

Culture Board

Date/time	Wednesday 30 th June, 14:00-15:30pm				
Location	Zoom call				
Co-chairs	D-chairs Lynn Barlow				
Attendees (members)					
Apologies	Anna Rutherford (Architecture Centre), Billy Alwen (Cirque Bijou), Cllr Craig Cheney, Dan Deeks (Motion), Emma Blake Morsi (Rising Arts Agency), Fiona Francombe (Bristol Old Vic), Jas Singh (Asian Arts Agency), Lawrence Hoo (CARGO) Mary Luckhurst (UOB), Matthew Tanner (SS Great Britain), Med Jama (Freelancer), Olivia Ware (Many Minds), Osei Johnson (Babassa), Pat Hart (BCFM), Sahgufta Iqbal (DIY Arts network), Stephanie Marshall (BBC)				
Observers -					
Invitees	Fiona Gilmour (BCC Culture), Jon Finch (BCC Culture), Melissa Inman (BCC Culture), Raquel Aguirre (City Office), Laura Gardner (City Office), Sarah Lynch (City Office) Sally Hogg (BCC Public Health)				
ITEM		ACTIONS			
1) Welcome & minutes sign off – Lynn Barlow					
- Minutes s	igned off				
2) Bristol Public Health Update – Sally Hogg					
 Advice: hands, face, space & ventilation. Always use the track & trace app General Bristol rate is 200 which is higher than UK's rate of 89 per 100,000. Most of the increase is in 18–22-year-olds in student areas (central & Clifton) who are yet to receive vaccinations. The R rate is between 1-1.5. Rapid testing centre open 12-7 every day on Harbourside where you can get PCR tests, no appointment needed, we have tested 13,694 People in the last week. 					
Discussion:					
 *[NTE] Is there any data to reflect numbers of those hospitalised, has a site of infection been identified aside from schools & will be there be pop up vaccination centres to deal with the young people rates? [Public Health] 1012 in total, 10 admissions over recent weeks. Large surge testing over last 18 months as we've had new variants come in. [Watershed] Staff shortage is a huge problem at the moment for the sector, also due to self-isolating. 					

- [Bristol Old Vic] If the government say that it's the responsibility of every organisation then to manage COVID post 19th July, will public health Bristol impose their own measures on top of what our measures may be?
 [Public Health] We will have a viewpoint but because we don't know what's happening nationally, we are responding as we can as we do not get any forward planning.
- Suggested to organise a Public Health & Culture board members/event to ensure there is a joint up approach of opening up.
 [BCC Culture] To lead organising a meeting with public health.

[FG] & [JF] offline conversation with Sally Hogg to facilitate a joint up conversation prior to the 19th July.

3) DIY Network feedback – Sisi Miller

What's next? Communication is key!

- A wider network meeting took place on the 14th May to discuss everyone's views. Questions were proposed and everyone could respond via chat to have an open discussion and to gather the collective view/most common response.
- Questions were based around main priorities and concerns of freelance artists in the current climate. The main response that came up included mentoring support opportunities, funding, connecting/collaborations, housing security and feelings.
- Following this meeting which gathered the consensus we will be holding another to have a more in-depth conversation and to forward plan.

[SM] To update the CB on the outcome of further conversations

4) Night Time Economy update – Carly Heath Festivals update, Bristol Pride – Eve Russell

- NTE supports all businesses who operate between 6pm-6am. NTE is 30% of Bristol's economy; 40% of that is from health and social services and the rest from the hospitality and Night-time sector.
- Lobbing ministers on behalf of sector to resolve issues such as zerohour contracts and lower income, including new staff not having furlough.

Position of NTE businesses & issues:

- 2/3 of night-time businesses are in rent arrears and other debts.
- Night-time industries association suggests 1 in 4 businesses may not survive without government support for a further month and 50% of businesses no longer than 2 months.
- Staff shortages in hospitality sector/staffing crisis and new hired staff are not eligible for furlough.
- Update on safety campaign It's going to be a highly visual citywide campaign to welcome students back and raise safety at night awareness. It will commence from 19th July and it's aimed at young people particularly during fresher season on 25th Sept. Themes include women's safety, drug and alcohol harm reduction, river

Updates from lobbying & discussions regarding water safety will be sent [CH]

safety, halt harassment and 'look out for your mates'. Developing it in tandem with some venues and with young people, so that it comes from their voice. If any members want to assist, to contact NTE advisor.

