

Outside Bodies

Purpose of report

For information.

Summary

This report has four parts:

- A - Report back on member meetings since 25th February 2016.
- B - Forthcoming meetings.
- C - Latest Chair's Report from Cllr Ian Stephens.
- D - CTS Outside Bodies 2015/16

Recommendation

Members are invited to note the report

Action

Subject to comments from the Lead Members, officers to take forward any actions.

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Outside Bodies

A – Report back on Member meetings since 25th February 2016

Purpose	Key Points Discussed	Outcome
Board members attended and Cllrs Stephens, Henig and Burbage participated in the CTS /CLOA Annual Conference on 24th -25th February 2016		
To represent the LGA Culture, Tourism and Sport Board at the annual Culture, Tourism and Sport Conference.	Plenary speakers and workshop discussions covered key issues for the sector, including new delivery models, devolution, wellbeing and growth.	High profile recognition in the roles that councils across the country play in maintaining the arts and culture in their communities. The conference also provided the CTS Board with an unrivalled opportunity to further strengthen the relationship between local government and key partners.
Cllr Geraldine Carter spoke at the LGA / Sport England Sport Leadership Essentials Programme 2nd-3rd March		
To represent the Culture, Tourism and Sport Board at the event.	Cllr Carter set the event within the wider context of the challenges and opportunities facing local sport and leisure services. In particular, devolution and the wellbeing agenda.	Nine portfolio holders were supported to lead transformational change of sport and leisure services, improve partnership working with health and strengthen their offer to commissioners.
Cllr Stephens met with Jessica Harris, Cultural Commissioning Programme Manager at NCVO 3rd March		
A pre-meet ahead of the Cultural Commissioning Programme's National Evaluation Conference on the 13 th April.	The programme for the conference, including networking opportunities and the importance of marketing the conference was discussed.	It was agreed that a question and answer session would be added to the agenda and that elements from the DCMS Cultural White Paper should potentially be included.
Cllr Stephens attended a half-day workshop about how the Arts Council shapes its investment in arts and culture from 2018 onwards, 8th March		
To represent the Culture, Tourism and Sport Board at the event.	ACE outlined their proposals for funding organisations post-2018, including a greater focus on place based working.	Feedback from local government attendees helped to shape the LGA's response to ACE's consultation.
Cllr Stephens met with Patricia Yates, VisitBritain's Director of Strategy and		

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Communications, on 8th April		
To update on respective priorities and discuss the closer working between VisitBritain and VisitEngland.	The current work of VisitBritain and VisitEngland was discussed, as was how their relationship with the LGA would be taken forward. The importance of local areas having the flexibility to allocate the £40m Discover England Fund in line with local priorities and allied to devolution deals was emphasised, as was the importance that local government had a strong voice in the new national arrangements for tourism.	VisitBritain and the LGA would continue to share good practice. VisitBritain would also keep the LGA up-to-date on how work was progressing.
Cllr Stephens met with Ed Vaizey MP on the 12th April		
To discuss the Government's Culture White Paper and joint Libraries Taskforce.	The importance of ensuring councils are fully involved in taking forward the recommendations of the Culture White Paper was discussed. Progress of the Libraries Taskforce and the Ambition for Libraries consultation were also noted.	Agreement that local government will be fully involved in taking forward the Culture White Paper recommendations.
Cllr Stephens chaired the Cultural Commissioning Programme's National Evaluation Conference on the 13th April		
To represent the Culture, Tourism and Sport Board at the event and develop cultural commissioning opportunities.	Kent County Council and Gloucestershire Clinical Commissioning Group, among others, shared how they have embedded culture in commissioning opportunities.	Over 50 councils and partners supported to better exploit the cultural sector's offer to local commissioners.
Cllr Organ attended the Tourism Alliance Board Meeting, 3rd May		
To represent the Culture, Tourism and Sport Board at the event as the board's appointment to the body.	Topical issues of concern to the tourism industry were discussed, including licensing, high streets and closer working between VisitBritain and VisitEngland.	Local government represented at the meeting.
Cllr Stephens spoke at the Theatres 2016 Conference on 13th May		
To represent the LGA at the conference.	Cllr Stephens spoke about the difficult climate facing councils and how they are striving to work differently in order to support local theatres.	Raised awareness about the different ways in which councils are supporting local theatres.

