

Minute 12
2016/17

Exemptions

FOI Exemptions:

Section 1 – Page 1,	Section 1.0 – Commercial interests
Section 3 – Pages 2-3,	Section 3.3 – Commercial interests
Section 5 – Page 4,	Section 5.1 – Information intended for future publication
Section 5 - Pages 4-5,	Section 5.2 – Commercial interests
Section 6 – Pages 5-6,	Section 6.1 – Commercial interests
Section 9 – Page 7,	Section 9.1 – Commercial interests
Section 10 – Page 8,	Section 10.1 – Commercial interests

CONFIRMED



Minutes of the meeting of the Board of the Arts Council

Held at The Old Inn, Crawfordsburn on Tuesday 28 March 2017 at 1:45pm

1. ATTENDANCE

PRESENT

John Edmund (Chair), Katy Radford (Vice Chair), Siun Hanrahan, Noelle McAlinden, Roisin Erskine, Paul Mullan, David Alderdice, Cian Smyth, Anna Carragher, Nisha Tandon, Conor Shields, Katherine McCloskey, Jarlath Kearney, Leon Litvack

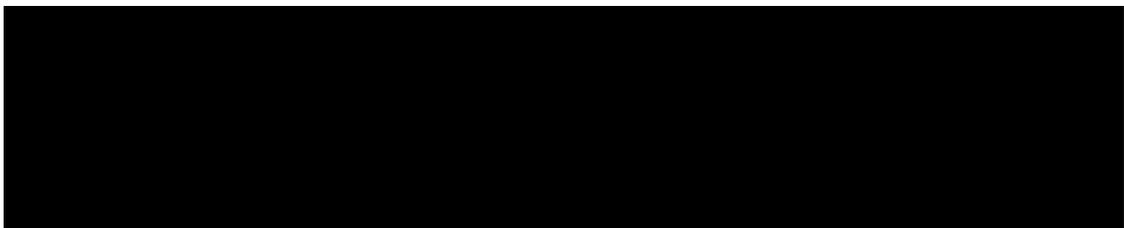
IN ATTENDANCE

Roisin McDonough (Chief Executive)
Nick Livingston (Director of Strategic Development)
Lorraine McDowell (Director of Operations)
Noirin McKinney (Director of Arts Development)
Geoffrey Troughton (Director of Finance and Corporate Services)
Joanne Wright (Assistant to the Board and Directors)

APOLOGIES

None

The Chair welcomed all members to the meeting.



2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

To be noted as they arose during the meeting.

3. PREVIOUS MEETING

3.1 Minutes of the previous meeting – 22 February 2017

The Chair thanked all of the Board members who had been able to attend the previous meeting.

