

Culture, Tourism and Sport Programme Board

Agenda

Monday 13 September 2010
13.45pm

People's History Museum
Left Bank
Spinningfields
MANCHESTER
M3 3ER

To: Members of Culture, Tourism and Sport Programme Board
cc: Named officers for briefing purposes

Culture, Tourism and Sport Board

Monday 13 September 2010

There will be a meeting of the **Culture, Tourism and Sport Board** at **13.45** on **Monday 13 September 2010** in People's History Museum, Left Bank, Spinningfields, MANCHESTER, M3 3ER.

Apologies

Please notify your political group office (see contact telephone numbers below) if you are unable to attend this meeting, so that a substitute can be arranged and catering numbers adjusted, if necessary.

Labour: Aicha Less: 020 7664 3263 email: aicha.less@lga.gov.uk
Conservative: Angela Page: 020 7664 3264 email: angela.page@lga.gov.uk
Liberal Democrat: Evelyn Mark: 020 7664 3235 email: libdem@lga.gov.uk
Independent: Group Office: 020 7664 3224 email: independent.group@lga.gov.uk

Attendance Sheet

Please ensure that you sign the attendance register, which will be available in the meeting room. It is the only record of your presence at the meeting.

Location

A map showing the People's History Museum is printed on the back cover.

Contact

Paul Johnston (Tel: 020 7664 3031, e-mail: paul.johnston@lga.gov.uk)

Carers' Allowance: As part of the LGA Members' Allowances Scheme a Carer's Allowance of up to £4.93 per hour is available to cover the cost of dependants (ie. Children, elderly people or people with disabilities) incurred as a result of attending this meeting.

Hotels: If you wish to stay overnight in Manchester, discounted hotel rates are available through the Local Government Travel Club (consult your own authority for information.) Alternatively, accommodation can be booked through Hotelzon, tel. 01962 844004, fax 01962 860974.

Agenda

Culture, Tourism and Sport Programme Board

Monday 13 September 2010

13:45

People's History Museum, Manchester

For discussion

	Item	Page
1.	Culture, Tourism and Sport Board – note of last meeting	3
2.	Future Libraries Programme	7
3.	Museums Improvement	17
4.	Supporting the visitor economy	21
5.	2011 Culture, Tourism and Sport annual conference	29

For noting / information

	Item	Page
6.	Culture, Tourism and Sport Programme Board membership and terms of reference	33
7.	Membership of Outside Bodies and feedback from members	39
8.	Revenue Support Grant	55
9.	Culture, Tourism and Sport Programme Board – update on current issues	59

Date of Next Meeting: Wednesday 17 November 2011, 1.00pm, Local Government House

Notes of Decisions Taken and Action

Culture, Tourism and Sport Board

13 July 2010

Local Government House, London at 14.00

Present

Chair:	Cllr Chris White (Hertfordshire CC, Liberal Democrat Group)
Acting Vice Chair:	Cllr Simon Henig (Durham CC, Labour Group)
Deputy Chairs:	Cllr Stephen Castle (Essex CC, Conservative Group)
Conservative:	Sir William Lawrence (Stratford-on-Avon DC), Cllr Ken Maddock (Mendip DC); Cllr Trevor Thorne (Northumberland CC); Cllr Geoffrey Theobald (Brighton & Hove); Cllr David Lloyd (Hertfordshire CC)
Liberal Democrat:	Cllr John Commons (Manchester City), Cllr Flick Rea (Camden LB)
Independent Group:	Cllr Clarence Barrett (LB Havering)
Apologies:	Cllr Andrew Cooper (Kirklees MBC, Independent Group) (Deputy Chair); Cllr Henry Smith (West Sussex CC); Cllr Kevin Carroll (Torbay Council); Cllr Mark Hackett (Manchester City); Cllr Bryony Rudkin (Ipswich BC)

In attendance: Nigel Lynn (CLOA); Paul Raynes, Martyn Allison, Philip Mind, Charlotte Meller, Steven Skelton, Paul Johnston (LG Group)

1. Notes of the last meeting

The notes of the last meeting of the Board were agreed as a correct record, subject to the following amendment:

Paragraph 5, item 2: "cuts in 'red-tape'" be replaced with "deregulation of live music."