Discussion:

- [Arnolfini] What is your take on multi agency working to pull together due to the anti-social behaviour going on and the water safety issues.
- [NTE] There are concerns and conversations are happening around water safety. The water safety partnership is back up and running. A memorial of those passed would potentially be a way of highlighting the issues/dangers.

Bristol Pride:

- Two weeks of events will be taking place with 27 socially distanced events.
- Due to the COVID rate of cases rising, we were advised no to carry on with the Pride march this year.
- Suggested to discuss if local decisions will affect business planning and how to work collaboratively as the sector is at a critical opening point.

5) Year of Protest Working Group – Clare Reddington

Culture Board discussion on 'Bristol as a city of protest' to reflect on what it means and how the culture sector can hold that meaning to make sure it's a real inclusive and wide conversation, where people feel able to disagree with each other in public about the city and about protests in a way that feels powerful meaningful.

future CB and to decide if this would be a useful conversation to continue

[LB] & [CC] To revisit at a

Attendees where split into 3 groups to discuss:

- What protest and whose protest? Whose story?
- What are the different kinds of protests that we might want to celebrate mark and engage in a cross-city programme?
- Who is doing this stuff already and who are the key stakeholders?
- How do we make sure that the right people are involved in this and how to document it?
- What kind of programme interventions, what are the practical things we might want to do?
- How might we fund it, what would need to be in place in infrastructure terms?

Discussion:

Group 1:

- Talked about freelance, housing, land and equity; what we mean by protest and what action sits alongside that. Protest move away from it being negative and reimagine its meaning/focus.
- Ensure there is a more city-wide understanding and that it helps healing and bringing people together.

Group 2:

- How does protest, politics and culture link? How we can support protests, attract support and engage society?
- Importance of engaging everyone and showing that protesting can be positive e.g. Greta Thunberg visit was viewed positively but the Colston statue toppling was viewed as a negative protest and has divided opinions regionally and nationally.

Group 3:

- The sector has different agendas, opposing political views, commercial agendas, suggested that working together even with opposition change can be made.
- Who awards the funding? Are we representative of the city or individually?
- Role of the culture sector to facilitate conversations.
- The engagement needs to be meaningful and ensure that culture is highlighted.
- Suggested the need of an open forum without judgement for further conversations to take place.
- Recommendation to think through potential obstacles, how to move forward with protest positively and effectively. Need of the Culture board to have a consistent clear messaging to reinforce.

Summary:

- To figure out moving forward how this can be incorporated into the Culture Board and how it can be translated into the organisations work making it meaningful based on actual needs and views.
- To debate for those of us who are commercial or of opposing political views, how do they interject as not all board memebers are able to join protest conversations.

6) One City Plan Priorities - All

[BCC Culture] Highlighted the need to discuss the relationship that the culture board has with the other One City thematic boards. The aim is to have a strategic conversation with those other boards and ensures that culture plays the right role.

The Health and Wellbeing Board and the Children and Young People's Board would like to organise cross board collaboration sessions to explore potential links and shared priorities.

Discussion:

- [NTE] Suggestion that future documents sent to be via google docs, to facilitate the voting process.
- [DIY Arts Network] Recommendation to add this as an agenda item for next board meeting to look at the other boards priorities and how we will work with them to help progress and incorporate culture into them. This should include a discussion on the Culture Board priorities.

[All] To re-read key priorities from the other six thematic boards and to email CO reflecting thoughts on your top three priorities.

	-	[BCC Culture] Reminder to think if members want to work with the other boards, more than 1 member can work with the other boards in subgroups.	
7)	AC	DB - AII	
	-	We need to revisit ToR and the membership for the Culture Board including the board's top priorities and how we can forward plan. To Facilitate a face-to-face meeting at the next board meeting.	