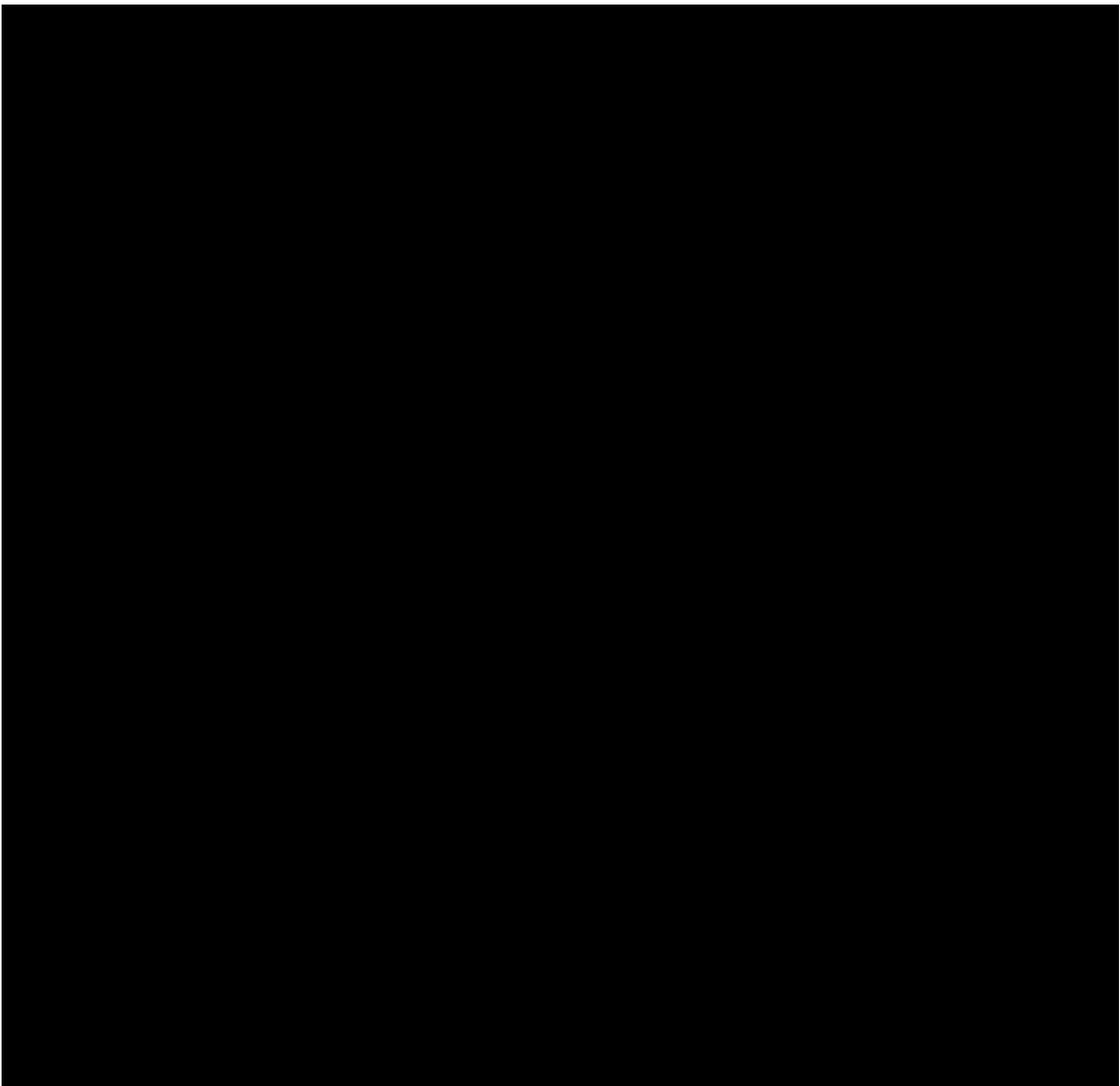
Board members raised a number of concerns regarding the minutes and the Chair agreed to revise them for approval at the next meeting on 26 April 2017.

