireland) Order 1995 and Department of Culture, Arts and Leisure's directions made thereunder and for ensuring the regularity of financial transactions. These responsibilities are set out in the Statement of the Council's and Accounting Officer's Responsibilities.

My responsibility is to audit the financial statements and the part of the remuneration report to be audited in accordance with relevant legal and regulatory requirements, and with International Standards on Auditing (UK and Ireland).

I report to you my opinion as to whether the financial statements give a true and fair view and whether the financial statements and the part of the Remuneration Report to be audited have been properly prepared in accordance with the Arts Council (Northern Ireland) Order 1995 and Department of Culture, Arts and Leisure's directions made thereunder. I report to you whether, in my opinion, certain information given in the Annual Report, which comprises Background information, Management Commentary and Remuneration Report, is consistent with the financial statements. I also report whether in all material respects the expenditure and income have been applied to the purposes intended by Parliament and the financial transactions conform to the authorities which govern them.

In addition, I report to you if the Arts Council of Northern Ireland has not kept proper accounting records, if I have not received all the information and explanations I require for my audit, or if information specified by the Department of Finance and Personnel regarding remuneration and other transactions is not disclosed.

I review whether the Statement on Internal control reflects the Arts Council of Northern Ireland's compliance with the Department of Finance and Personnel's

guidance, and I report if it does not. I am not required to consider whether this statement covers all risks and controls, or forms an opinion on the effectiveness of the Arts Council of Northern Ireland's corporate governance procedures or its risk and control procedures.

I read the other information contained in the Annual Report and consider whether it is consistent with the financial statements. I consider the implications for my report if I become aware of any apparent misstatements or material inconsistencies with the financial statements. My responsibilities do not extend to any other information.

### **Basis of audit opinion**

I conducted my audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK and Ireland) issued by the Auditing Practices Board. My audit includes examination, on a test basis, of evidence relevant to the amounts, disclosures and regularity of financial transactions included in the financial statements and the part of the Remuneration Report to be audited. It also includes an assessment of the significant estimates and judgments made by the Council and Accounting Officer in preparation of its financial statements, and of whether the accounting policies are most appropriate to the Arts Council of Northern Ireland's circumstances, consistently applied and adequately disclosed.

I planned and performed my audit so as to obtain all the information and explanations which I considered necessary in order to provide me with sufficient evidence to give reasonable assurance that the financial statements and the part of the Remuneration Report to be audited are free from material misstatement, whether caused by fraud or error, and that in all material respects the expenditure and income have been applied to the purposes intended by Parliament and the financial transactions conform to the authorities which govern them. In forming my opinion I also evaluated the overall adequacy of the presentation of information in the financial statements and the part of the Remuneration Report to be audited.

## **Opinions**

### ***Audit Opinion***

In my opinion:

- the financial statements give a true and fair view, in accordance with the Arts Council (Northern Ireland Order 1995) and directions made thereunder by the Department of Culture, Arts and Leisure, of the state of the Arts Council of Northern Ireland's affairs as at 31 March 2007 and of its deficit, the cash flows and total recognised gains and losses for the year then ended;

- the financial statements and the part of the Remuneration Report to be audited have been properly prepared in accordance with the Arts Council (Northern Ireland) Order 1995 and Department of Culture, Arts and Leisure's directions made thereunder; and
- information given within the Annual Report, which comprises Background information, Management Commentary and Remuneration Report is consistent with the financial statements.

*Audit Opinion on Regularity*

In my opinion, in all material respects the expenditure and income have been applied to the purposes intended by Parliament and the financial transactions conform to the authorities which govern them.

JM Dowdall CB  
Comptroller and Auditor General  
Northern Ireland Audit Office  
106 University Street  
Belfast

30 January 2008

ARTS COUNCIL OF NORTHERN IRELAND  
OPERATING COST STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR  
ENDED 31 MARCH 2007

|  |       | 2007                       | 2006                       |
|--|-------|----------------------------|----------------------------|
|  | Notes | £                          | As re-stated<br>£          |
| <b>INCOME</b>                                |       |                            |                            |
| Other Income                                 | 2(c)  | <u>648,627</u>             | <u>597,944</u>             |
| <b>EXPENDITURE</b>                           |       |                            |                            |
| Staff Costs                                  | 3     | 1,012,377                  | 1,047,484                  |
| Depreciation                                 | 6(a)  | 68,195                     | 96,479                     |
| Expenditure on the Arts                      | 4     | 10,274,852                 | 11,534,522                 |
| Other Operating Costs                        | 5(a)  | <u>645,482</u>             | <u>565,501</u>             |
|  |       | <u>12,000,906</u>          | <u>13,243,986</u>          |
| Net Operating Costs before Notional Costs    |       | (11,352,279)               | (12,646,042)               |
| Notional Cost of Capital                     | 1(f)  | <u>(21,811)</u>            | <u>(24,895)</u>            |
| Net Operating Costs after Notional Costs     |       | (11,374,090)               | (12,670,937)               |
| Adjustment for Notional Cost of Capital      |       | 21,811                     | 24,895                     |
| Net Operating Costs excluding Notional Costs | 9     | <u><u>(11,352,279)</u></u> | <u><u>(12,646,042)</u></u> |

The notes on pages 59 to 76 form part of these accounts.

All amounts above relate to continuing operations of the Council.

ARTS COUNCIL OF NORTHERN IRELAND

STATEMENT OF TOTAL RECOGNISED GAINS AND LOSSES  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2007

|  | <u>Notes</u> | 2007<br>£                  | 2006<br>As re-stated<br>£  |
|--|--------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| Net Operating Costs excluding Notional Costs     |              | (11,352,279)               | (12,646,042)               |
| Actuarial loss                                   |              | <u>(988,000)</u>           | <u>-</u>                   |
| Recognised losses for the year                   |              | (12,340,279)               | (12,646,042)               |
| Prior year adjustment – FRS 17                   | 9            | <u>(230,000)</u>           | <u>-</u>                   |
| Total losses recognised since last annual report |              | <u><u>(12,570,279)</u></u> | <u><u>(12,646,042)</u></u> |

The notes on pages 59 to 76 form part of these accounts.