Decision

Members asked that an update on planning for the 2011 LG Group Culture, Tourism and Sport Conference be provided at the September Board meeting.

Action

Officers to submit a report on progress with the CTS Conference to the Board meeting on 13 September.

2. Helping councils to deliver better and more efficient library services

Members noted that the LG Group, in partnership with the Museums, Libraries and Archives Council (MLA), were to deliver a sector-led efficiency programme to help Councils work together to deliver public libraries more efficiently.

The involvement of consultants within the project was of concern, and Members queried who would oversee their work. The intention was to use both local government peers and consultants, with the latter required to add capacity to the project rather than to direct its focus or make decisions.

Members said that the paper failed to reflect the changing expectations from local communities over the service that libraries should be providing and how those services were delivered. Members questioned whether the aims of MLA and the LG Group were the same, although they agreed that a joint working approach did reflect a more positive engagement of the MLA with local government.

Regular progress reports should be put before the Board to allow Members to assess the impact of the programme.

Decision

Members discussed the project outline and governance arrangements, and asked that update reports on the programme be provided at future Board meetings.

Action

Officers to reflect Members' comments in the future development of this work, and to ensure that a programme update be presented to the Board on 13 September.

3. Licensing reform

Members noted that, under the proposals set out in the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Bill, local authorities would be given stronger powers on licensing issues. Officers said that clarification was needed on which Government department would oversee the Bill and over how the Government would consult throughout the passage of the Bill.

Members questioned how some of the proposed clauses in the Bill would be taken forward, particularly banning the sale of alcohol below cost price. Clarification was being sought on this point.

Members said that environmental health, licensing and trading standards teams within local authorities must be properly resourced to address the full impact of the increasing number of late night licenses issued, and that Councils should be empowered to make representations on applications for Temporary Event Notices..

Action

Officers to reflect Members' views in future lobbying on the Bill.

4. Digital inclusion and delivery

Members agreed that the increased use of online services was a genuine asset for Councils in delivering services to local communities, but that Councils would have to be careful in ensuring that a divide between those with access to online services and those without did not increase. Members raised this issue within the context of those who either did not have the financial resources to own a computer, or afford regular internet access, or those with mobility difficulties who would not be able to, for example, visit a local library to access the internet. Members also felt that there was an increasing rural / urban divide on broadband provision, and that a move to more online service provision could disproportionately impact on rural communities.

Members enquired over planning and conservation issues that may arise in installing the equipment required to allow broadband provision.

Members suggested that there was also a piece of work to do in establishing how effective Councils were in making online services accessible and useable, and that current good practice among member Authorities in online provision could be shared.

Decision

Members agreed that the Board convey broad support for the work that the Government is undertaking on digital issues, subject to the concerns above being acknowledged.

Action

Officers to reflect Members' views in future correspondence on digital inclusion.

5. LG Group Culture, Tourism and Sport Programme Board – governance arrangements

Members noted the change in governance arrangements to come into place with the inception of the LG Group Programme Boards.

Members discussed both content and the programme for the Board away-day to be held on 13 September in Manchester.

Decision

Members noted the report.

Action

Officers to prepare a draft programme for the Board away-day and circulate this programme to Lead Members for their consideration.

6. Member feedback from outside bodies

Members noted the report.

Members enquired what legal responsibilities they held with regard to membership of outside bodies. Officers undertook to examine this ahead of the Programme Board meeting on 13 September, which would consider Board membership of outside bodies for the 2010 / 11 meeting cycle.

Action

Officers to ascertain the legal status of Members on outside bodies by virtue of their appointment by the Board.

7. Culture, Tourism and Sport Board – update on current issues

Members commented on the Government's cancellation of the free swimming programme, and noted that some leisure service providers were to offer reduced fees in the short term.

The Chair thanked Board Members for their assistance and contributions to the Board over the course of the year, and wished those Members who would not continue to sit on the Board well for the future.

Date of next meeting

9.30am, 13 September 2010, People's History Museum, Manchester

Item 2

Future Libraries Programme

Purpose of report

For discussion

Summary

This paper updates members on the development on the libraries improvement programme, led by the LG Group, working with MLA and DCMS. This work, now called the Future Libraries Programme, was launched on 16 August 2010.