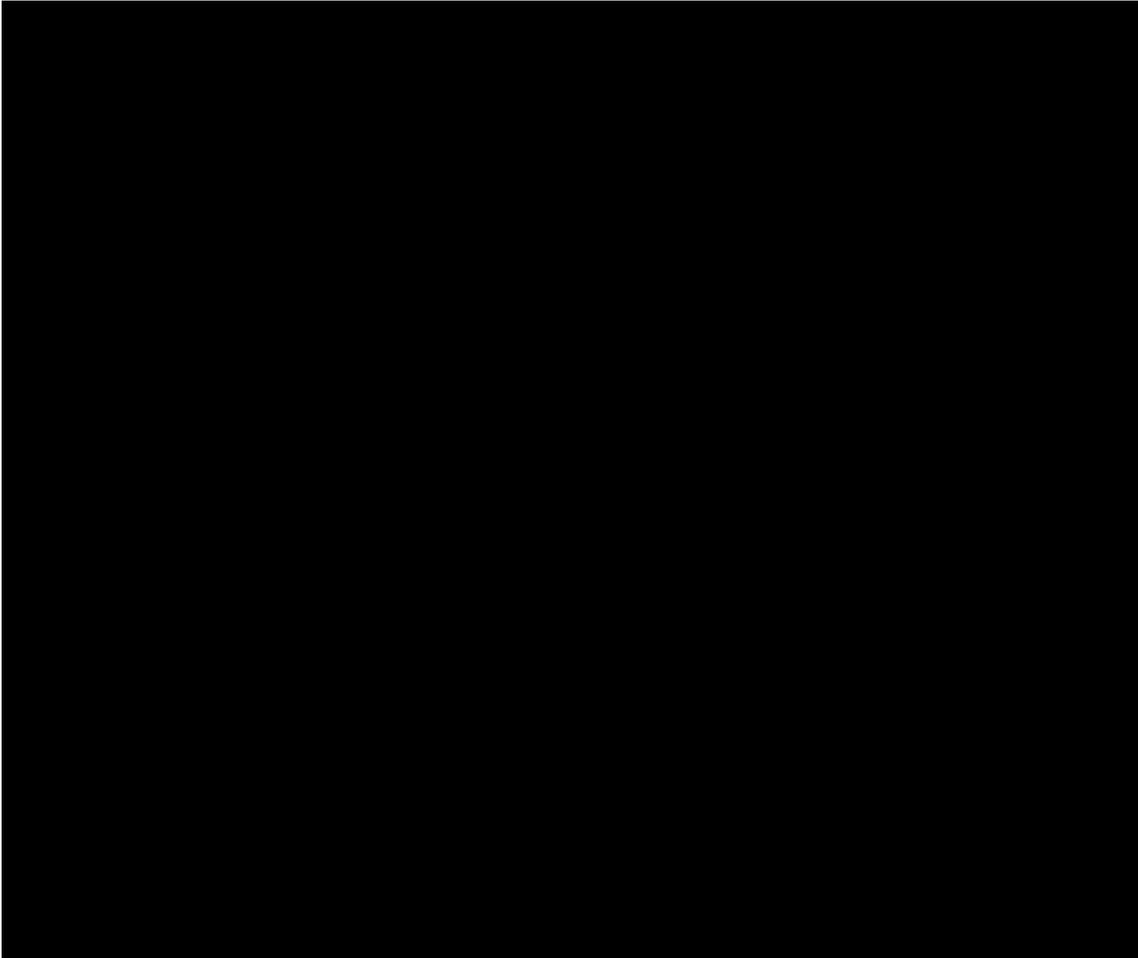
3.2 Matters Arising

None

3.3 Board Perspective on the AFP Process

The Chair raised a concern that it had been difficult to get a quorum of members for the meeting despite it being in diaries for a long time and that this had resulted in a late start.





4. CHAIR'S REPORT

The Chair advised the Board that he had met with DfC, that the current process with regard to financial allocation in the absence of an Assembly to pass a budget was clearly set out in the legislation and that ACNI would be advised by the Department as events developed as to the available funding.

The Chair updated the Board on the events he had attended.

4.1 Annual Board Assurance Statement

The Chair advised the Board that the Assurance Statement would be completed during the Effectiveness Session on 29 March 2017.

4.2 Future Presentations

The Chair asked the Board to consider the value of the presentations being delivered at Board meetings.

It was agreed that presentations are generally regarded as useful but that the current format has its limitations.

The Board agreed that it is important for the AFP clients to have an opportunity to meet with the Board, regardless of the size of the organisation.

Following discussion on various approaches, the Director of Arts Development advised that the sector platforms in each artform area and various forums such as Theatre NI, Audiences NI, Arts & Business and the Visual Arts Forum already existed and that Board members would be welcome to attend these meetings.

The Board noted and agreed that attendance at these sessions would help it to inform its strategic thinking in the process of corporate plan preparation.