ARTS COUNCIL OF NORTHERN IRELAND  
BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 MARCH 2007

|   |       | 2007               | 2006               |
|---|-------|--------------------|--------------------|
|   |       |                    | As re-stated       |
|   | Notes | £                  | £                  |
| FIXED ASSETS                                  |       |                    |                    |
| Tangible Fixed Assets                         | 6(a)  | <u>373,081</u>     | <u>288,487</u>     |
| CURRENT ASSETS                                |       |                    |                    |
| Debtors                                       | 7     | 514,590            | 244,761            |
| Cash at bank and in hand                      |       | <u>1,383,059</u>   | <u>1,535,455</u>   |
|   |       | <u>1,897,649</u>   | <u>1,780,216</u>   |
| CURRENT LIABILITIES                           |       |                    |                    |
| Creditors amounts falling due within one year | 8     | <u>(1,008,198)</u> | <u>(1,475,167)</u> |
| NET CURRENT ASSETS                            |       | <u>889,451</u>     | <u>305,049</u>     |
| TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES         |       | <u>1,262,532</u>   | <u>593,536</u>     |
| NET ASSETS EXCLUDING PENSION DEFICIT          |       | 1,262,532          | 593,536            |
| PENSION DEFICIT                               | 3(f)  | <u>(1,224,000)</u> | <u>(230,000)</u>   |
| NET ASSETS INCLUDING PENSION DEFICIT          |       | <u>38,532</u>      | <u>363,536</u>     |
| RESERVES                                      |       |                    |                    |
| General Reserve                               | 9     | 1,222,532          | 593,536            |
| Government Grant Reserve                      | 9     | 40,000             | -                  |
| Pension Deficit                               | 9     | <u>(1,224,000)</u> | <u>(230,000)</u>   |
|   |       | <u>38,532</u>      | <u>363,536</u>     |

Roisín McDonough  
Accounting Officer for the Council

24 January 2008

The notes on pages 59 to 76 form part of these accounts.

Arts Council of Northern Ireland  
Cash Flow Statement for Year Ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2007

|  |              | 2007                    | 2006                    |
|--|--------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|
|  | <u>Notes</u> | £                       | As re-stated<br>£       |
| Net cash (outflow) from operating activities | 11(a)        | (12,014,882)            | (12,840,315)            |
| <b>Capital Expenditure</b>                   |              |                         |                         |
| Purchase of tangible fixed assets            |              | <u>(152,789)</u>        | <u>(16,190)</u>         |
| Net cash (outflow ) before Financing         |              | (12,167,671)            | (12,856,505)            |
| Financing from the Consolidated Fund         | 11(b)        | <u>12,015,275</u>       | <u>12,324,228</u>       |
| Decrease in cash for the year                | 11(c)        | <u><u>(152,396)</u></u> | <u><u>(532,277)</u></u> |

The notes on pages 59 to 76 form part of these accounts.

## NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

### 1. Accounting Policies

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the 2006-2007 Government Financial Reporting Manual (FReM) issued by HM Treasury. The accounting policies contained in the FReM follow UK generally accepted accounting practice for companies (UK GAAP) to the extent that it is meaningful and appropriate to the public sector.

Where FReM permits a choice of accounting policy, the accounting policy which has been judged to be most appropriate to the particular circumstances of the Council for the purpose of giving a true and fair view has been selected. The Council's accounting policies have been applied consistently in dealing with items considered material in relation to the accounts.

#### (a) Basis of Accounting

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the historical cost convention. However, the assets had previously been revalued as at 31 March 2000.

Without limiting the information given, the financial statements meet the accounting and disclosure requirements of the Companies (Northern Ireland) Order 1986, Accounting Standards issued or adopted by the Accounting Standards Board and disclosure requirements issued by the Department of Finance and Personnel in so far as those requirements are appropriate.

#### (b) Tangible Fixed Assets

The minimum level for capitalisation as an individual or grouped fixed asset is £1,000. Items below the threshold of £1,000 are written off to the Income and Expenditure Account. Depreciation has been provided using the straight line method so as to write each asset off over its estimated useful life. Depreciation is charged in the year in which the asset is acquired; no depreciation is charged in the year in which the asset is disposed.

The rates of depreciation in use are as follows:

|   |   |
|---|---|
| Furniture, Fixtures & Fittings          | 10%, 4%   |
| MacNeice House - Tenant's Works         | 20%, 16 <sup>2</sup> / <sub>3</sub> %, 14 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>4</sub> % & 10% |
| Theatrical, film, art & music equipment | 3 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>3</sub> %   |
| Computer equipment                      | 14 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>4</sub> %, 20% & 33 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>3</sub> %      |

**(c) Works of Art and Partnership Purchase of Pictures**

Works of Art are no longer capitalised and recorded in the Balance Sheet for the reasons stated in Note 6(b) below. Purchases of Works of Art are charged against DCAL recurrent grant income in the Balance Sheet in the year of expenditure and the amount is recorded on a separate Art Asset Register and Capital Grant Account at cost, with both of these being maintained outside of the accounting system as per Note 6(b) below. The Council considers its Art Collection to be a non-operational heritage asset. Write-offs, once approved, are written back to DCAL recurrent grant income in the Balance Sheet and the amount is charged against a separate Art Register and Capital grant Account at cost.

**(d) Government Grants**

Grant-in-Aid received used to finance activities and expenditure which support the statutory and other objectives of the entity are treated as financing, and credited to the General Reserve, because they are regarded as contributions from a controlling party.

Grant relating to capital expenditure, used to acquire specific capital items, is credited to a Government Grant Reserve. It is released to expenditure over the expected useful life of the asset it has been used to acquire and an equal amount transferred from the Government Grant Reserve is released to income.

**(e) Payment of Grants**

Grants awarded to arts organisations and individuals are charged to the Income and Expenditure account in the year to which they relate. Any amounts of unpaid grant at 31<sup>st</sup> March each year are included as creditors in the balance sheet.

**(f) Notional Cost of Capital**

From the 1996-97 year, these financial statements make provision for the notional cost of capital employed by the Council. The Income and Expenditure Account includes the notional cost of capital employed by the Council calculated as 3.5% of the average capital employed over the financial year.

**(g) Pension Costs**

The Council staff belong to the Northern Ireland Local Government Officers' Superannuation Committee Scheme (NILGOSC).

The pension costs are assessed in accordance with the advice of independent qualified actuaries using the market led approach. The latest actuarial valuations of the scheme were at 31 March 2007.

Pension scheme assets are measured using the market value. Pension scheme liabilities are measured using the projected unit method and discounted at the current rate of return on a high quality corporate bond of equivalent term to the liability.