Recommendation

That members note the report and discuss progress.

Action

Officers to bring regular updates on the programme to future meetings of the Board.

Contact officer: Steve Skelton
Position: Business Manager, LGA
Phone no: 020 7664 3074
E-mail: steven.skelton@lga.gov.uk

Item 2

Future Libraries Programme

Background

1. At the July 2010 Board, Members agreed to support the development of a sector-led libraries improvement programme, to be delivered jointly with MLA and supported by DCMS. Members also asked that a report on progress be brought to the September meeting of the Board.

Progress

2. The improvement project, now called the Future Libraries Programme, was launched on 16 August. The Programme is formed of a partnership between national and local government, and is driven by councils themselves. It aims to help the library service during the current challenging financial situation, with an ambition to ensure libraries play a central role in helping communities to build the Big Society.
3. The Programme received 51 submissions, representing over 100 local authorities. Ten projects were selected by a joint Local Government Improvement and Development / MLA panel to take part in the first phase. These projects, representing around three dozen local authorities will be offered practical support and advice to develop new ways of working that can help all library services to modernise and adapt to cuts in public spending.
4. The ten successful projects were assessed on their individual strengths, but also to ensure a balance of the type of project, geographical spread, and rural and urban mix to help ensure the programme shares learning nationally. The ten phase one areas – summary descriptions of which can be found at **Annex A** – are:
 - Northumberland with Durham;
 - Bolton, with Bury, Manchester, Oldham, Rochdale, Salford, Stockport, Tameside, Trafford, Wigan;
 - Bradford;
 - Lincolnshire, with Rutland, Cambridgeshire, North East Lincs, Peterborough;
 - Suffolk;
 - Oxfordshire with Kent;
 - Herefordshire with Shropshire;
 - Cornwall with Devon, Plymouth, Torbay;
 - Lewisham with Bexley, Bromley, Croydon, Greenwich, Lambeth and Southwark; and
 - Kensington & Chelsea with Hammersmith & Fulham.

Item 2

5. Central to the programme is the vision for library services to have greater connection with other local services and an ambition for services to be designed around the needs of the public, rather than based on organisational boundaries.
6. On 19 August, Cllr White, on behalf of the Board, wrote with the Minister for Culture, Communications and Creative Industries, Ed Vaizey MP, to leaders of library authorities. The letter, which is enclosed at **Annex B**, describes the ambitions of the Future Libraries Programme and the highlights the value of library services to all communities. It calls on Leaders to consider all available efficiency options – including radical ones – before making any reduction in service levels.

Next steps

7. The LGID and the MLA have already begun work to create packages of support and advice for each of the projects. Sector peers and a mixture consultancies, including LGID Improvement Services, have been engaged to provide the capacity necessary to deliver the programme.
8. Planning for the second phase of the Programme is also underway. This phase will see the learning from Phase one projects extended to around 40 further library authorities, and beyond these to the rest of the sector.
9. The Board Chair will also meet Minister for Culture, Communications and Creative Industries, Ed Vaizey MP, in October, to discuss progress and next steps for the programme. The Future Libraries Programme reports jointly to both the LG Group CTS Programme Board and the Minister.

Financial Implications

10. None to the LG Group. The cost of the Future Libraries Programme are met from MLA improvement funds.

Item 2

Annex A

Future Libraries projects – summaries of the ten phase one pilots

Working Together - Greater Manchester Libraries (Bolton, Bury, Manchester, Oldham, Rochdale, Salford, Stockport, Tameside, Trafford, Wigan)

The project will conduct a feasibility study and options appraisal to identify efficiency savings and customer service improvement opportunities and consider alternative governance models. This work will identify business models for a collaborative approach to library services for the Greater Manchester Region that will maintain and improve these statutory services. These models would be flexible enough to allow involvement of other library authorities and/or cultural organisations within the NW region.