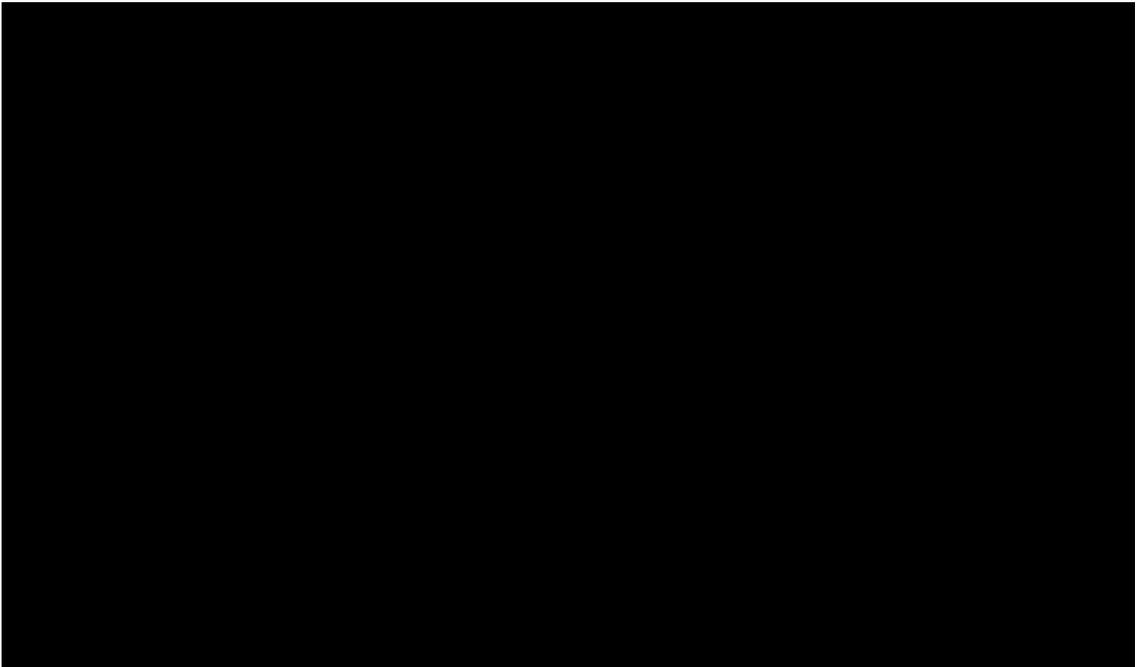
The Chair asked if the Board was content to hear from Creative and Cultural Skills and from the evaluator of the Arts and Older People Programme at the April meeting. He asked and the Board agreed that there would be no further presentations planned beyond April.

