

National Galleries of Scotland Board of Trustees

Open minute of the meeting of the Board of Trustees held in the Boardroom, Scottish National Gallery of Modern Art Two, Belford Road, Edinburgh on Monday 11 September 2017 at 1400 hrs.

Present:	Benny Higgins, Chairman Alistair Dodds Tricia Bey Catherine Muirden	Lesley Knox Tari Lang
In Attendance:	Sir John Leighton, Director-General Christopher Baker Jacqueline Ridge Simon Groom	Jo Coomber Nicola Catterall
Apologies:	Nicky Wilson Willie Watt	Edward Green Nick Pearce
Secretariat:	Elaine Anderson	

Action

There were no declarations of interest.

Open Business

1 **Chairman's Business**

This was the first meeting of the new Chairman.

1.1 **Meeting with the Cabinet Secretary**

The Chairman reported on a meeting the previous week with Fiona Hyslop, which had been very positive. The Future Plan had been approved and the Chairman passed on Ms Hyslop's thanks to the Trustees.

1.2 **Workload and Priorities**

The Chairman reported on the discussion which had taken place at the Remuneration Committee that morning regarding workload and priorities. In this regard the Chairman wished to set up greater trustee support for the organisation in setting and managing priorities. Instead of an annual strategy day, a series of strategic sessions will be set up across the year based around strategic pillars. Trustees will be identified to champion particular pillars and support

SMT, making it easier for trustees to focus on particular elements in our strategy.

The Director-General reported further on the meeting with Fiona Hyslop, at which resourcing challenges had been discussed. The meeting that morning had focused on resourcing issues and the need to explain to Scottish Government the underlying pressures of staffing costs: NGS had managed headcount very effectively against a background of rising demands and it was important that this is fully explained to Scottish Government.

2 Minutes

2.1 Minute of the Meeting of 26 June 2017

The minute of the meeting of 26 June 2017 was approved as a correct record.

3 Matters Arising

There were no matters arising.

Open Business

4 Departmental and Gallery Reports

4.1 Scottish National Gallery and Scottish National Portrait Gallery

Mr Baker reported on key points in the report, including the exhibition programme. It was noted that a tour was being planned for the *Monarch of the Glen*. Mr Baker also drew attention to the Pieter Hugo photograph which had recently arrived at the gallery.

4.2 Scottish National Gallery of Modern Art

The report was noted.

4.2.1 Margot Sandeman (1922- 2009), Three Bathers (1950)
Approved.

4.2.2 Naum Gabo (1890 – 1977)
Column (conceived 1920-21, manufactured 1975)
Approved.

4.3 Public Engagement

4.3.2 Quarterly Report

The paper was noted.

4.3.3 **Visitor Figures: June-July 2017**

The visitor figure reports were noted.

5 **Corporate and Business Planning**

5.1 **Q1 2017/18 Corporate KPI Report**

The new KPIs were noted. Ms Lang queried whether there was any reporting forthcoming on fundraising. This was likely to be one of the strategic pillars. It was noted that the fundraising team reports directly into the Director-General but also crosses over into Trading, which was part of Ms Coomber's team. It was noted that Trustees wished this aspect of NGS's business to be more visible.

5.2 **Research KPIs: 2012-17**

The paper was noted.

6 **Public Programme 2016–20**

Noted.

7 **Any Other Business**

There was no other business.

8 **Date of Next Meeting**

The next meeting of the Board of Trustees will be held on Monday 27 November 2017 at 1400hrs in the Boardroom, Modern Two.