Purpose	Key Points Discussed	Outcome
Cllr Stephens met with Cllr Guy Nicholson, Lead Member for Economy, Tourism and Culture, London Councils on 17th May		
To catch up on recent developments in cultural policy.	Cllr Stephens and Cllr Nicholson discussed opportunities for councils in the Culture White Paper and the importance of further strengthening our partnership with Arts Council England. Cllr Nicholson flagged issues of particular interest to London Boroughs.	LGA and London Councils will continue to involve each other in our respective work programmes.
Cllr Stephens met with Diane Lees, Director-General, Imperial War Museum and Chair National Museum Directors' Council (NMDC), on 17th May		
To catch up on recent developments in cultural policy.	Cllr Stephens and Ms Lees discussed the museums review announced in the Culture White Paper and agreed it will be opportunity to highlight the contribution of museums to a range of social and economic outcomes.	LGA to keep NMDC informed as we respond to the Culture White Paper recommendations.
Cllr Stephens met with David Evennett MP, Acting Sport, Tourism and Heritage Minister, on 17th May		
To discuss the Government's new approach to sport and physical activity and key issues for councils within the Minister's brief.	Cllr Stephens emphasised the opportunity to achieve a step change in the nation's health by a more localised approach to sport and physical activity. He also urged the Minister to act on the Triennial Review of Gaming Machine Stake and Prize Limits.	The Minister reaffirmed his strong belief that councils are a very important partner in delivering the new sports strategy. LGA will write a letter setting out what we would like to see in the Triennial Review of Gaming Machine Stake and Prize Limits.
Cllr Stephens to attend the launch of the Estuary Festival Programme on 19th May		
To represent the LGA.	Southend-on-Sea, Thurrock, Garvesham and Kent are working with public and private partners to host an ambitious 16 day programme of contemporary visual art, literature, film and music.	LGA will share a case study.
Cllr Stephens spoke at Westminster Forum's Creative Industries Conference on 19th May		
To represent the LGA.	Cllr Stephens emphasised the different ways in which councils support the creative industries, one of this country's strongest	Raised awareness about the CTS Board and how councils are supporting the creative industries.

Purpose	Key Points Discussed	Outcome
	performing economic sectors.	
Cllr Stephens attended the Leadership for Libraries Taskforce networking event on 26th May		
To represent the LGA, as joint accountable body for the Taskforce.	The Informal networking event was attended by Taskforce Members, including the BBC, The British Library and Society of Chief Librarians. A number of libraries and other partners also attended.	Reinforced the LGA's support for the Taskforce.
Cllr Stephens chaired and Cllr Burbage MBE and Cllr Smith attended the LGA's Ambition for Libraries councillor roundtable on 1st June		
To give councillors the opportunity to feedback on the Ambition for Libraries consultation document.	Kathy Settle, Chief Executive of the Libraries Taskforce, gave an overview of Ambition and feedback to date. Councillors discussed key points, including the need to recognise that libraries are different in different places, the importance of co-location as an opportunity to increase reach and achieve efficiencies, and opportunities for libraries to strengthen partnerships with businesses, linked to the economic growth agenda.	The view expressed shaped the LGA's consultation response.
Mike Diaper, Sport England's Executive Director for Community Sport, attended the LGA's Councillors' Forum on 9th June.		
To update Councillors' Forum on Sport England's new strategy.	Mr. Diaper gave an overview of Sport England's new approach which will focus more on tackling inactivity and open up more funding for councils and local partners.	LGA Members strongly supported Sport England's focus on tackling inactivity and emphasised the importance of fully involving councils in the implementation of the strategy.
Cllr Bell chaired Kathy Settle's session at the Society of Chief Librarians' (SCL) Conference on 10th June		
To represent the LGA, as joint accountable body for the Taskforce.	Cllr Bell introduced the session by highlighting the importance of political and professional leaders working together. Kathy Settle gave an overview of Ambition and feedback to date and answered questions from delegates.	Reinforced the LGA's partnership with SCL.

B – Forthcoming meetings at the time of writing

Title	Date	Attendees
A New Strategy for Culture: Boosting Access to Arts, Heritage & Culture Conference	12 th July	Cllr Burbage MBE speaking
LGA Annual Conference	7 th July	Cllr Stephens chairing devolution plenary and launching visitor economy and devolution publication
LGA / Sport England Leadership Essentials Programme	21 st – 22 nd July	LGA speaker to be confirmed at the time of writing. All Board members are welcome to attend.

C - Culture, Tourism and Sport Board Chair's Report to Councillors' Forum June 2016

Sport and Physical Activity

1. I was delighted to meet the Rt Hon David Evennett MP, Acting Sport and Tourism Minister, on 17 May. We discussed the Government's new approach to sport and physical activity, which places much greater emphasis on local delivery and encouraging people of all abilities to get active. I emphasised the opportunity to achieve a step change in the nation's health by a more localised approach to sport and physical activity. I also urged the Minister to act on the Triennial Review of Gaming Machine Stake and Prize Limits. We will be writing a letter setting out what we'd like to see in the Review.
2. Sport England announced a new £250 million fund to tackle inactivity as part of its strategy "Towards an Active Nation: 2016-21" on 19 May. There are a number of wins for the LGA in the strategy, which more than triples Sport England investment in tackling activity and will result in a significant re-balancing of funding away from national and towards local bodies. We will work closely with Sport England over the coming months to ensure that councils and local partners are central to their plans to tackle inactivity.
3. Cllr Geraldine Carter gave the introductory presentation at the latest Sport England Essentials Programme 2 – 3 March. The event supported nine portfolio holders to lead transformational change of leisure services.