The Chair advised he would come up with options on how better to connect with AFP clients for the Board's consideration at the April Board Meeting.

5. CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPORT

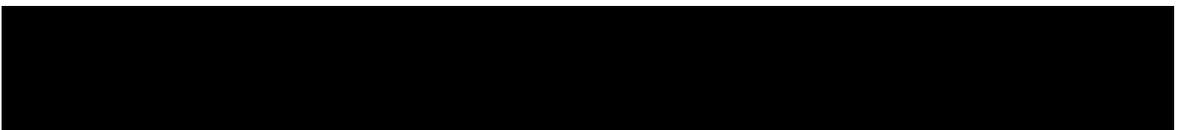
5.1 Letter from Leo O'Reilly: Financial Planning for 2017/18

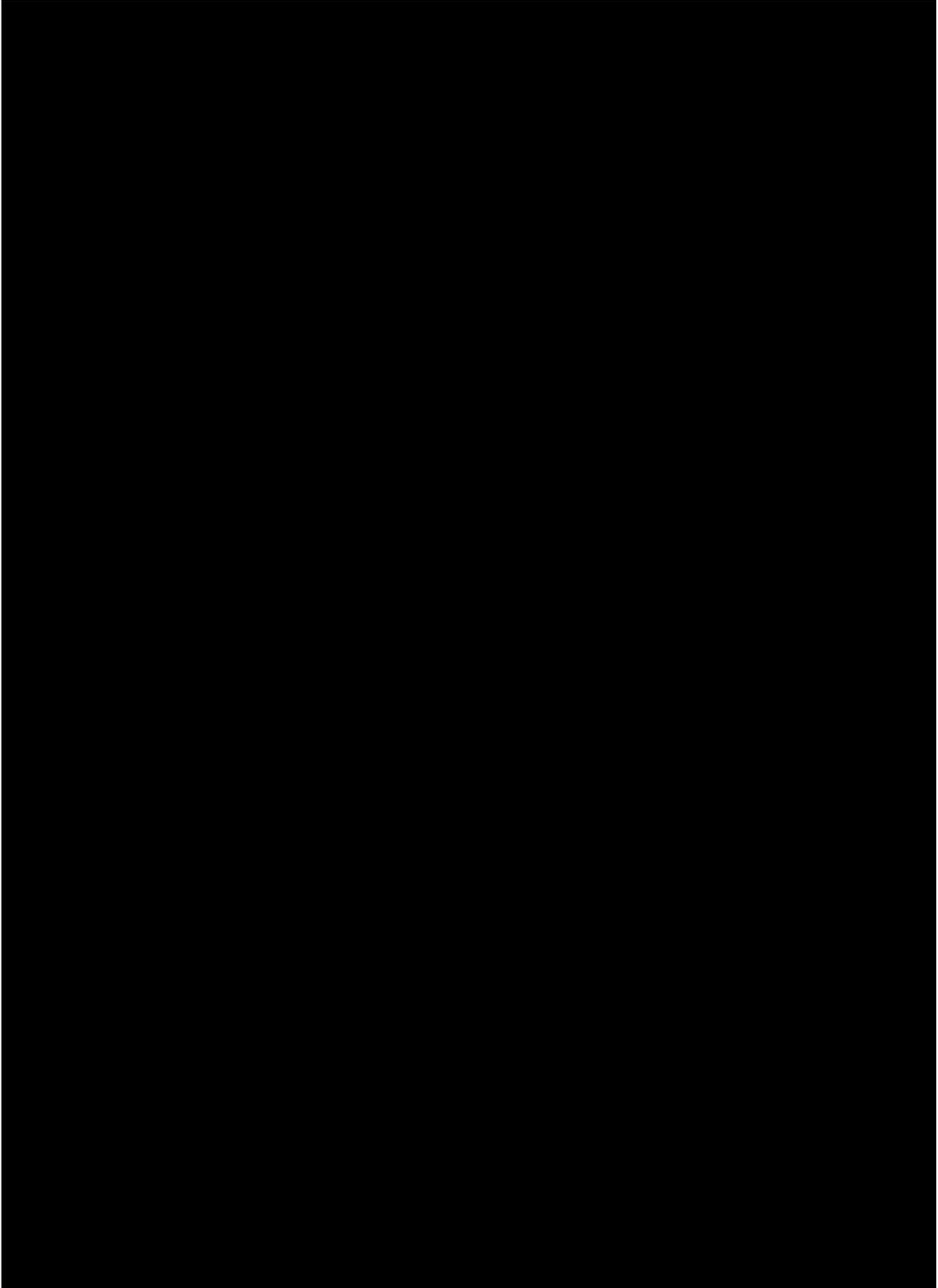
The Board noted the letter.



