



Board of Trustees

Minutes

Date:	2 July 2026
Time:	14:00 – 16:30
Venue:	Prints & Drawings Study Room, V&A South Kensington
Present:	Baroness Shafik – Chair Zewditu Gebreyohanes Allegra Berman David Bomford Rusty Elvidge Andrew Keith Amanda Leveté CBE Kavita Puri Baroness Spielman Marc St John Nigel Newton CBE Akshata Murty Pedro Pina Vick Hope Professor Christoph Lindner
In attendance:	Sir Tristram Hunt, Director Tim Reeve CBE, Deputy Director & Chief Operating Officer Dr Melissa Buron, Director of Collections and Chief Curator Katie Burrell, Director of Design, Estate & Capital Programmes Dr Gus Casely-Hayford OBE, Director of V&A East Jane Ellis, Director of Finance & Resources Nicola Huet, Director of Commercial Jane Lawson MBE, Director of Development Judy Roberts, Director of People & Change Dr Helen Charman, Director of Learning, National Programmes and Young V&A Sophie Rouse, Director of Audiences Frances Greaves, Directorate and Governance Officer Anthony Misquitta (Secretary to the Board & General Counsel)
Apologies:	Jonathan Anderson Professor Polly Blakesley Mariella Frostrup
Minutes:	Saskia Whitfield, Directorate Office Manager

1. Welcome and Declarations of Interests

- 1.1** Baroness Shafik, Chair of the V&A Board of Trustees, welcomed Trustees to the meeting.
- 1.2** The Chair noted that the meeting was being held in the Prints & Drawings Study Room, a publicly accessible space where visitors can view and study objects from the collections of the Art, Architecture, Photography and Design Department.
- 1.3** Baroness Spielman declared an interest, noting that she had recently been appointed Shadow Minister for Work and Pensions.

2. Minutes of the Previous Meeting and matters arising

- 2.1** The Minutes of the meeting held on 14 May 2026 were approved by the Board. There were no matters arising.

3. Director's Report

- 3.1** Trustees reviewed the Director's Report circulated in advance, which detailed key activities across V&A sites between 8 May to 18 June 2026, highlighting strong visitor numbers across the V&A sites, continued membership growth, and the opening of the exhibition *Rising Voices: Contemporary Art from Asia, Australia and the Pacific*.
- 3.2** The Director noted the work to mitigate and adapt to the impact of extreme weather on the Museum's operations and its ongoing sustainability work, including the replacement of the gas heating system at Young V&A with the installation of an air source heat pump, a core initiative which supports the broader target to reach net zero by 2035 and align with intermediate 2030 climate action goals.

4. V&A East Storehouse – 1 Year

- 4.1** Tim Reeve, Deputy Director & Chief Operating Officer presented a review of the first year of V&A East Storehouse, noting that it had welcomed over half a million visitors and exceeded ambitions for reaching local, young and diverse visitors.
- 4.2** The Board noted the success of the Order an Object service, which has provided unprecedented access to the collections, as well as the strong public response to the building, its live programme and learning activities.

5. Capital Programme

- 5.1** Katie Burrell, Director of Design, Estate & Capital Programmes presented an overview of the next phase of FuturePlan, the V&A's rolling programme of capital projects. The presentation outlined the strategic direction and

priorities for the continued renewal, development and long-term sustainability of the V&A estate. The key elements of FuturePlan will be brought to the Buildings Strategy Committee and subsequently to the Board once they have been fully developed for final approval.

6. Finance, Audit and Governance

- 6.1** The Board received the Annual Report of the Trustees' Audit & Risk Committee and noted the Committee's work in overseeing risk, governance and financial reporting oversight during the year.
- 6.2** The Board approved the Annual Report and Accounts for 2025/26, subject to completion of the National Audit Office audit and the requisite approvals from DCMS and Ministers.
- 6.3** The Terms of Reference for the Trustee Finance, Commercial and Audiences Committee were approved.
- 6.4** The Terms of Reference for the Trustee Collections and Research Committee were approved.

7. Reports from Trustee Committees

7.1 Investment Committee and Finance and Commercial Committee Update

Allegra Berman, Chair of the Investment Committee and the Finance and Commercial Committee, provided an overview of the work of both committees. The Board noted the committees' oversight of the Museum's financial position, commercial performance and investments, together with plans to broaden the remit of the Finance and Commercial Committee to include audiences. The Board also noted that the Investment Committee remained satisfied with investment performance and governance arrangements.

8. Any Other Business

- 8.1** The Chair acknowledged the service of Rusty Elvidge and Zewditu Gebreyohanes at their final meeting as Trustees. On behalf of the Board, she thanked them for dedication, insight and commitment to the Museum over their terms of office.

Signed
Minouche Shafik, Chair

Date: