

PURPOSE

To report on the Flinders Quartet Committee (Board) terms of appointment and make proposals for changes to the terms of appointment, and Board succession.

CURRENT TERM OF APPOINTMENT

According to the Rules for Flinders Quartet Inc in line with the Associations Incorporation Reform Regulations (2012 Part 3).

In summary, the Association must have at least five (5) members of the Committee.

The Committee consists of:

1. Chair
2. Vice Chair
3. Secretary
4. Treasurer
5. Other members of the Committee - The practice has been that two members of the Quartet and the Manager of the Quartet have been members of the Committee (Artistic Director, Education Manager and General Manager).

The Committee approves applications for membership from interested persons supportive of the aims of the Association.

Current Committee members:

Chair - Julian Burnside AO KC

Vice Chair - Mary Vallentine AO

Secretary - Wendy Avilov (General Manager)

Treasurer- Sandra Stoklossa

Members - Zoe Knighton, Helen Ireland, Fiona Philips, Sarah Hunt

* Both the Chair and Vice Chair have been members of the Committee in their current roles since the formation of the Association in 2017.

* Furthermore, the Chair has been an advisor to the Quartet since 2014.

PROPOSED TERM OF APPOINTMENT

In reviewing the practice of other arts companies and the recommendations of the various funding bodies, I am proposing that Flinders Quartet adopt the practice that the normal term of appointment to the Committee be a maximum of 9 consecutive years for non executive members. For obvious reasons, this would not apply to executive members of the Committee, that is the playing or management members of the Quartet.

In the first instance current non executive members would need to have variable terms to ensure new members have the opportunity to become familiar with the organisation and importantly, to ensure that the Quartet does not lose its corporate history along with the benefit of the experience and knowledge of those longer term members.

For discussion

BOARD SUCCESSION - 2023 AND 2024

If the Board accepts the above proposal, the two longest serving committee members, Julian Burnside and Mary Vallentine would be the first two members to retire.

In discussion with Julian Burnside, we propose that Julian retire in 2023 and Mary in 2024.

Retirement of the Chair

Julian Burnside has made an extraordinary contribution to Flinders Quartet. For ten years he has provided wise council to the Quartet, significant support towards new work and opened his home to share his passion for music and the Quartet with the wider community. This has substantially increased the network of supporters for the Quartet and increased the profile of the Quartet in Melbourne.

To recognise and honour Julian's support, the Committee is asked to consider the lifetime appointment of Julian Burnside to the new role of **Patron** of Flinders Quartet.

The timing would need to be confirmed, but Julian's retirement could be announced at the Quartet's last concert for the year on Monday 30 October 2023 at which time his acceptance of the role of Patron could also be announced.

For discussion

New Chair of Flinders Quartet

As part of the Committee's succession planning, I have discussed with committee members potential candidates for the position of Chair on Julian's retirement. I have also talked to those players of the Quartet who are not members of the Committee.

I know that we all share the excitement that our fellow director, **Sarah Hunt** has agreed to accept the role of **Chair** of Flinders Quartet.

Well-known in Melbourne arts, government and philanthropic circles, Sarah is an outstanding arts executive. As CEO of the National Theatre, Sarah has experience in music and theatre programming along with invaluable marketing and development expertise.

Sarah would be free to take up the role at the end of 2023, a position that could be announced in November 2023.

For discussion

Mary Vallentine AO

Vice Chair

Flinders Quartet Inc.

3 August, 2023