Dear Convener

Further to my letter of 30 March I thought it worth writing to update you and the Committee formally on progress that has been made recently in providing resources for the creative community at this time.

As you will be aware, Creative Scotland’s primary focus is to keep funding flowing to sustain individuals and organisations through the immediate short-term impacts, but with an eye to the medium to long term recovery required.

We have continued to work hard with the sector to make the case to the Scottish Government for further support to complement the range of UK and Scottish Government measures that have been put in place to help support people and organisations through Covid-19.

On Monday 20 April 2020, we were able to announce an additional £2 million to further support and sustain the country’s creative community. This was comprised of an extra £1 million from the Scottish Government and £1 million from the Freeland Foundation. These additional funds have been used to increase the original £2 million Creative Scotland Bridging Bursary Fund (Arts and Creative) which is providing financial support for freelance creative professionals most deeply impacted and disadvantaged by the cancellation of work due to the COVID-19 emergency.
In addition, there will be further significant help available to the sector through the recently announced [Scottish Government support](#) for the newly self-employed and SMEs suffering hardship. We warmly welcome the announcement of the additional £100 million of funding and Creative Scotland will now work hard with partners to ensure that those who are eligible in the creative sector can access the new funds as far as possible.

I hope this helps keep you updated on progress but please so let me know if you need any more information.

Your sincerely

Iain Munro
Chief Executive