Chief Executive recruitment Q&As

Q: Will the acting CEO be responsible for the vision of the Investment Review and the new incoming CEO would deliver on that vision? Or is there real opportunity for the new incoming CEO to shape the vision and develop it as they feel is required moving forward?

A: We’re obviously very keen to involve the new CEO in the final shaping of the vision for the Investment Review which has been cohering around our key priorities of widening engagement and creating a sustainable sector. Let me lay out the current timeline for progress. This timetable is driven by the need to announce the outcome of the Review and the new Arts Portfolio Wales by end of September 2023, having allowed sufficient time for appeals processes. The new Arts Portfolio Wales begins in April 2024 following a six-month notice period to leavers and entrants.

At its meeting on 8th July, the Council will approve a consultative paper on the Investment Review 2024-2029, which will include its proposed vision and process for the Review. A twelve week consultation period will then follow ending on 3rd October. Council will approve its Strategic Plan 2023-2026 and its Investment Review Terms of Reference and Process on 14th October informed by the outcomes of the consultation.

On appointment in July, the Council would wish to have its new Chief Executive involved as available during the formal consultation period and in shaping the subsequent proposals on the Review and the Strategic Plan to be presented to the Council in October. The successful candidate when in post will then lead the organisation through the application, decision-making and appeals processes to determine the make-up and shape of the new Arts Portfolio Wales.

Again, it would clearly have been ideal to do all the shaping of the Review with a new CEO in place but the Review has already been delayed by Covid and by the loss of an appointed CEO through ill health. The sector needs progress as does Council which has made firm commitments to its priorities. This is supported by the Welsh Government and expressed in its Remit Letter to the Arts Council of Wales.