

Item 3c

Culture, Tourism and Sport Board – report from Cllr Flick Rea (Chair)

Regulated Entertainment

1. I have written to John Penrose MP, Licensing Minister, to reinforce councils' concerns about the Government's plans to deregulate entertainment. Councils are fully in favour of making it easier for people to hold concerts, plays and public events and we support the aim of making the process as easy, transparent and free from red tape as possible. However, we believe the proposals go too far and will leave councils without sufficient powers to deal effectively with the potential dangers and nuisance of higher risk events, such as those held outdoors. We have offered to work with the Minister to ensure that proportionate and safe deregulation is achieved.

Culture

2. On 16 May I met Mark Taylor, Director of the Museums Association, to discuss how we can work together to support council run and supported museums to improve. I emphasised the importance of professional leadership working with political leadership to develop new ways of working that allow the museums sector to change and thrive in tough financial times. We also agreed on the importance of positioning museums as part of an area's strategic vision.
3. On 18 May I spoke at the South East Cultural Improvement Forum event on apprenticeships in culture and sport. Over 30 delegates attended this practical learning event to share how their areas are supporting apprenticeships. Organisations including the Royal Opera House and Pinewood Studios shared the employers' perspective. I highlighted councils' strong track record leading economic growth and supporting young people and the changing policy landscape. We will capture and share the learning through the LGA's growth campaign.

2012 Games

4. The LGA Chairman, Leader of the Independent Group and Members of the 2012 Games Task and Finish Group and Culture, Tourism and Sport Board visited the Olympic Park on 29 May. This was an opportunity to learn more about the latest preparations and how the venues will be adapted into community facilities after the Games.

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5. David Moorcroft OBE, Director of the Join In Trust, updated the Board on two 2012 Games initiatives highly relevant to local government. The first, Join In Local Sport, is a national campaign to encourage people to connect and get involved with local sports clubs over the weekend 18/19 August. Secondly, the Community Games is providing practical information and advice to communities who want to host their own Games-inspired events between now and the Autumn. Members were very supportive of both initiatives and highlighted the importance of building upon existing local activity and keeping councils informed about events.

6. David was followed by Jennie Price, Chief Executive of Sport England, who presented to the Board about Sport England's new strategy and how they are working with councils to grow and sustain participation in physical activity and sport. The LGA is working with Sport England to deliver a programme of leadership events for sport portfolio holders, building on last year's very successful events. Members also highlighted the importance of strong links between National Governing Bodies for sport and councils.

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