UCLG Executive Bureau and 2014 International Festival of Business

Purpose of report

For information and comment.

**Summary**

This report provides an update on the LGA’s engagement with a unique international local government event being held in the UK in June of this year.

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| **Recommendation**Members are invited to discuss and provide comment. **Action**Officers to take actions as directed. |

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UCLG Executive Bureau and 2014 International Festival of Business

**UCLG Executive Bureau**

1. **The LGA is a member of United Cities & Local Governments (UCLG), the international body representing local government at the global level. The 2014 Executive Bureau of UCLG is being hosted by the city of Liverpool from 17-19 June this year. It will be the first time the United Kingdom has hosted a global gathering of local government leaders on this scale.**

**2014 International Festival of Business**

1. **The UCLG meetings in Liverpool have been arranged to coincide with the International Festival of Business which is also being hosted by the city of Liverpool.** The 50-day festival is a key part of the government's target of rebalancing the economy and achieving its export and investment **objectives**.
2. Running across seven weeks in June and July and will attract business delegates and trade intermediaries from around the world and will be the largest global concentration of business events **during** 2014. It will put on more than 150 business-focused events spanning themes such as cities, enterprise & urban business, low carbon and renewables, manufacturing, science and technology.

**Global Leaders’ Summit**

1. One of the highlights of the International Festival of Business will be the Global City Leaders’ Summit, **sponsored** by BT, where more than two hundred city leaders from around the world will come together to tackle a common challenge; generating sustainable economic growth in an age of austerity. Speakers will include Bruce Katz, Vice President of the Brookings Institution and the Rt, Hon. Greg Clark, Minister for Cities, Joe Anderson OBE, Mayor of Liverpool and BT Group Plc CEO, Gavin Patterson.

**LGA engagement**

1. The LGA is represented on the UCLG Executive Bureau by the Deputy Chair of the European & International Board, Cllr Richard Kemp. As this global event is being held in the UK for the first time, the Chairman of the LGA has been invited to address the Executive Bureau. This will be a chance to showcase UK local government as well as the LGA’s *Rewiring* campaign.
2. The LGA’s Leadership Centre will also be hosting an Alumni Vision programme with a range of leaders from a number of sectors beyond local government and have chosen to hold the event in Liverpool during the same week.
3. Cllr Richard Kemp will provide a verbal update on preparations for June which members will be invited to discuss and provide comment on.