

MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING: 19th June 2013

4pm Wednesday 19th June 2013

Northern Ireland Screen, Alfred House, Belfast

Present: Rotha Johnston (Chair), Tim McKane, James Penny, Michael Catto, Adeline Dinsmore, Laurence McKeown, Fiona MacMillan, Maurice Hayes, Jennifer Johnston

In attendance: Richard Williams (CEO), Linda Martin (Head of Finance), Andrew Reid (Head of Production), Moyra Lock (Head of Marketing), Bernard McCloskey (Head of Education), Rebecca Mairs (minutes)

Apologies: Brian McMahon (Vice Chair), Aódán MacPóilin, Michael Kuhn, Ian Parsley, Áine Walsh (Head of ILBF), Elsie Brown (Operations Manager)

There were no conflicts of interest raised by members of the Board.

1.0 Chair's Opening Remarks

- 1.1 The Chair welcomed the Board. The Chair praised the work of Rick Hill and looks forward to her tenure as Northern Ireland Screen Chair.
- 1.2 The Chair explained that the purpose of this Board meeting is to discuss Northern Ireland Screen's funding relationship with Invest NI. Northern Ireland Screen needs clarity on future funding by December 2013. The Chair and CEO met with Invest NI last week to discuss funding timelines. It will take 9 months for funding to be clarified, although it is likely that this will take longer.
- 1.3 The Chair informed the Board that the purpose of this meeting is to discuss the draft Opening Doors Strategy previously circulated. Board input is vital for the further development of this draft document, the identification of key priorities and the establishing of goals. The Opening Doors Strategy will be submitted to Invest

NI this summer and will form the basis of their decisions regarding levels of funding awarded to Northern Ireland Screen in the next 4 years.

2.0 Opening Doors Strategy 2014-2018 Draft

2.1 The Opening Doors Strategy was discussed in detail. That discussion included:

2.1.1 Consensus that we should trumpet the 'game changer' nature of the successes within the sector.

2.1.2 Agreement that we should be ambitious and that we had a mandate to be bold.

2.1.3 Agreement that the quantum being requested from Invest NI was appropriate.

2.1.4 Support for a strategy that seeks to develop indigenous companies as much as Inward investment, and seeks to support the widest range of activity.

2.1.5 Concern that the draft as presented does not represent the full breadth of the Cultural, educational and economic value.

2.1.6 The need to embrace micro businesses.

2.1.7 The need to emphasise the patchwork nature of the screen industries.

2.1.8 The arrangements to secure ongoing funding for the ILBF and USBF.

2.1.9 Ensure that the economic value and job creation aspects of the ILBF and USBF are captured.

2.1.10 The importance of internalisation.

2.1.11 That as the sector develops the training and infrastructure obligations should be tied in to the production investments.

2.1.12 The importance of Skills and the need for ongoing marketing.

2.2 It was agreed that a further draft would be circulated before submission to Invest NI And that the cultural and education sections would be added at a later stage once the DCAL funding landscape was clearer and would be reviewed at the next board meeting

Signed: 

Date: 27 September 2013