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## **ROSY GREENLEES, CRAFTS COUNCIL EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, STEPS DOWN IN 2022**

### **Rosy Greenlees steps down from the Crafts Council in July 2022 after 16 years leading the national charity for craft**

Rosy joined the Crafts Council in 2006 and has grown the Crafts Council as a national organisation and champion for craft.

Notable achievements include her introducing learning and grassroots participation programmes advocating for children and young people to have universal access to craft materials and education that has seen national school's initiatives and Let's Craft which distributed 12,000 art and craft packs to children during the pandemic.

She has promoted the social and economic benefits of craft in the creative industries, and beyond which has seen the Crafts Council's publish ground-breaking research including Measuring the Craft Economy, series of conferences on craft and innovation maker residencies including within digital environments and healthcare settings and most recently the 2020 Market for Craft report.

Support to craft businesses has grown with professional development programmes and a makers' Directory; the establishment of Craft UK a network of over 80 craft organisations. and with Collect, the leading international fair for contemporary craft and design, about to open for its 18<sup>th</sup> year at Somerset House on 23 February.

Since 2006 the Crafts Council has worked across the country and internationally developing partnerships and bringing craft to the public including with the V&A and the highly successful exhibition Power of Making; the BBC with Woman's Hour Craft Prize; and the Loewe Craft Prize and Brookfield Properties Craft Award.

Rosy was awarded an OBE for services to craft in 2017 and has been a member of the Creative Industries Council and Trustee of Creative and Cultural Skills. She has also been President of the World Crafts Council Europe and International.

More recently, Rosy has overseen the founding of a Global Majority Advisory Group within the Crafts Council to address issues of inequalities and exclusion in the craft sector, and the re-opening of the Crafts Council Gallery in 2021. Rosy leaves the organisation in a strong and stable place and with a passionate and

committed team of Trustees and staff. The Crafts Council is looking forward to building on this legacy and to its continued leadership as a champion for craft, placing important social interests and values at the heart of its programming.

### Quotes

‘Rosy has played a crucial role in the history of the Crafts Council over many years. She has led the development of a world class organisation and has set the direction for the Craft Council’s dynamic and increasingly diverse national programme. Rosy has tirelessly demonstrated and promoted the value, and vital role of craft, the craft process, makers and the sector in the contemporary world, and will be leaving the Crafts Council stronger, well placed and ready to continue its mission as the *champion for craft and its positive impact on society.*’

Andrew Morlet, Chair

‘It has been an incredible honour to lead the Crafts Council. I have had the delight of seeing and experiencing the breadth of craft across the country; and how it enriches people’s lives. I thank all the Trustees and staff who have worked so hard to support the sector and look forward to seeing the Crafts Council continue to evolve and grow.’

Rosy Greenlees OBE, Director, Crafts Council

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For more information on the Crafts Council visit [www.craftscouncil.org.uk](http://www.craftscouncil.org.uk) and follow @craftscouncil on Instagram and @CraftsCouncilUK on Twitter and Facebook.

### 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 to co-create relevant and impactful activity.

Crafts Council Trustees are Andrew Morlet (Chair), Professor Bruce Brown, Majeda Clarke, Matt Durran, Helen Hyde, Yinka Ilori MBE, Lady Kitt, Dr Zoe Laughlin, Andy Marshall, Philip Matthews, Ed Matthews-Gentle and Clare Twomey.