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CRAFTS COUNCIL APPOINT ANDREW MORLET AS NEW CHAIR

Andrew Morlet, Chief Executive of the Ellen MacArthur Foundation will join the board of the Crafts Council, the national charity for craft, in July 2021.

The Crafts Council have appointed Andrew Morlet to join the board as Chair of Trustees in July 2021, succeeding Professor Geoffrey Crossick who has held the role since 2013.

Andrew Morlet is Chief Executive of the Ellen MacArthur Foundation, which was established in 2010 to develop, promote and scale of the concept of a circular economy globally. He was previously a strategy consulting Partner with McKinsey & Company and Global Managing Director for Information Technology strategy with Accenture. Prior to his career in strategy consulting Andrew co-founded a design and textiles printing studio in Sydney, with prints on paper and fabric acquired for the permanent collections of the Australian National Gallery, Powerhouse Museum Sydney, and Art Gallery of Western Australia.

Andrew will chair a board of 14 trustees including Yinka Ilori, Majeda Clarke, Ed Matthews-Gentle, Lady Kitt and Philip Matthews who all joined over the last few months.

Quotes

Crafts play a highly valuable and increasingly important cultural and creative role in contemporary society, and the Crafts Council has a vital part to play in its future development. I am delighted to have the opportunity to join the trustees and team at the Crafts Council as their new Chair and very much look forward to working with them to further support and promote makers and the crafts sector in the years ahead.

Andrew Morlet, incoming Chair, Crafts Council

I am absolutely delighted to welcome Andrew as the new Chair of the Crafts Council and am very much looking forward to working with him. With our 50th anniversary and the opening of our gallery this year he will be joining us at a crucial time to lead the CC board into its next phase of development in supporting the craft sector.

Rosy Greenlees OBE, Director, Crafts Council

My two terms as Chair of the Crafts Council have been exciting and enjoyable, and I've been pleased to support Rosy Greenlees and her colleagues as they developed it into the wide-ranging and highly relevant organisation that it is today. I'm delighted by Andrew Morlet's appointment as my successor, confident that his range of experience will help the Crafts Council chart its successful path in the years ahead."

Professor Geoffrey Crossick, outgoing Chair, Crafts Council

- Ends -

For more information on the Crafts Council visit www.craftscouncil.org.uk and follow @craftscouncil on Instagram and @CraftsCouncilUK on Twitter and Facebook.

Images

For high-res portrait image of Andrew Morlet please contact Jill Read on j_read@craftscouncil.org.uk or phone +00 44 (0) 20 7806 2549

Notes to Editors

The Crafts Council is the national charity for craft. We believe craft skills and knowledge enrich and uplift us as individuals and can change our world for the better. Through our activities we inspire making, empower learning and nurture craft businesses.

We do this by:

- championing craft and its positive impact on society by showing diverse examples of craft and making, and by reaching new communities who have previously felt excluded from our activity.
- increasing levels of craft education and participation by equipping and connecting craft educators, and by campaigning for craft on the curriculum.
- growing the market for craft by supporting craft businesses and providing leadership to the craft sector.
- building a sustainable and inclusive craft sector by providing support, and by listening to new and existing stakeholders in order to co-create relevant and impactful activity.

We want to share our power, work with others, and increase the agency of our communities in order to create an inclusive and thriving craft sector.

Our board of 14 trustees meet four times a year and include a minimum of four makers. In 2020/2021 four trustees were recruited with a priority and geographical spread. The Board profile is now:

- 43% female

- 28% Black, Asian or ethnically diverse
- 7% disabled
- 35% outside London and the South East

Our Trustees are Professor Bruce Brown, Majeda Clarke, Matt Durran, Michael Eden, Helen Hyde, Yinka Ilori MBE, Reyahn King, Lady Kitt, Dr Zoe Laughlin, Andy Marshall, Philip Matthews, Ed Matthews-Gentle and Clare Twomey.

About the Ellen MacArthur Foundation

Their mission is to accelerate the transition to a circular economy. They develop and promote the idea of a circular economy by working with, and inspiring, business, academia, policymakers, and institutions to mobilise systems solutions at scale, globally.

As Chief Executive of the Ellen MacArthur Foundation Andrew Morlet has led the publication of over 20 major research reports and established a global network of over 2200 organisations, including many of the world's largest companies in sectors including consumer goods, plastics, fashion, and food, to design and deploy circular economic system solutions. Andrew leads teams working with governments, cities, and universities around the world on development of enabling circular economy policies, education and learning programmes.