

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE IRISH MUSEUM OF MODERN ART at IMMA, KILMAINHAM, ON 25th FEBRUARY AT 13.00pm.

Present: Ali Curran (Chair), Mary Apied, Eva Kenny, John McLaughlin, Rhoda Lane-O'Kelly, John Cunningham, Margot Lyons, Dermod Dwyer, Jess Majekodunmi

On-line: Mike Fitzpatrick, Gerard Byrne

Apologies : Sinead O'Sullivan

In attendance: Annie Fletcher, Fintan McDonald (Company Secretary), Lisa Fitzsimons for selected items.

1 Conflict of Interest

All Directors confirmed that they had no conflict of interest in relation to the matters to be dealt with at this meeting.

2 Minutes of Previous Meetings

The minutes of the Board Meeting held on 28th January 2025 were proposed by MA, seconded by DD and approved.

3 Matters Arising

None.

4 Director's Report

- a. AF and Sean Kissane are giving talks in Helsinki, Tallinn and Lund on topics that were part of the Self-Determination exhibition. The talks programme is in collaboration with the DFA.
- b. Several staff members are travelling to peer institutions across Europe as part of the staff mobility scheme funded by Leargas/Erasmus+. The visits involve training programmes and job-shadowing to broaden the staff members' experience of running programmes in similar institutions.
- c. A new collaboration with the Citizen M Hotel group has been agreed to provide accommodation for visiting artists and curators.
- d. Soho House has agreed to contribute to the Collectors' Circle and to sponsor an IMMA members' event.
- e. The Hamad Butt exhibition has received extensive publicity in the arts press. The show will travel to The Whitechapel Gallery in London.
- f. Ireland Invites. Three artists will travel to Hawai'i with an IMMA curator in late March to participate in Hawai'i Contemporary, supported by Culture Ireland. A number of artists will be travelling to the Sydney Biennale in 2026. This is the largest number of Irish artists to ever be accepted as participants.
- g. There will be an exhibition of the work of Cecilia Vacuna opening in November 2025. This is a collaboration with The Whitechapel Gallery.

- h. The IPUT screen is currently featuring the winners of the RTE Visual Arts awards for film.
- i. Dwell Here, the on-site research school is currently undertaking a week of intensive discussions.

5 IMMA as a Regenerative Museum - LF

The world is in a period of accelerated climate change. There is a narrative around sustainability which seeks to reduce harm and to freeze or reduce CO2 emissions but this is seen by many experts as being insufficient to arrest the current degeneration of the natural world and they advocate a more ambitious approach of regenerative sustainability. Regenerative sustainability aligns with IMMA's mission to act as a catalyst for cultural and ecological change and enables the museum to lead by example in fostering systemic regeneration and positive environmental and societal impacts.

Adopting a regenerative framework would involve six principles:

1. Integrated Holistic Systems sees IMMA connected to environmental and social systems
2. Place-Centric Design sees the whole of IMMA as a place for preservation and sustainability
3. Community Engagement brings many groups together to collaborate
4. Positive Impact drives meaningful change that benefits the environment and the community
5. Circular Metabolism focuses on creating efficient, sustainable systems that minimise waste
6. Traditional Knowledge integrates traditional ecological practices into IMMA's work

The Board is happy to advance thinking in this area and for the executive to engage with its close partners to consider ways that this can be enacted.

6 Global Learning and Research Centre

Work on the Final Business Case for the GLRC is paused as the Department seeks direction from the Minister on NDP priorities.

7 HSQ

The Board considered the recent Judicial Review of the commercial and residential development at the HSQ site and the decision to quash the approval from An Bord Pleanála in November 2024. No further action is required and the Board will keep abreast of developments.

8 Finance, Audit and Risk Committee Update – DD

The Committee presented an update following the meeting of 11th February.

Crowe, IMMA's Internal Auditor, presented four reports to the FAR Committee:

1. Internal Audit on Collections Management – the result was that the controls in place are satisfactory.
2. Update on the implementation of Internal Audit Recommendations - Satisfactory

3. Annual assurance report, expressing an opinion that the internal control environment is operating satisfactorily in IMMA.
4. Internal audit plan for 2025 and 2026 including audits on Strategy Action Progress; Procurement: Financial Controls; and ICT systems.

The Committee reviewed the Management Accounts, two sets of policies (Account and Travel), and progress on capital projects. The meeting also reviewed the Annual Procurement Report for 2024 and the Risk Register.

9 **Annual Procurement Report 2024**

The procurement report for 2024 was discussed including consideration of some of the unique challenges that IMMA faces in its procurement. This includes the limited number of contractors who are qualified to work in IMMA's heritage buildings and limited competition for art transport. The Board was satisfied that procurement policies operated to an acceptable degree during the year.

10 **Corporate Governance Framework**

The latest version of the Framework was presented including a number of recommendations made the Internal Auditor during 2024. The Board decided that they would like more time for a deeper scrutiny of the Framework and agreed to convene a meeting for this purpose.

11 **Finance**

The Management Accounts to December 2024 were presented. A full year loss of €129,000 is projected. IMMA's request for support for continuing high utility costs during 2024 was declined by the Department due to lack of available funds. The Board has asked that the Department be approached again in 2025 for support for these costs as the annual allocation does not cover such inflation.

12 **Risk Register**

The latest version of the Risk Register was discussed and the changes from the January version were noted.

13 **Board Self-Assessment**

A questionnaire will be circulated to all members in the coming week.

14 **Protected Disclosures**

There were no Protected Disclosures in the year.

15 **AOB**

None.

16 **Close**

The next meeting is scheduled for 15th April 2025.

17 **In Camera**

The executive left the meeting and discussions continued In Camera.