The future model whilst acknowledging local accountability will go beyond delivering current services at less cost. It must release capacity to transform the services in order to invest in new developments that fit with social, economic and technological change. A vibrant, high quality, relevant and economically sustainable service for the 21st century is the ultimate aim. Improving services together; Enhancing quality together; Achieving value together.

Going Digital, Going Local; transforming libraries in Northumberland and Durham

Faced with similar issues relating to broadband access, digital exclusion and rural outreach, Northumberland and Durham County Councils have joined together on a project which will put libraries at the heart of their communities. The two councils wish to make use of shared arrangements relating to IT and professional support to enable their libraries to offer access to a range of councils and other services. Local communities will be able to use libraries to learn, make transactions, obtain the best sources of information and develop information handling skills, as well as accessing employment opportunities. Community engagement will be central to the project. Particular emphasis will be given to improving IT skills and confidence through the use of volunteers, testing how on-line borrowing challenges can be overcome, and looking at new models for the rural offer including work with rural community transport providers.

Modernising Library Services in two sparse rural counties (Herefordshire and Shropshire)

Herefordshire and Shropshire Councils face many similar challenges not least delivering services to sparse populations in highly rural areas, but also a number of opportunities to create modern and effective library services. The two unitary

Item 2

authorities share a common approach and understanding in the delivery of services at a local level. Therefore, the project will consider the use of new models of service delivery building on both authorities' experience in working with communities to deliver and improve services. The programme will look at a range of delivery and management options that will shape sustainable services, including the options of charitable trust status and neighbourhood run libraries. While these approaches are also being tested elsewhere this project will ensure that they meet the needs of predominantly rural counties and build on the innovation and best practice found in both authorities. The project is a joint partnership with equal weight given to both partners, Herefordshire Council being the nominated lead authority.

Breaking Boundaries (Lincolnshire, Rutland, Cambridgeshire, North East Lincs; Peterborough)

The project will focus on how Lincolnshire can work with neighbouring authorities and local communities to develop library services beyond their perceived traditional role and across a large geographical area. These 'product extensions' will include access to other public services, key information hubs and the provision of democratic community space. The aim is to reposition libraries as a core service of local government, making them relevant and responsive. It will ask how communities should be involved in the planning, design, delivery and evaluation of library services. Solutions will be developed across administrative boundaries with Rutland and North East Lincolnshire. Shared back office and procurement arrangements will be tested with Vivacity, Peterborough's Culture and Leisure Trust. The benefits of collaborative working will be explored with Cambridgeshire by developing the SPINE partnership. There will be two core elements within the project which will focus on key stakeholders: how to involve communities in the planning, design, delivery and evaluation of library services; and how to engage local councillors, the private and voluntary sectors in the development of high performing, value for money library services which meet the needs of local communities.

Local Libraries (Suffolk)

The Suffolk project is about working with community groups to support them in managing their local library. This approach aims to enable communities to take control of running their library and shape it to meet the needs of local people. These community run libraries will be supported by a countywide online service, a network which allows people to borrow from one place and return to another, as well as a 'value for money' book lending and reservation service. This approach aims to enable communities to take control of running their libraries, shaping them to fit their locality, whilst making savings in management and bureaucracy, yet retaining the networked services which are so valued in Suffolk.

Closer Working in South East London (Bexley, Bromley, Croydon, Greenwich, Lambeth, Lewisham, Southwark)

Item 2

The Future Libraries Programme is an exciting opportunity to deliver a step change across library services in South East London. Through it, Bexley, Bromley, Croydon, Greenwich, Lambeth, Lewisham, and Southwark, will look at options and opportunities for improving quality and reducing costs by working more closely together.

These library authorities - members of the South East Libraries Performance Improvement Group (SELPIG) - will build on individual strengths and distinctive features, to retain and improve best practice models and introduce new solutions. Joint Delivery of library services (Hammersmith & Fulham, Kensington & Chelsea) The London Borough of Hammersmith and Fulham and the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea plan to explore the feasibility of sharing library services to be delivered or commissioned jointly across borough borders. This will include investigating alternative models for delivering library services in what could be an innovative way forward for both authorities, and which, in addition, could provide a model for other London boroughs.