The increase in the present value of the liabilities of the Council's defined benefit pension scheme arising from employee service in the period is charged to the Operating Cost Statement. The expected return on the scheme's assets and the increase during the year in the present value of the scheme's liabilities arising from the passage of time are included in other finance costs. Actuarial gains and losses are recognised in the Statement of Recognised Gains and Losses.

#### **(h) Prior Year Adjustments**

##### (i) FRS17 Retirement Benefits

The Council has implemented FRS 17 – Accounting for Retirement Benefits in 2006/07. This represents a change in accounting policy, and in accordance with FRS 3 - Reporting Financial Performance – this is accounted for by restating the comparative figures for 2005/06 and adjusting the opening balances of reserves for the cumulative effect. As a result it has been necessary to restate the Operating Cost Statement and Balance sheet for 2005/06. The effect of this change on the certified 2005/06 Accounts is shown in note 9 to the Accounts.

##### (ii) FReM and Deferred Capital Grant

Under the FReM, only funding for assets purchased by capital grant should be included in the Government Grant Reserve. Therefore, Deferred Capital Grant balances relating to assets purchased with Grant-in-Aid have been transferred from the Government Grant Reserve to the General Reserve. The Deferred Capital Grant balance relating to assets purchased by Grant-in-Aid as at 31 March 2006 was £288,487 (31 March 2005, £368,776). The effect of this change on the certified 2005/06 Accounts is shown in note 9 to the Accounts.

##### (iii) FReM Accounting for Grant in Aid

With effect from the 2006/07 reporting period the FReM requires Non-Departmental Public Bodies to account for grants and grants in aid received for revenue purposes as financing because they are regarded as contributions from a controlling party which gives rise to a financial interest in the residual interest of NDPBs. This is a change in accounting policy from earlier periods when such items were recorded as income. Note there is no impact on the net liability position of the Council as a result of this change in policy. The effect of this change on the certified 2005/06 Accounts is shown in note 9 to the Accounts.

## **2. Income**

**(a) The Department of Culture, Arts and Leisure (DCAL) provided the following funding during the year:**

|                     | 2007       | 2006<br><i>As restated</i> |
|---------------------|------------|----------------------------|
|                     | £          | £                          |
| Basic Revenue Grant | 10,938,314 | 10,817,939                 |
| In Year capital     | 1,036,961  | 1,506,289                  |

With effect from the 2006/07 reporting period the FReM requires Non-Departmental Public Bodies to account for grants and grants-in-aid received for revenue purposes as financing because they are regarded as contributions from a controlling party which gives rise to a financial interest in the residual interest of NDPBs. This is a change in accounting policy from earlier periods when such items were recorded as income.

The DCAL provided a total of £12,012,470 grant in the period. An amount of £25,590 deferred from 2005-06 was taken into account in the year. An amount of £22,785 was allocated from grant income and used for additions to the art collection. An amount of £40,000 was a capital contribution towards building works at ACNI headquarters. The remaining balance of £11,975,275 was used to fund the revenue activities of the Council during the period.

**(b) Grant-in-Aid Carry-Over**

Paragraphs 2.9 and 2.10 of the Financial Memorandum require the Council to contain the amount of grant-in-aid carried forward into the new financial year within prescribed limits. Any unspent receipts may be carried forward with the agreement of DCAL.

|                               | <u>Grant-in-Aid</u> | <u>Other Income</u> |
|-------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| (i) Grant-in-aid              | £11,975,275         | -                   |
| (ii) Amount carried forward   | £ 1,383,059         | -                   |
| (iii) % carried forward       | 11.5%               |                     |
| (iv) % limit of carry forward | 2.0%                |                     |
| (v) £ limit of carry forward  | £ 239,506           |                     |

The amount carried forward exceeded the 2% permitted. The 11.5% carry forward has been calculated on a cash basis. When the figures are calculated on an accruals basis, the amount carried forward is a surplus of £213,223 which represents 1.8% of the total grant-in-aid.

**(c) Other Income**

|   | 2007           | 2006              |
|---|----------------|-------------------|
|   | £              | As re-stated<br>£ |
| Department of Education (Cultural Traditions Grant) | 250,000        | 250,000           |
| Belfast City Council Education Grant                | 23,000         | -                 |
| National Lottery Recharge                           | 250,562        | 192,695           |
| Year of the Artist                                  | -              | 12,637            |
| Grant Refunded                                      | 17,685         | 2,400             |
| Conference Income                                   | 1,558          | 8,818             |
| Administrative & Miscellaneous                      | 1,086          | 3,424             |
| Interest  | 412            | 421               |
| Other   | 58,324         | 125,549           |
| Pension Fund Investment Returns                     | 46,000         | 2,000             |
|   | <u>648,627</u> | <u>597,944</u>    |

### 3. Staff Costs

#### (a) Analysis of Staff Costs

|                       | 2007             | 2006<br><i>As re-stated</i> |
|-----------------------|------------------|-----------------------------|
|                       | £                | £                           |
| Salaries & Wages      | 768,574          | 735,293                     |
| Social Security Costs | 56,318           | 54,836                      |
| Other Pension Costs   | 175,734          | 215,690                     |
| Temporary Staff Costs | 11,751           | 41,665                      |
| Total                 | <u>1,012,377</u> | <u>1,047,484</u>            |

#### (b) Average Number of Persons Employed

During the year the Arts Council of Northern Ireland employed an average total of 56 (2005-06: 47.5) administrative employees.

#### (c) Pension Costs

The NILGOSC Scheme is a defined benefits type, and the fund is invested in suitable investments, managed by the Committee. For 2006-2007 the contribution rates were 12.9% employers, and 6% employees (2005-2006, 13.9% employers and 6% employees).

The total employer pension cost under the Scheme was £176k (2005-2006, £216k).

The pension costs are assessed in accordance with the advice of independent qualified actuaries using the market led approach. The latest actuarial valuations of the Scheme were at 31 March 2007.

Pension scheme assets are measured using the market value. Pension scheme liabilities are measured using the projected unit method and discounted at the current rate of return on a high quality corporate bond of equivalent term to the liability. The increase in the present value of the liabilities of the Council's defined benefit pension scheme arising from employee service in the period is charged to the Operating Cost Statement. The expected return on the Scheme's assets and the increase during the year in the present value of the Scheme's liabilities arising from the passage of time are included in other finance costs. Actuarial gains and losses are recognised in the Statement of Recognised Gains and Losses.

