Dear Convener,

I am writing in relation to the attached letter to the Cabinet Secretary for Culture, Europe and External Affairs [Letter to Scottish Government on Creative Scotland].

In order to prevent future confusion, Creative Scotland would like to clarify an issue in relation to our Artistic and Creative Review Framework. The letter states:

*Creative Scotland told us that, as well as collating the evidence on the deliverables and tangible outcomes from the first year of its 10-year plan, it was in the process of developing an artistic and creative assessment framework, which it will use to inform judgements. It is currently piloting the new framework with a small number of organisations.*

The process of developing the Artistic and Creative Review Framework has moved on since the September evidence session and the outcomes of the Pilot phase, which involved a small number of Regularly Funded Organisations and peer specialists. We thought it important to note that the Review Framework is about reviewing rather than assessing and/or making judgements. It is not therefore, directly related to funding decisions. Rather, the aim of the Artistic and Creative Review Framework is to facilitate and deepen conversations between Creative Scotland and our Regularly Funded Organisations about artistic and creative quality.

Please let me know should you require any further detail or if you would like to discuss further.

Kind regards,

Kirstin MacLeod

Government Relations
29 January 2016
The aim of the Artistic & Creative Review Framework (the Review Framework) is to create a more open dialogue and ongoing discussion with our Regularly Funded Organisations (RFOs) around the artistic and creative quality of their work.

The Review Framework is a process designed to help Creative Scotland, the sector and stakeholders support a culture of continuous improvement and to better understand how we consider quality and excellence across the wide range of work that we fund.

It will do this through a process enabling 3 perspectives on the work of the 118 RFOs:

- **Self** review (by the RFO)
- **Creative Scotland** review (by Creative Scotland’s Lead Officer for the RFO)
- **Peer** review (by independent, relevant expertise from the sector)

The development of the Review Framework is a priority for Creative Scotland; its development was communicated to RFOs in January 2015, and publicly through the Annual Plan published in July 2015.

The most recent Regular Funding process highlighted the need for a means to better understand how to discuss creative and artistic quality and the factors or characteristics that contribute to it. The development of the Review Framework responds to this, and will primarily underpin the first of Creative Scotland’s five ambitions ie Excellence and experimentation across the arts, screen and creative industries is recognised and valued

It will help Creative Scotland, the sector and stakeholders to:

- Adopt more of a common language around artistic and creative quality
- Support a culture of continuous improvement

It will further help CS:

- Better understand how we consider creative and artistic quality across the wide range of work that we regularly fund