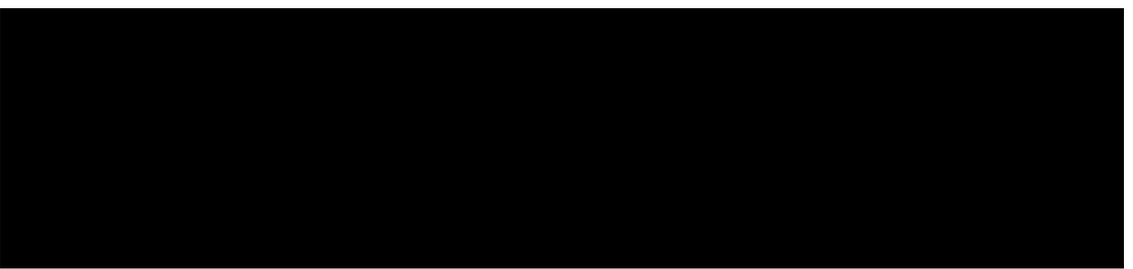
5.2 Review of Arm's Length Bodies

The Board noted the email and supporting documents from David Nixon regarding the Review, dated 20 March 2017.



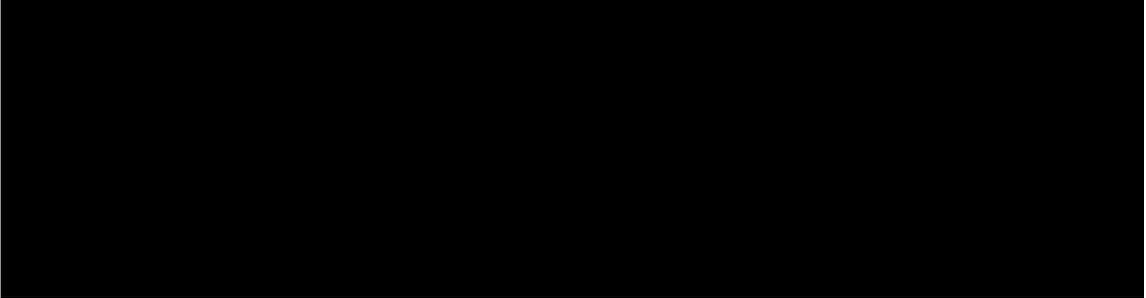


6. FINANCIAL UPDATE

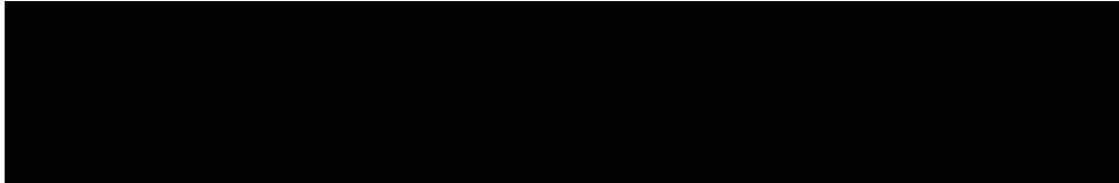


6.1 Exchequer Report 2016/17

The Board noted the report.

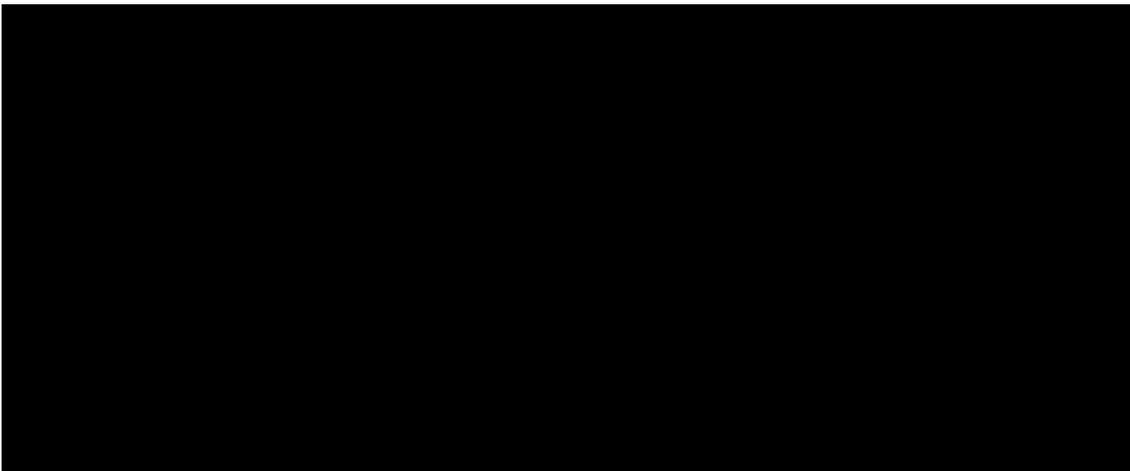


Capital 2016/17



Lottery Report 2016/17

The Board noted the report.



6.1 Key lessons learned from NIAO report and PAC hearing into the Northern Ireland events company DAO (DoF) 10/16

The Director of Finance and Corporate Services reported on the key lessons and advised the Board this would be an important document in terms of Board Effectiveness.

He asked also the Board to note the document Corporate Governance in Central Government Departments: Code of Good Practice NI 2013. He explained that this would be an agenda item at the Effectiveness Session on 29 March 2017.

The Board noted the document.

7. BUSINESS REPORTING

7.1 2016/17 Business Plan Q4 Update & Year End Report

The Board noted the Q4 and Year End documents.

The Director of Operations gave an overview of both documents and advised the Board that more detail would be provided under item 9.

The Vice Chair raised a concern over the small number of awards made under the Local Government Challenge Fund and the limited detail made available and asked whether the stated target would be met.

The Director of Operations advised that 2 awards had been made to date; she confirmed that 4 outstanding applications would be submitted by the deadline and that the target would be met.

The Director of Strategic Development advised that while interest in the programme had been slow at first, it was the right initiative at the time and explained that delays arise as proposals pass through the internal approval processes of local councils.

7.2 Customer Service Charter

The Board noted the document.

The Director of Operations gave an overview of the document and advised the Board it had been updated after the review of the complaints procedures.

The document was approved by the Board.