**(d) Council Members' Emoluments**

No emoluments were paid to members of the Arts Council except for Honoraria to the Chairman and Vice Chairman who received £12,378 as detailed below.

|           | Chairman<br>£ | Vice Chairman<br>£ |
|-----------|---------------|--------------------|
| R Kelly   | 8,378         |                    |
| M Bradley |               | 4,000              |

**(e) Chief Executive's Remuneration**

The Chief Executive's remuneration, including backdated pay awards, during the year was £77,768 (2005-06: £72,905). The Chief Executive is an ordinary member of the Northern Ireland Local Government Officers Superannuation Committee (NILGOSC) pension scheme. A total of £25,230 (2005-06: £34,413) of the Chief Executive's employment costs have been apportioned to the Lottery Distribution fund to cover time spent on Lottery activities.

**(f) Pension Commitments**

The Council makes employer contributions to the Northern Ireland Local Government Officers Superannuation Scheme (NILGOSC) which is a funded scheme of the defined benefit type.

Previously the Council took advantage of the multi employer provisions within FRS 17 and accounted for pension costs in line with the employer contributions paid. However, from 2006-2007 it is now possible to define the ACNI's share of the funds, assets/liabilities and as a result the following disclosures are provided in line with FRS17.

The latest actuarial valuation of the scheme was carried out at 31 March 2007, results of which are shown below. The financial assumptions used by the actuary were:

|   | 2007        | 2006      | 2005        |
|---|-------------|-----------|-------------|
| Rate of return on investments p.a.        | 3.2%        | 3.1%      | 2.9%        |
| Rate of general increase in salaries p.a. | 4.7%        | 4.6%      | 4.4%        |
| Rate of pension increases per annum       | 3.2%        | 3.1%      | 2.9%        |
| Discount Rate Nominal / (Real)            | 5.4% (2.1%) | 6% (2.8%) | 6.5% (3.5%) |



The market value of assets in the scheme and the expected rate of return were:

|          | Long term<br>return at<br>31.03.07<br>%p.a. | Value at<br>31.03.07<br>£'000 | Long term<br>return at<br>31.03.06<br>%p.a. | Value at<br>31.03.06<br>£'000 | Long term<br>return at<br>31.03.05<br>%p.a. | Value at<br>31.03.05<br>£'000 |
|----------|---|-------------------------------|---|-------------------------------|---|-------------------------------|
| Equity   | 7.8%  | 5,448                         | 7.4%  | 5,420                         | 7.7%  | 4,160                         |
| Bonds    | 4.9%  | 1,044                         | 4.6%  | 800                           | 4.8%  | 710                           |
| Property | 5.8%  | 639                           | 5.5%  | 490                           | 5.7%  | 490                           |
| Cash     | 4.9%  | 91                            | 4.6%  | 90                            | 4.8%  | 110                           |
| Rounding |   | 1                             |   |                               |   | 10                            |
|          | <b>7.2%</b>                                 | <b>7,223</b>                  | <b>6.9%</b>                                 | <b>6,800</b>                  | <b>7.1%</b>                                 | <b>5,480</b>                  |

The following amounts at 31 March 2007, 31 March 2006, and 31 March 2005 were measured in accordance with the requirements of FRS 17:

|                                     | 31 March<br>2007<br>£'000 | 31 March<br>2006<br>£'000 | 31 March<br>2005<br>£'000 |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Total Market Value of Assets        | 7,223                     | 6,800                     | 5,480                     |
| Present Value of Scheme Liabilities | (8,447)                   | (7,030)                   | (5,890)                   |
| Net Pension Liability               | (1,224)                   | (230)                     | (410)                     |

#### Analysis of amounts charged to Operating Cost Statement in respect of Defined Benefit Scheme

|                                 | 2006-07<br>£'000 | 2005-06<br>£'000 |
|---------------------------------|------------------|------------------|
| <b>Operating Cost Statement</b> |                  |                  |
| Current Service Cost            | 189              | 164              |
| Past Service Cost               | -                | 34               |
| <b>Total Operating Charge</b>   | <b>189</b>       | <b>198</b>       |

#### Analysis of Amount Charged to Other Finance Costs

|  |           |          |
|--|-----------|----------|
| Expected Return on Pension Scheme Assets | 468       | 385      |
| Interest on Pension Scheme Liabilities   | (422)     | (383)    |
| <b>Net Return</b>                        | <b>46</b> | <b>2</b> |

Statement of Total Recognised Gains and Losses

|   | 2006-07<br>£'000 | 2005-06<br>£'000 |
|---|------------------|------------------|
| Actual less Expected Return on Pension Scheme Assets                          | (8)              | 1,029            |
| Experience Gains and Losses Arising on the Scheme Liabilities                 | (2)              | (9)              |
| Changes in Assumptions Underlying the Present Value of the Scheme Liabilities | (978)            | (736)            |
| <b>Actuarial (Loss)/Gain Recognised in STRGL</b>                              | <b>(988)</b>     | <b>284</b>       |

Movement in Deficit during the Year

|   |                |              |
|---|----------------|--------------|
| Deficit in Scheme at Beginning of Year  | (230)          | (410)        |
| <b>Movement in the year</b>             |                |              |
| Current Service Costs                   | (189)          | (164)        |
| Past Service Costs                      | -              | (34)         |
| Contributions                           | 137            | 92           |
| Net Return on Assets                    | 46             | 2            |
| Actuarial (Loss)/Gain                   | (988)          | 284          |
| <b>Deficit in Scheme at End of Year</b> | <b>(1,224)</b> | <b>(230)</b> |

Details of Experience Gains and Losses

|  | 2006-07<br>£'000 | 2005-06<br>£'000 |
|--|------------------|------------------|
| Difference Between Expected and Actual Return on Scheme Assets | (8)              | 1,029            |
| Value of Assets  | 7,223            | 6,800            |
| Percentage of Scheme Assets                                    | <b>(0.1%)</b>    | <b>15.1%</b>     |
| Experience Gains and Losses on Scheme Liabilities              | (2)              | (9)              |
| Total Present Value of Liabilities                             | (8,447)          | (7,030)          |
| Percentage of Present Value of Scheme Liabilities              | -                | <b>(0.1%)</b>    |
| Total Amount Recognised in STRGL                               | (988)            | 284              |
| Total Present Value of Liabilities                             | (8,447)          | (7,030)          |
| Percentage of Present Value of Scheme Assets                   | <b>(11.7%)</b>   | <b>4%</b>        |

