



**Meeting of the Interim Board of Governors**  
**Tuesday, 6<sup>th</sup> February, 1730-1930**  
**The Curve Community Centre, 10 Bard Road, W10 6TP**

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| <b>Attendees:</b>  |
| Fatima Elguenuni, NHS and mother of resident of Grenfell Tower (Chair)<br>Revd Dr Michael Long, Notting Hill Methodist Church<br>Abderrahman Elguerbouzi, Making Communities Work and Grow (MCWG)<br>Fatai ('Abdul') Towolawi, Healthwatch Central West London<br>Callum Wilson, Head of Service – Assistance Centres<br>RBKC Curve Minute Taker |
| <b>Apologies:</b>  |
| Abdurahman Sayed, Al Manaar  |

**1. Minutes of the last meeting of the Interim Board of Governors (IBoG)**

- 1.1 The IBoG agreed to approve the minutes of the previous meeting which took place on Thursday, 25<sup>th</sup> January. These are available online (<https://grenfellsupport.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2018/01/Minutes-of-the-first-meeting-of-the-Curve-Interim-Board-of-Governors.pdf>)

**2. Improving a resident's experience at the Curve**

- 2.1 At the last meeting the IBoG asked the Curve Team to address how the Curve could be more '*inviting, welcoming and professional*'
- 2.2 Callum provided an overview of recommendations for improving residents' experience at the Curve, as laid out on pages 8-10 of the meeting papers.
- 2.3 *The following points were raised:*
- The IBoG felt that whilst a security presence at the Curve is important, this should not necessarily be delivered through the front desk as this can feel unwelcoming and potentially intimidating. The IBoG felt that there should be greater emphasis on soft skills to encourage a more welcoming experience for residents
  - The IBoG felt that the various spaces within the Curve could be better defined as there are often multiple activities taking place on one floor. This can create confusion for residents. The IBoG agreed to Callum's proposal to re-configure the different spaces in the Curve as follows:
    - The ground floor becomes a dedicated space for socialising and community gatherings
    - The first floor main-room becomes the base for all activities
    - The current Curve office is turned into a multi-agency hub including all of the computer-based working staff from the agencies and services currently on the first floor
    - One of the Health and Wellbeing rooms on the second floor is retained as a confidential space for service desk staff to meet with residents

- The IBoG reiterated the importance of ensuring that the recommendations outlined in the Consultation are implemented and demonstrable
- 2.4 The IBoG agreed for the Curve Team to proceed with implementing the ten recommendations outlined in the proposal and to provide progress updates at future IBoG meetings

### **3. Criteria for becoming a Governor of the permanent Board of Governors**

3.1 At the last meeting it was agreed that the Curve team would develop a proposal about the potential criteria for becoming a permanent Governor

3.2 Callum provided an overview of the proposal which focused on three areas which could be considered as important criteria: 1) Local demographics 2) Skills and experience 3) Relationships with the local community

3.3 *The following points were raised:*

- The IBoG requested that the Curve Team conduct a deeper analysis of the demographics of the local area to capture factors such as faith, religion, background, and language. This report is to be presented at the next meeting of the IBoG
  - The IBoG felt that further consideration is required about whether meeting any demographic criteria of a future Board would be better served by a quota or by setting up structures within the Board's decision-making to ensure that demographic factors are fairly represented. On the latter point, it was also agreed this was an important consideration for ensuring that the voice of local residents is fairly represented and at the heart of the Board's decision-making
  - The IBoG emphasised the importance of emphasising the necessary skillsets, abilities, and experience required to become a Governor. This would ensure that the Board can: deliver what the residents and communities require it; meets its legal and regulatory duties; hold the Curve team to account; as well as ensuring that the Board can work together collectively to a common set of objectives
  - There was a discussion on the differences between the remit of the Board of Governors (BoG) compared to the Residents' Steering Group (RSG). It was agreed that the BoG's main remit is to hold the Curve's management team to account and to ensure the Curve is delivering services that residents need and want. The RSG's remit is to advise and direct the priorities of the Curve's management team. The IBoG therefore agreed that it would be essential that the RSG is formed of local people whereas the criteria for appointing Governors for the BoG should be focused on ensuring the BoG has the skillsets and experience required to be successful and is representative of local demographics so it reflects the local community
- 3.4 The IBoG agreed the criteria for becoming a governor as laid out on page 17 of the meeting papers and requested further analysis by the Curve Team of the demographics of the local area and the skillset required for a potential Governor

#### **4. Options for the selection process for the permanent Board of Governors**

4.1 At the last meeting it was agreed that the Curve Team would develop a proposal about the potential selection process for appointing the permanent BoG

4.2 Callum provided an overview of a proposal for two possible selection processes: 'Application & Selection' and 'Membership & Election'

4.3 *The following points were raised:*

- The IBoG emphasised the importance of speed in setting up a permanent BoG given the required focus on the transparency of the process.
- Following a discussion reflecting various views, the IBoG felt that the 'Application & Selection' process as detailed on page 18 would be more able to ensure the agreed criteria for becoming a Governor are reflected in the process. Nevertheless, the IBoG felt that an election approach at a later date could still be worth considering in the future, and recommended that this could be further explored by the permanent Board. The IBoG also noted that there were a number of other election and consultation processes taking place throughout the local community which could contribute to 'election/ consultation fatigue'.
- The IBoG also encouraged the Curve management team to move forward with progressing a membership model for the Curve to build greater community participation.
- The IBoG also emphasised that it would be vital for the 'Application & Selection' process to be inclusive so that a wide variety of people are made aware of the opportunity and encouraged to apply. The IBoG felt that a robust and varied communication plan will need to be developed to deliver this.

4.4 Following the discussion, the IBoG agreed to proceed with the 'Application & Selection' process for appointing the permanent Board of Governors. It was noted that this agreement was reached on the strict condition that the process is managed on a very inclusive basis. This process must address the following points:

- The opportunity to apply to become a Governor must be advertised widely across a range of communications channels including online, social media, in person, and on notice boards available throughout the local community
- A Curve membership approach should be developed in tandem in order to increase the inclusivity of the centre. This should initially focus on the functional benefits of becoming a Member (e.g. 'early bird' access to popular Curve activities, membership of a mailing list for Curve communications etc.)

#### **5. Communications**

5.1 The IBoG reiterated the importance of transparency throughout the process for setting up a permanent Board, and ensuring that the community is well informed throughout.



The publication of minutes will continue as well as a series of interviews with Grenfell Speaks to explain the process

5.2 It was agreed that each Interim Governor would take part in an interview with Grenfell Speaks the day after each meeting of the Board. The interview schedule agreed was:

- Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> February – Revd Dr Michael Long
- Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> February – Abderrahman Elguerbouzi

## **6. Items for discussion at the next meeting**

6.1 The Interim Board agreed that the key documents required for the next meeting (22<sup>nd</sup> Feb) are:

- The advert(s) for the post of Governor
- The role description for the post of Governor
- A revised Terms of Reference for the Board of Governors
- The Expression of Interest/Application form for the post of Governor
- A clear operational and communication plan for the selection process
- Further analysis of the local demographics of the community
- Proposal for becoming a Curve 'Member'

## **7. A.O.B.**

7.1 The next meeting will be held at the Curve on Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> February at 6.00pm-7.30pm

**The meeting closed at 1925**