Libraries

4. I had a very productive meeting with Ed Vaizey MP, Culture Minister, on 12 April. We discussed the progress of the joint LGA / Department for Culture, Media and Sport Leadership for Libraries Taskforce and noted the particular success of the WiFi rollout to nearly every public library. The Minister also agreed that local government must be fully involved in driving forward the recommendations from the Culture White Paper.
5. The LGA has encouraged councillors to respond to the Leadership for Libraries Taskforce's Ambition for Libraries consultation. Ambition will set out how local and central government work together to support thriving public libraries in a challenging fiscal climate. 18 councillors attended an LGA roundtable on 1 June and feedback informed the LGA's consultation response. Our response highlighted the importance of Ambition recognising local accountability, the diversity of library delivery models and the need to take forward support for councils in line with sector-led improvement.
6. I attended the Leadership for Libraries Taskforce's networking event on 27 May. This was an opportunity to reinforce the LGA's partnership with key organisations including the BBC, The British Library, ACE and the Society of Chief Librarians.

Culture

7. I attended an Arts Council England (ACE) workshop on 8 March to discuss ACE's proposals for funding organisations after 2018. The LGA's response supported a more proportionate approach to the National Portfolio, the stronger emphasis on place based working and opening up funding streams to museums and libraries.
8. Over 45 councils and partners attended the Cultural Commissioning Programme's National Evaluation Event at LGA on 13 April. I was pleased to chair the conference which shared how Kent Council and Gloucestershire Clinical Commissioning Group have embedded culture into their commissioning opportunities.
9. I spoke in a panel debate about local government funding at the Theatres 2016 Conference on 13 May. This was the biggest ever theatres conference and an opportunity to raise awareness about the difficult climate facing councils and how they are striving to work differently in order to support local theatres.
10. I participated in a panel debate at the Westminster Forum's Creative Industries Conference on 19 May. I emphasised the different ways in which councils support the creative industries, one of this country's strongest performing economic sectors.
11. I was delighted to meet Diane Lees, Chair of the National Museum Directors' Council and Director General of the Imperial War Museum, on 17 May. We discussed the museums review announced in the Culture White Paper and agreed it will be opportunity to highlight the contribution of museums to a range of social and economic outcomes.
12. I was pleased to meet Councillor Guy Nicholson, London Council's lead member for economy, tourism and culture, on 17 May. We discussed the importance of local government's relationship with Arts Council England and opportunities to further strengthen national and local partnerships.
13. I attended the launch of the Estuary Festival Programme on 17 May. Southend-on-Sea, Thurrock, Garvesham and Kent are working with public and private partners to host an ambitious 16 day programme of contemporary visual art, literature, film and music.
14. The LGA submitted written evidence to the Culture, Media and Sport Committee's Countries of Culture Inquiry. Our response highlighted New Local Government Research that showed councils have protected arts funding from the brunt of spending pressures and adopted new ways of working to improve sustainability. However, the scale of the funding challenge ahead means that more councils will have to take tough decisions about their cultural provision.

The Visitor Economy

15. I was delighted to meet Patricia Yates, VisitBritain's Director of Strategy and Communications on 8 April. Following significant changes to the national tourism landscape, the meeting was an opportunity to emphasise the importance of local

areas having flexibility to allocated the £40 million Discover England Fund in line with local priorities and local destinations having a strong voice in new national governance arrangements.

16. Cllr Colin Organ attended the Tourism Alliance Board meeting on 3 May. The meeting was an opportunity to highlight the LGA's views on the Discover England Fund and to hear from industry on priority issues for them.

D- CTS Outside Bodies 2015/16

Organisation	Background	Representative for 2015/16	Dates of Future Meetings	Contact at Organisation
British Board of Film Classification – Consultative Council	The British Board of Film Classification classifies films on behalf of Local Authorities and videos / DVDs under the terms of the Video Recordings Act. Its "Consultative Council" is a requirement of the Board's designation under the Video Recordings Act.	1 place Cllr Faye Abbott has been appointed as the board's representative.	Monday 20th June (Cllr Abbott unable to attend – clashes with CTS Board) Monday 10th October	Amy Brooks Assistant to Director abrooks@bbfc.co.uk Tel (+44) 020 7440 0372
Tourism Alliance	The TA seeks to establish and maintain a favourable operating environment for all businesses involved in the delivery of tourism, particularly in England. The	1 place Cllr Colin Organ has been appointed as the board's representative.	Thursday 26 th May (AGM) Tuesday 13 th September Wednesday 7 th December	Director: Kurt Janson Tel: +44 (0)20 3117 0664 Email: kurt.janson@tourismalliance.com

Organisation	Background	Representative for 2015/16	Dates of Future Meetings	Contact at Organisation
	LGA has a non-voting place on the Board.			
British Destinations	Operates as a trade association representing the wider interest of local authority sponsored tourism. Membership includes local government authorities of all types and sizes from across the UK, regional and local tourist boards and commercial organisations.	1 place Cllr Geoff Knight has been appointed as the LGA's representative on this body.	Monday 20 th June (Cllr Knight unable to attend – clashes with CTS Board)	CEO: Peter Hampson – 0151 9342285 – 07714341379 email peter.hampson@btconnect.com