## 4. Expenditure on the Arts

| <u>ASOP</u>                         | 2007<br>£         | 2006<br>£         |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Architecture                        | -                 | (5,000)           |
| Community Arts                      | 1,284,538         | 1,156,600         |
| Drama & Dance                       | 1,791,598         | 1,860,783         |
| Health, Disability & Voluntary Arts | 334,435           | 281,290           |
| Literary Arts                       | 353,757           | 322,888           |
| Music                               | 2,288,063         | 2,286,921         |
| Visual Arts                         | 802,805           | 554,894           |
| Youth Arts                          | 425,085           | 484,269           |
| Other                               | 230,820           | 397,197           |
| Strategy                            | 146,807           | 144,541           |
| Arts Development                    | 69,268            | 239,316           |
| Creativity in Education             | 227,924           | 250,000           |
| Infrastructure (Accessibility)      | -                 | 274,410           |
| District Council Challenge Fund     | 90,227            | 500,000           |
| Ticketing software                  | (26,128)          | -                 |
| SIAP                                | 534,882           | 943,569           |
| Cultural Traditions <sup>(1)</sup>  | 282,842           | 274,000           |
| Smithsonian Project                 | 95,576            | 59,394            |
| Capital                             | 1,033,035         | 1,509,450         |
| Reimaging Communities               | 184,318           | -                 |
| Other Artform                       | 125,000           | -                 |
|                                     | <u>10,274,852</u> | <u>11,534,522</u> |

<sup>(1)</sup> Includes £32,842 of ACNI ASOP Funds

## 5. Other Operating Costs (a)

|                            | 2007<br>£ | 2006<br>£ |
|----------------------------|-----------|-----------|
| Premises Costs             | 219,884   | 199,177   |
| Artslink & Public Affairs  | 41,348    | 23,427    |
| Expenses & Hospitality     |           |           |
| Artform Officers           | 31,545    | 34,461    |
| Council & Panel Members    | 20,237    | 15,326    |
| Administrative Staff       | 7,857     | 7,554     |
| Other Core Expenses        | 14,213    | 23,213    |
| Insurances                 | 28,841    | 26,829    |
| Telephone & Postage        | 35,350    | 34,367    |
| Equipment                  | 70,472    | 63,947    |
| Legal & Consultancy Fees   | 54,957    | 20,381    |
| Stationery                 | 10,871    | 13,483    |
| Training                   | 32,111    | 43,377    |
| Publications & Advertising | 61,204    | 43,084    |
| Central Advisers           | 4,214     | 4,497     |
| Honoraria                  | 12,378    | 12,378    |
|                            | 645,482   | 565,501   |

The above includes travel, subsistence and hospitality costs for staff, Council and Panel members. The total spent in the year on travel, subsistence and hospitality is as follows:

|                         | T&S<br>£ | Hospitality<br>£ | Total<br>£ | 2006/07<br>Total<br>£ |
|-------------------------|----------|------------------|------------|-----------------------|
| Expenses & Hospitality  |          |                  |            |                       |
| Artform Officers        | 29,682   | 1,863            | 31,545     | 34,461                |
| Council & Panel Members | 14,485   | 5,752            | 20,237     | 15,326                |
| Administrative Staff    | 7,445    | 412              | 7,857      | 7,554                 |
|                         | 51,612   | 8,027            | 59,639     | 57,341                |

The Legal & Consultancy total of £54,957 includes an external audit fee of £12,410 in respect of the Northern Ireland Audit Office.

**(b) Losses**

|                          |    |
|--------------------------|----|
| Losses                   | £0 |
| i. Bad debts written off | £0 |

**6 (a) Tangible Fixed Assets**

|                       | MacNeice<br>House<br>Tenant's<br>Works | Furniture,<br>Fixtures &<br>Fittings | Theatrical, Art<br>& Music<br>Equipment | Computer<br>Equipment | CYP<br>Website | Other<br>Equipment | ACNI<br>Website | Total    |
|-----------------------|--|--------------------------------------|---|-----------------------|----------------|--------------------|-----------------|----------|
|                       | £                                      | £                                    | £                                       | £                     | £              | £                  | £               | £        |
| <b>Valuation</b>      |  |                                      |   |                       |                |                    |                 |          |
| At 1 April 2006       | 110,151                                | 48,596                               | 244,426                                 | 272,364               | 7,272          | 1,626              | 4,406           | 688,841  |
| Additions at cost     | 128,176                                | 7,429                                |   | 17,184                |                |                    |                 | 152,789  |
| Disposals             | -                                      | -                                    | -                                       | (17,500)              | -              | -                  | -               | (17,500) |
| At 31 March<br>2007   | 238,327                                | 56,025                               | 244,426                                 | 272,048               | 7,272          | 1,626              | 4,406           | 824,130  |
| <b>Depreciation</b>   |  |                                      |   |                       |                |                    |                 |          |
| At 1 April 2006       | 91,585                                 | 20,640                               | 100,265                                 | 177,855               | 7,272          | 975                | 1,762           | 400,354  |
| Charge for period     | 13,476                                 | 2,235                                | 7,648                                   | 43,630                |                | 325                | 881             | 68,195   |
| Disposals             | -                                      | -                                    | -                                       | (17,500)              | -              | -                  | -               | (17,500) |
| At 31 March<br>2007   | 105,061                                | 22,875                               | 107,913                                 | 203,985               | 7,272          | 1,300              | 2,643           | 451,049  |
| <b>Net book value</b> |  |                                      |   |                       |                |                    |                 |          |
| At 31 March<br>2007   | 133,266                                | 33,150                               | 136,513                                 | 68,063                | 0              | 326                | 1,763           | 373,081  |
| <b>Net book value</b> |  |                                      |   |                       |                |                    |                 |          |
| At 31 March<br>2006   | 18,566                                 | 27,956                               | 144,161                                 | 94,509                | 0              | 651                | 2,644           | 288,487  |

The Council possesses a violin manufactured by Joseph Gagliano between 1780 and 1782. The violin was donated to the Council in 1980. Due to the problems associated with the valuation of such an asset and to the fact that it may be regarded as a heritage asset, the Council has decided to disclose its existence in this note each year and not to include it in the Fixed Asset tabulation shown above.