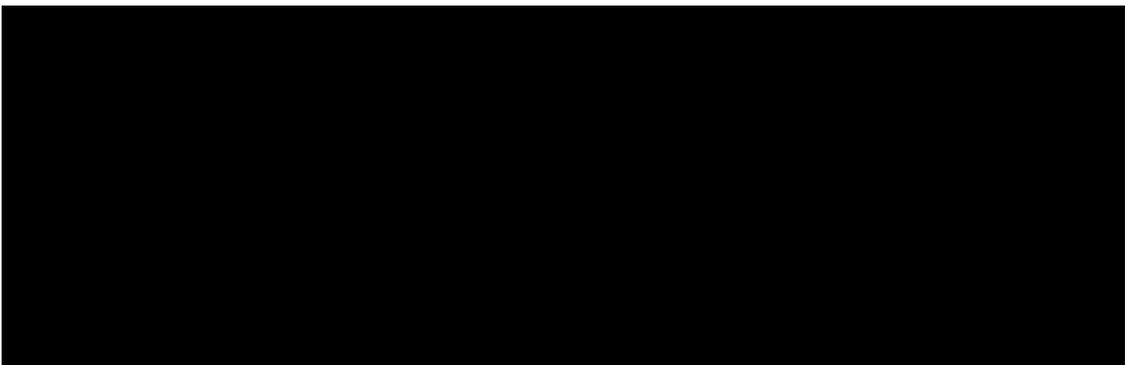
8. MATTERS TO NOTE

8.1 Delegated Decisions

The Board noted the report.

9. THE EXECUTIVE PERFORMANCE REVIEW

The Board noted the presentation.



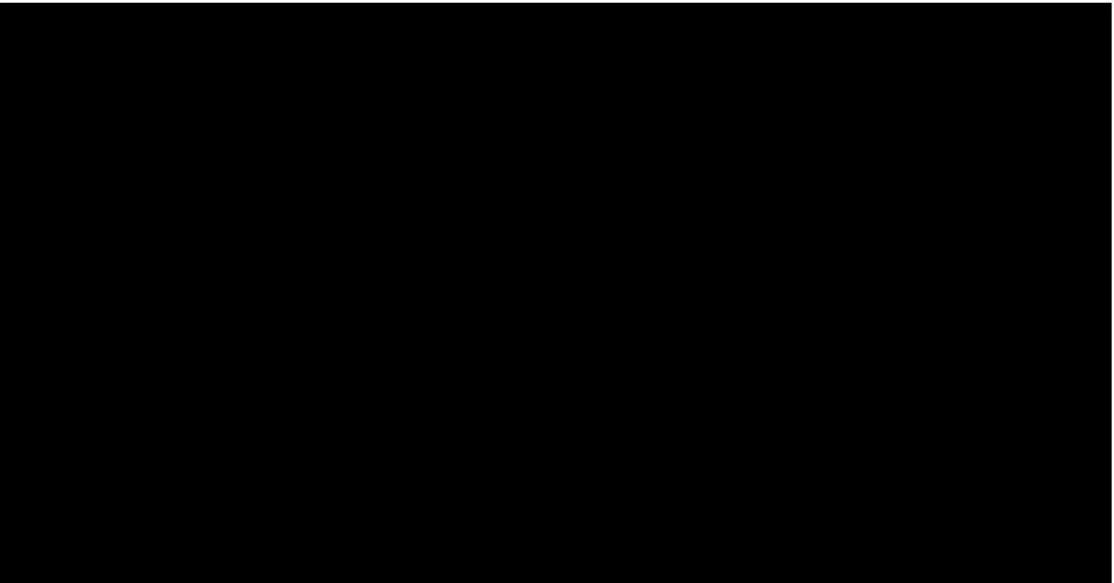
[REDACTED]

10. PRESENTATIONS

10.1 NI Screen

Chief Executive, Richard Williams and Director of Finance, Linda Martin presented to the Board on the work of NI Screen over the period 2014-2017 locally and globally.

Richard Williams referred to a report the Board had previously received and spoke about the successes of the past 12 months.

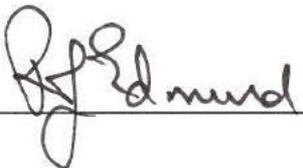


Following a discussion on a range of matters raised by Board members, the Chair thanked the Chief Executive and Director of Finance for attending the meeting for presenting to the Board.

11. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Wednesday 26 April 2017 at 5pm at The Sidings, Lisburn.

There being no further business, the Chair thanked everyone for attending, and the meeting concluded at 8:20pm.

Signed: 
John Edmund

Date: 26 / 4 / 2017
26 April 2017