

Culture, Tourism and Sport Programme Board – report from Cllr Chris White (Chair)

Meeting John Penrose MP, 6 September

1. I met John Penrose MP, Tourism, Heritage and Licensing Minister. I raised councils' concerns about the Live Music Private Members' Bill and emphasised the importance of giving councils the necessary financial freedoms that will make it easier to invest in the local visitor economy.

Herefordshire County Council's superfast broadband pilot, 30 September

2. I met Roger Phillips, Cabinet Member for Enterprise and Culture, and Graham Powell, Enterprise and Culture Cabinet Support Member, to discuss Herefordshire and Gloucestershire's superfast broadband pilot. I agreed that we would share a case study with other councils who are developing their Broadband Local Plan. I also invited them to contribute to First and to give a presentation at the Board's annual conference in March.

Meeting British Hospitality Association, 5 September

3. I met Ufi Ibrahim, Chief Executive of British Hospitality Association (BHA), to discuss how councils and LEPs can support the hospitality industry. We agreed to share good practice and to promote the economic importance of the industry. The BHA is shortly to publish an analysis of the impact of the hospitality industry on each local authority area.

Nations and Regions Members' Meeting, 8 September

4. I met NRG Chairs to discuss operational planning for the 2012 Games, and emphasised the role that councils will play in ensuring a safe and exciting Games.

London Organising Committee of the Olympic and Paralympic Games

5. On 30 September, Simon Henig and Stephen Castle met Angela Salt, Head of Nations and Regions, and Sarah Bartholomew, Government Relations Executive, to discuss progress with the Torch Relay and transport planning.

Future of Culture, Tourism and Sport conference, 22 September

6. I gave a plenary address on leading local culture, tourism and sport services in challenging times, and emphasised the importance of strong political and professional leadership at local level.

CTS Programme Board Meeting 12 September 2011

7. Members received presentations from Sue Charteris, Founder Director of Shared Intelligence and Chair of the Public Libraries Inquiry in the Wirral, James Berresford, Chief Executive of VisitEngland and John Hallett, Destination Bristol and the Core Cities Group.

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