**6 (b) Art Collection**

The Council's Art Collection was disclosed in the Balance Sheet as at 31 March 1996. From 1996-97 the Arts Council was required to value its fixed assets on the basis of modified historic costs. As it would have been impractical to record the Art

Collection on this basis, and as the Council regards the Art Collection as a heritage asset, the Art Collection, valued at historic cost, (and its corresponding source of finance i.e. the Capital Reserve Account) was removed from the Balance Sheet. The Arts Council would like to transfer ownership of the major part of the Art Collection to registered museums and other recognised public bodies with the approval of the Department of Culture, Arts and Leisure. Parliamentary approval for gifting is also required. Work on an inventory to verify the holding and reconciliation of records is ongoing. As this has not yet been completed, it is, therefore, still appropriate to continue to disclose the Art Collection details in the note below.

During 1999-2000 the Council carried out a valuation of the Art Collection. The valuation was conducted by Council staff with advice from Sotheby's. The Council believes that its staff is qualified to perform the valuation and to test and analyse valuations as advised by Sotheby's. The valuation of £1,952,872 established at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2005 has been amended in light of known market changes and now stands at £3,105,171 following purchases of £22,785 and write-offs of £20,725 at market value. The historic cost of the Art Collection is shown below. The staff involved in the on-going revaluation are Ms. Noírin McKinney, Arts Development Director and Dr. Suzanne Lyle, Collection Curator.

|                   | Works of<br>Art<br>£ | Partnership<br>Purchase of<br>Pictures<br>£ | Total<br>£     |
|-------------------|----------------------|---|----------------|
| At 1 April 2006   | 507,915              | 31,606                                      | 539,521        |
| Additions at cost | 22,785               |   | 22,785         |
| Write-off Losses  | -8,330               | -6,800                                      | -15,130        |
| At 31 March 2007  | <u>522,370</u>       | <u>24,806</u>                               | <u>547,176</u> |

#### Capital Reserve Account

|                                 |                |
|---------------------------------|----------------|
|                                 | £              |
| Balance at 1 April 2006         | 539,521        |
| Financed from In year<br>Income | 22,785         |
| Artworks written off at cost    | -15,130        |
| Balance at 31 March 2007        | <u>547,176</u> |

## 7. Debtors

|                                 | 2007           | 2006           |
|---------------------------------|----------------|----------------|
|                                 | £              | £              |
| Sundry Debtors & Accrued Income | 290,105        | 229,864        |
| Prepayments                     | 224,485        | 14,897         |
|                                 | <u>514,590</u> | <u>244,761</u> |

Within Sundry Debtors, a figure of £104,499 (2005-2006, £92,798) relates to items invoiced to central government and £11,183 (2005-2006, £3,200) to local authorities.

## 8. Creditors

|                   | 2007             | 2006             |
|-------------------|------------------|------------------|
|                   | £                | £                |
| Grants Payable    | 725,113          | 1,384,007        |
| Other Creditors   | 233,622          | 47,117           |
| Audit Fee Accrual | 9,580            | 11,500           |
| Deferred Income   | 30,000           | 25,590           |
| VAT               | 9,883            | 6,953            |
|                   | <u>1,008,198</u> | <u>1,475,167</u> |

## 9. Movement on reserves 2006-07

|   | 2006-07          |                    |                          |                |
|---|------------------|--------------------|--------------------------|----------------|
|   | General Reserve  | Pension Reserve    | Government Grant Reserve | Total          |
|   | £'000            | £'000              | £'000                    | £'000          |
| At 1 April 2006 as previously reported                  | 305,049          | -                  | 288,487                  | 593,536        |
| Prior year adjustment (1)                               | -                | (230,000)          | -                        | (230,000)      |
| Prior year adjustment (2)                               | 288,487          | -                  | (288,487)                | -              |
| <b>At 1 April 2006 as restated</b>                      | <b>593,536</b>   | <b>(230,000)</b>   | <b>-</b>                 | <b>363,536</b> |
| Net expenditure as restated                             | (11,346,279)     | (6,000)            | -                        | (11,352,279)   |
| GI A received towards resource expenditure              | 10,938,314       | -                  | -                        | 10,938,314     |
| GI A received towards capital expenditure               | 1,036,961        | -                  | -                        | 1,036,961      |
| Capital grant received towards purchase of fixed assets | -                | -                  | 40,000                   | 40,000         |
| Actuarial (Loss)  | -                | (988,000)          | -                        | (988,000)      |
| <b>At 31 March 2007</b>                                 | <b>1,222,532</b> | <b>(1,224,000)</b> | <b>40,000</b>            | <b>38,532</b>  |

## 2005-06

|   | General Reserve | Pension Reserve  | Government Grant Reserve | Total          |
|---|-----------------|------------------|--------------------------|----------------|
|   | £'000           | £'000            | £'000                    | £'000          |
| At 1 April 2006 as previously reported                  | 442,574         | -                | 368,776                  | 811,350        |
| Prior year adjustment (1)                               | -               | (410,000)        | -                        | (410,000)      |
| Prior year adjustment (2)                               | 368,776         | -                | (368,776)                | -              |
| <b>At 1 April 2006 as restated</b>                      | <b>811,350</b>  | <b>(410,000)</b> | <b>-</b>                 | <b>401,350</b> |
| Net expenditure as restated                             | (12,542,042)    | (104,000)        | -                        | (12,646,042)   |
| GIA received towards resource expenditure               | 10,817,939      | -                | -                        | 10,817,939     |
| GIA received towards capital expenditure                | 1,506,289       | -                | -                        | 1,506,289      |
| Capital grant received towards purchase of fixed assets | -               | -                | -                        | -              |
| Actuarial (Gain)  | -               | 284,000          | -                        | 284,000        |
| <b>At 31 March 2007</b>                                 | <b>593,536</b>  | <b>(230,000)</b> | <b>-</b>                 | <b>363,536</b> |

(1) This prior year adjustment related to a change in the accounting treatment of the assets and liabilities of the NILGOSC pension scheme under FRS 17. The adoption of FRS 17 has resulted in an increase in staff costs of £52k (2005-06, £106k), an increase in net return on assets of £46k (2005-06, £2k), and an actuarial loss of £988k (2005-06, £284k gain).

