

Mr Peter McNaney Chief Executive Belfast City Council City Hall BELFAST BT1 5GS

07 June 2011

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Dear Peter.

I write further to the Ulster Orchestra Society (UOS) Board's (hereinafter the Board) discussions and decisions and individual discussions I have had with *Representatives* in respect of the Board's corporate governance.

There are currently nine Non-Executive Directors on the UOS Board.

Five further Non-Executive Directors are Representative Members. They are

- a Player's Representative;
- a BBC Representative;
- a Belfast City Council Representative;
- a Northern Ireland Local Government Association Representative; and
- a Friends of the Ulster Orchestra Representative.
- In addition, the Representative of the Arts Council of Northern Ireland attends as an Assessor.

Having taken advice towards the ends of good and better governance, the Board has decided

- to change the status of the one Assessor and the five Representatives to that of Observers;
- to move sooner rather than later from a Board of nine to a Board of seven *Non-Executive Directors*, including the Chairman; and
- as Board vacancies arise, to seek to appoint persons who will bring different areas of expertise for
 example, following the June Board Meeting, the Board will be announcing the appointment of three
 persons with specialist knowledge of finance, human resource management and raising money
 respectively and at the same time recognising the need for gender identity and geographical
 balance.

The Board is deeply appreciative of the continuing support it receives from BCC and of the role that your *Representative* has played over the years. It is the Board's firm intention that the BCC *Representative* continues this work in the *Observer* capacity in the future.

Yours sincerely,

Professor Sir Desmond Rea OBE

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Chairman

