**Creative Industries Council**

**15:00-16:30 24th February 2021**

**Via Google Meet video call**

**Attendees:**

**Council Members**

Rt Hon Kwasi Kwarteng Secretary of State, BEIS

Rt Hon Oliver Dowden Secretary of State, DCMS

Tim Davie (Industry Co-Chair) BBC Studios

Caroline Dinenage MP Minister of State for Digital and Culture

Alan Vallance RIBA

Alex Mahon Channel 4

Ben Roberts BFI

Caroline Norbury Creative Nation

Caroline Julian Creative England

Caroline Rush BFC

Cat Drew Design Council

Darren Henley Arts Council England

Debbie Bestwick Team 17

Dinah Caine Goldsmiths

Elizabeth Diaferia CITIB

Geoff Taylor BPI

Hasan Bakhshi PEC

Jaime Njoku-Goodman UK Music

Janet Hull IPA

Jeremy Silver Digital Catapult

John McVay PACT

Judith Rossler-Davies BFC

Kanya King MOBO

Lee Brooks Production Park

Neil Hatton Screen Alliance

Ronan Harris Google

Rosy Greenlees Crafts Council

Stephen Lotinga Publishers Association

Stephen Page Faber & Faber

Tom Kiehl UK Music

**Officials:**

Professor Andrew Chitty UKRI

Benedict Leigh DCMS

Cameron Clark DCMS

Professor Christpher Smith AHRC

Elizabeth Mitchell DCMS

Emily Franks DCMS

Graham Hitchen UKRI

Heather Holmes Scottish Government

Karoline Andrew DCMS

Loren King DCMS

Lucy Noakes DCMS

Mark Griffin DCMS

Melanie Kinsey Scottish Government

Michael Bartley DIT

Nicola Petto BEIS

Robert Specterman-Green DCMS

Ros Lynch IPO

Rupert Daniels DIT

Samuel Young DCMS

**Guests:**

Gail Caig Industry Consultant

Helen Charles BBC Music

Jon Zeff Industry Consultant

Josh Lawson Google

Lucy Monks RIBA

Rhona MacDonald Production Park

**AGENDA ITEM 1 -** Welcome and remarks from Co Chairs

* The **Industry Co-Chair** welcomed everybody to the meeting and the recently announced 2019 Economic Estimates for the Creative Industries. He thanked ministers and officials for their hard work and support.
* **Secretary of State** **for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport** thanked all attendees for their efforts during this difficult time. He emphasized the importance of the vaccine, and outlined the government’s work on the budget and EU Exit including on touring, carnets and social security. He added that we should be looking to unlock the significant opportunities in non-EU markets and creative industries are a central plank of our growth plan going forward.

**AGENDA ITEM 2 -** Update on immediate issues: EU Exit and Covid-19 impacts

* **CIC Members** received an update on recent Creative Industries Federation survey findings on the impact of Covid on the sector:
  + Covid hasn’t impacted subsectors equally and businesses in the nighttime economy may need additional assistance, including further support for freelancers.
  + On EU Exit, UK Shared Prosperity Fund viewed as an important replacement for EU funding and issues around cabotage and haulage need to be addressed.
* **CIC members** commented on the survey results and highlighted sector specific issues as well:
  + Concerns about IP exhaustion now that the UK has left the UK which could lead to a loss of sales outside the UK for authors.
  + The concept of an Exports Office was broadly welcomed and there was a question as to whether it could be established through the existing Creative Industries Trade and Investment Board.
  + Thanks were given for the Film and TV Production Restart Scheme but it was remarked that an extension would be necessary to avoid a potential cliff-edge in April.
  + Concerns were raised about the potential impact of the High Fat Salt and Sugar (HFSS) regulations which could impact on growth of the advertising sector, PSB, and SMEs in particular.
  + Opportunities for growth were highlighted in East Asia, China and the UAE, but appreciated there are political sensitivities in pursuing these.
  + Concerns raised about the mutual recognition of qualifications after EU Exit.
  + Funding measures must cater better for those who are disadvantaged.
* **Secretary of State** **for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport** replied that almost all the points raised were on his radar. HFSS is a clear priority for the Prime Minister and intervention to address. On insurance for the event sector, intervention is necessary if this is the last barrier to reopening after covid lockdown.

**AGENDA ITEM 3 -** CIC Work Plan

* **Secretary of State for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy** stated that there are reasons to be positive with the vaccine and a deal with the EU. His longer term priorities are Net Zero and the Innovation Strategy, where the creative industries play a key part due to their catalytic nature and how distributed they are across the country
* On ‘Jobs’, the **Co-Chairs of the Education and Skills Working Group** stated:
  + The sector had potential to add 1m+ people to the workforce over the coming years. Potential cuts to creative education could have damaging consequences and a lifetime skills guarantee are critical, whilst technology demonstrates the need to adapt skills policy. A more socially and ethnically diverse workforce is critical. Welcome progress was being made in discussions with Govt on apprenticeships.
* On ‘Innovation’, the **Chair of the R&D and Innovation Working Group** spoke:
  + Innovation is key to recovery and onward growth since the creative industries are innovative by nature
  + The WG’s strategic goal is to increase the level of opportunities pointed at the creative industries and encourage participation in those opportunities. The WG will continue to work closely with UKRI/AHRC and with DCMS on the innovation/R&D agenda.
  + Createch becoming more visible to the wider economy and there is a need for a innovation funding strategy which works for small businesses
  + **AHRC** is undergoing a cross-UKRI review of creative industries activity and is pleased that AHRC and DCMS are working more closely together.
* On ‘Global’ there was a discussion around the export potential for the creative industries and whether there was a possibility of a shared Minister for IP issues.
* **DCMS Director for Media and Creative Industries** thought the structure of the work plans looked good and will help to identify asks ahead of the next Spending Review and urged the Working Groups to prioritise.
* **Secretary of State for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy** committed to working closely with DCMS going forward to support the creative industries.
* **Industry Co-Chair** encouraged the Working Group Chairs to pursue their workplans and work up the specific proposals for the next Council meeting, and also felt the Council should aim for a clearer description of the Net Zero ambition in relation to the sector.

**AGENDA ITEM 4 -** Sector Deal Update

* **DCMS Secretariat** updated on progress which continues to be made on Sector Deal commitments, most of which have now been delivered, with several entering their final phases and evaluations taking place. The Secretariat is considering this as a final update in this format, but will continue to keep members updated on how ongoing sector deal action is progressing.
* **Industry Co-Chair** welcomed the progress made in implementing the Sector Deal commitments and agreed that this should be the last time we update on the Sector Deal as such at the CIC meeting.
* Jon Zeff commented that it would be good to get continuity on successful sector deal programmes like Creative Scale-Up and Creative Industries Careers Programmes.

**AGENDA ITEM 5 -** MarComms Update

* Chair of the MarComms Working Group gave a brief update on current work including revamping the CIC website, invitations being issued to CIC attendees to a Parliamentary Webinar on CretaTech, highlighting an opportunity to get involved in the ‘Createch Ones to Watch’ and plans for a further Parliamentary event in the autumn.

**AGENDA ITEM 6 - AOB**

* **None raised.**

**[Meeting closed]**