|  | 2007               | 2006             |
|--|--------------------|------------------|
|  | £                  | £                |
| Pension Surplus/(Deficit) at Beginning of Year | (230,000)          | (410,000)        |
| Current Service Cost                           | (189,000)          | (164,000)        |
| Employer Contributions                         | 137,000            | 92,000           |
| Past Service Costs                             | -                  | (34,000)         |
| Net Return on Assets                           | 46,000             | 2,000            |
| Actuarial (Losses) / Gains                     | (988,000)          | 284,000          |
| Pension Surplus/(Deficit) at End of Year       | <u>(1,224,000)</u> | <u>(230,000)</u> |



(2) This prior year adjustment related to the transfer of the balance relating to fixed assets purchased by Grant-in-Aid from the Government Grant Reserve to the General Reserve in accordance with the requirements of the FReM. The Government Grant Reserve balance relating to assets purchased by Grant-in-Aid as at 31 March 2006 was £288,487 (31 March 2005, £368,776)

(3) With effect from the 2006/07 reporting period the FReM requires Non-departmental Public Bodies to account for grants and Grant-in-Aid received for revenue purposes as financing because they are regarded as contributions from a controlling party which gives rise to a financial interest in the residual interest of NDPBs. This is a change in accounting policy from earlier periods when grants and Grant-in-Aid were recorded as income. Note there is no impact on the net liability position of the Council as a result of this change in policy.

|   | 2007                | 2006                |
|---|---------------------|---------------------|
|   | £                   | As re-stated<br>£   |
| Surplus/(deficit) for the financial year as previously stated                         | -                   | (137,525)           |
| Surplus/(deficit) for the financial year before adopting FRS 17 and FReM requirements | 628,996             | -                   |
| GIA received in year now posted directly to reserves                                  | (11,975,275)        | (12,324,228)        |
| Pension fund net expenditure  | (6,000)             | (104,000)           |
| 05/06 asset purchases funded by GIA   |                     | 16,190              |
| 05/06 reversal of deferred capital grant release                                      |                     | (96,479)            |
| Net operating costs excluding notional costs  | <u>(11,352,279)</u> | <u>(12,646,042)</u> |

## 10. Capital Commitments

There were no capital commitments at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2007.

## 11. Notes to the Cash Flow Statement

### (a). Net Cash Flow from Operating Activities

|   | 2007                | 2006                |
|---|---------------------|---------------------|
|   | £                   | As re-stated<br>£   |
| Net operating costs after notional costs              | (11,374,090)        | (12,670,937)        |
| Notional Costs  | 21,811              | 24,895              |
| Depreciation  | 68,195              | 96,479              |
| Release from Deferred Purchases & Commissions Account | -                   | (17,683)            |
| Increase in debtors                                   | (269,829)           | (122,904)           |
| Decrease in creditors                                 | (466,969)           | (254,165)           |
| Increase in pension fund creditor realised in year    | 6,000               | 104,000             |
| Net cash inflow from operating activities             | <u>(12,014,882)</u> | <u>(12,840,315)</u> |

### (b). Financing from the Consolidated Fund

|  |                   |                   |
|--|-------------------|-------------------|
| DCAL Funding                                     | 11,975,275        | 12,324,228        |
| Deferred Capital Grant Account - grants received | 40,000            | -                 |
|  | <u>12,015,275</u> | <u>12,324,228</u> |

### (c). Reconciliation of Net Cash Flow to Net Movement in Funds

|                            | 2007             | 2006             |
|----------------------------|------------------|------------------|
|                            | £                | £                |
| Increase in cash in period | (152,396)        | (532,277)        |
| Net funds at 1 April 2006  | <u>1,535,455</u> | <u>2,067,732</u> |
| Net funds at 31 March 2007 | <u>1,383,059</u> | <u>1,535,455</u> |

### Analysis of changes in net funds

|                          | 2007      | 2006      | Change    |
|--------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| Cash at bank and in hand | 1,383,059 | 1,535,455 | (152,396) |

## 12. Financial Commitments

At 31 March 2007 the Arts Council of Northern Ireland has annual commitments under operating lease agreements as set out below.

### Agreements which expire:

|                               | Land &<br>Buildings | Other         | 2006-07<br>Total | 2005-06<br>Total |
|-------------------------------|---------------------|---------------|------------------|------------------|
|                               | £                   | £             | £                | £                |
| Within one year               | -                   | 27,707        | 27,707           | 17,589           |
| Between two and<br>five years | 205,625             | 14,863        | 220,488          | 140,782          |
| Over five years               | -                   | -             | -                | 1,771            |
|                               | <u>205,625</u>      | <u>42,570</u> | <u>248,195</u>   | <u>160,142</u>   |

## 13. Related Party Transactions

The Arts Council of Northern Ireland is a Non Departmental Public Body sponsored by the Department of Culture, Arts and Leisure (DCAL). DCAL is regarded as a related party and during the year the Council had various material transactions with DCAL as reconciled in Note (2) above. The Arts Council received funding of £250,000 from the Department of Education ring-fenced for a Cultural Traditions programme. During the year, the Arts Council paid or accrued grant payments to ELBs under the Creative Youth Partnerships programme as follows: SEELB £35,332 SELB £35,334, WELB £35,334 BELB £35,334 and NEELB £35,334. The Arts Council's National Lottery Distribution Account is also regarded as a related party to this account. At 31 March 2007 a total of £84,746 (2005-06: £120,047) was owed by the National Lottery Distribution Account to this account in respect of salary and other administrative costs incurred. This amount is included in the Sundry Debtors and Accrued Income figure of £290,105 (2005-06: £229,864) shown in note 7 above.

Several members of the Arts Council and members of key management staff are also involved with other arts organisations in Northern Ireland either directly or indirectly as a result of a family relationship, a close friendship or business relationship. These individuals make an annual declaration of their interests and do not take part in discussions and decisions to make grant awards to those organisations with which they have a declared interest. A list of awards made to the organisations concerned and details of who made the declaration of interest is detailed below. All of the transactions relating to the organisations were conducted at arms length by the Council.

| <u>Grant Reference</u> | <u>Organization Name</u>                   | <u>Grant Amount</u> | <u>Declared Interest</u> |
|------------------------|--|---------------------|--------------------------|
| ACNI/1372              | Armagh City & District Council             | 35,000              | J.McEaney, T.Kennedy     |
| ACNI/1307              | Armagh City & District Council             | 90,000              | J.McEaney, T.Kennedy     |
| ACNI/1168              | Art Act                                    | 700                 | J.Waugh                  |
| ACNI/1865              | Arts for all                               | 31,500              | J.Dempster               |
| ACNI/1571              | ArtsCare                                   | 27,134              | A.Rea                    |
| ACNI/1253              | Big Telly Theatre Company                  | 12,600              | J.McEaney                |
| ACNI/1272              | Big Telly Theatre Company                  | 6,400               | J.McEaney                |
| ACNI/1823              | Big Telly Theatre Company                  | 36,000              | J.McEaney                |
| ACNI/1205              | Blathanna Arts (An Gaelaras Ltd)           | 45,000              | G.O'hEara                |
| ACNI/1248              | Cahoots NI Ltd                             | 14,175              | J.McEaney                |
| ACNI/1570              | Cahoots NI Ltd                             | 19,981              | J.McEaney                |
| ACNI/1794              | Cahoots NI Ltd                             | 41,606              | J.McEaney                |
| ACNI/1071              | Community Arts Forum                       | 17,167              | J.Gallon                 |
| ACNI/1188              | Community Arts Forum                       | 32,454              | J.Gallon                 |
| ACNI/1249              | Derry Theatre Trust                        | 100,000             | M.Bradley                |
| ACNI/1211              | Kids in Control                            | 32,773              | G.Campbell               |
| ACNI/1863              | Linen Hall Library                         | 13,500              | W.Montgomery             |
| ACNI/1843              | Northern Ireland Music Industry Commission | 16,200              | J.Gallon                 |
| ACNI/1089              | Northern Ireland Music Industry Commission | 64,410              | J.Gallon                 |
| ACNI/1757              | Northern Ireland Music Industry Commission | 20,000              | J.Gallon                 |
| ACNI/1787              | Northern Ireland Music Industry Commission | 30,000              | J.Gallon                 |
| ACNI/1975              | Southern Education & Library Board         | 20,000              | E.Benson, I.Davidson     |
| ACNI/1783              | The Nerve Centre                           | 7,000               | P.Flynn                  |
| ACNI/1894              | Ulster Orchestra Society Ltd               | 76,050              | R.Fullerton              |
| ACNI/1177              | Ulster Orchestra Society Ltd               | 20,700              | R.Fullerton              |
| ACNI/1779              | Ulster Orchestra Society Ltd               | 17,080              | R.Fullerton              |
| ACNI/1148              | Ulster Youth Orchestra                     | 30,000              | T.Kerr                   |
| ACNI/1803              | Ulster Youth Orchestra                     | 25,200              | T.Kerr                   |
| ACNI/1789              | University of Ulster                       | 770                 | R.Kelly, K.Bond, T.Kerr  |
| <b>Awards for All</b>  |  |                     |                          |
|                        | Cahoots NI Ltd                             | 5,000               | J.McEaney                |
|                        | Queen Street Studios                       | 7,944               | G.Ritchie                |
| <b>Totals</b>          |  | <b>896,344</b>      |                          |

#### 14. Value Added Tax

The Arts Council is VAT registered. The input VAT on all trading areas is fully recoverable and, therefore, the expenditure in these areas is included in the accounts net of VAT. The expenditure in all other areas includes VAT which is irrecoverable.

## **APPENDIX**

### **Arts Council Staff – March 2007**

#### **Council**

Claire Robinson, Executive Assistant to the Council

#### **Roisín McDonough, Chief Executive**

Ali Boyd, PA to the Chief Executive

#### **Corporate Services Department**

**Paul Burns, Director of Corporate Services**

Mary Jackson, Finance Manager

Damien Rooney, Assistant Finance Officer

Martina Morrow, Assistant Finance Officer

Ian Weir, Internal Auditor (part-time)

Claire Kilpatrick, HR Officer (part-time)

Ken Bartley, IT Manager

Francis Pill, IT Officer

Brian Byrne, E-Media Officer

David Moorhead, Student Placement

Joe Reilly, Registry Officer

Siobhan McDowell, Registry Officer (part-time)

Toni Cully, Registry Officer (part-time)

Jenny Gallon, Receptionist

Anne Goodwin, Departmental Support Officer

#### **Strategic Development Department**

**Nick Livingston, Director of Strategic Development**

Craig McGuicken, Strategic Planning Officer

Amanda Leighton, Research & Policy Officer

Graeme Stevenson, Research & Policy Officer

Yvonne Temple, Research & Policy Officer

Gemma McCourt, Departmental Support Officer

## Arts Development Department

Noírín McKinney, Director of Arts Development

Lorraine McDowell, Head of Operations

Grainne McCann, Communications Manager

Matthew Hendry, Communications Officer

Jane McKee, Media Relations Officer

Marlyn Beck, Departmental Support Officer

Judith McAnespie, Student Placement

Damian Smyth, Arts Development Manager, Literature/Language Arts (1)

Gilly Campbell, Arts Development Officer - Drama and Dance (3)

Gail Ritchie, Arts Development Officer - Festivals and Venues (4)

Robert Collins, Arts Development Officer - Music, Opera and Bands (5)

Paul Flynn, Arts Development Officer - Traditional Arts (6)

Gavin O'Connor, Arts Development Officer - Youth Arts (7)

Vacancy, Arts Development Officer - Language Arts (12)

Paul Harron, Arts Development Manager, Architecture/Public Art (2)

Iain Davidson, Arts Development Officer - Visual Arts & Craft (8)

Suzanne Lyle, Arts Development Officer - Visual Arts & Collection (9)

Edel Murphy, Arts Development Officer - Community Arts (10)

Chris Ledger, Arts Development Officer - Health, Voluntary and Disability Arts (11)

Julie McBride, Assistant Arts Development Officer (5, 6)

Maria O'Kane, Assistant Arts Development Officer (3, 4)

Anne Shipton, Assistant Arts Development Officer (2, 8, 9)

Debbie Young, Assistant Arts Development Officer (10, 11)

Vacancy, Assistant Arts Development Officer (1, 7, 12)

Andrea Rea, 'Troubles' Archivist (part-time)

Lorraine Calderwood, Capital Projects Officer

Diane Forsythe, Operations Officer

Brendan Carson, Arts Support Officer

Craig Corsar, Arts Support Officer

Joanne Forsyth, Arts Support Officer

Wilma Haines, Arts Support Officer

Stephen Kirk, Arts Support Officer

Vacancy (Temp)

## Re-Imaging Communities Programme

Joan Dempster, Project Manager

Paul Loughlin, Community Development Officer

Frances Hughes, Community Development Officer

Róisín Nugent, Administrative Officer





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