Library Links (Bradford)

Bradford Council is working with communities to help remodel its library service to provide major libraries in key centres across the district supported by a network of sustainable local service points – Library Links. Potentially many of these library link points will be located in shared outlets with extended opening times in partnership with a retail partner. A joint approach with a retail partner has the potential to relocate libraries into stores with excess space, redevelop existing library sites to incorporate new library facilities attached to retail stores and new developments of joint library/retail facilities. This programme will enable Bradford to develop a remodelled and sustainable library service delivered through innovative partnership working and using a joint approach which is effective and efficient for both parties.

Innovation, Collaboration and Efficiency - The South West Peninsula Library Partnership: (Cornwall, Devon, Plymouth, Torbay)

The South West Peninsula library partnership has been working together since 2009 to explore how joint working can create efficiencies, and maximise opportunities to deliver high quality, innovative and best practice library services at a time of financial constraint. This project will enable us to accelerate that work. The project will identify the scale of the potential efficiencies, explore areas for innovative service improvement across the partnership and identify appropriate governance models, which can incorporate the shared services across the four authorities whilst also retaining clear accountability and identity for the delivery of libraries at a local level. As a group of authorities, we look forward to sharing the results of our project with other local authorities as we recognise that the models we evolve may be appropriate for many other parts of the country.

13 September 2010

Item 2

Delivering Library Services for the Future (Oxfordshire and Kent)

Two large counties are using the opportunity this programme provides to develop a new long term model for library services provided in rural counties. The model will need to substantially and permanently reduce the cost of provision, while retaining those features which are valuable to customers (good stock, access to information, community spaces and knowledgeable staff). The new model will need to deliver library services fit for purpose in the 21st century, including extensive online services such as e books, e loans and social networking, as well as provision that draws on Big Society principles of locally driven and community based activity.

Item 2

Annex B

19 August 2010
Dear Colleague

MLA/LGA LIBRARY SUPPORT PROGRAMME

As we all take on the enormous challenge of reducing the financial deficit, Local Authorities are re-modelling budgets and making plans for a tough spending round ahead. In these difficult financial times the public library service provides an opportunity to deliver policy priorities in more efficient ways. The best public libraries already do so. They work in partnership with other local services, using the library brand and network infrastructure to provide services to the community in an accessible and cost effective way.

For example, in some areas of the country libraries are helping people to find employment - a vital service during a recession. A wide range of health and well-being activity is being delivered by public libraries, providing drop in sessions with health professionals or information about treatment options through NHS Choices. Many libraries work with schools and colleges to support education and learning agendas. Some take council tax payments or offer community engagement with local police officers. All library services provide internet access and help people to get online. Public libraries are playing a key role in Raceonline's ambition to make the UK the first nation in the world where everyone can use the web, with the Society of Chief Librarians pledging to get 500,000 people to get online through the public library network. This wide availability of online access will empower more citizens to gain access to a wide range of information and public services and enable local authorities to deliver more public services online. All these connections can have positive benefits for communities and increase efficiencies within authorities.

In developing your funding plans, we believe that libraries can help to deliver priority policies and that there are efficiency options for protecting the frontline service to the public. Experience in central government has been that consultation with staff has produced some innovative suggestions for reducing cost and staff engagement with library staff could be similarly constructive.

Before reducing the library service to communities we know that Local Authorities will be considering other efficiency options, including some radical ones - shared services, merging functions or staffing across authorities or public services, use of volunteers or of other community buildings. For example, there is a huge discrepancy in the size of library authorities – some operate fewer than 10 service points while the large county councils and metropolitan authorities can have over 80. There may be opportunities for partnerships between authorities - for larger library services to deliver some or all of the service for their smaller neighbours or for smaller authorities to deliver services jointly?

On 1 July we announced a new Library Support Programme led by the Local Government Association Group (LGA) and Museums Libraries and Archives Council

Item 2

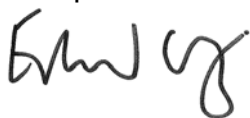
(MLA). In line with the new thinking of the coalition Government and the LGA this is about help and sharing best practice, not interference or control. The programme will help identify how local authorities can drive down costs in their library service provision whilst maintaining the quality of the frontline service. There was an exceptional level of interest in the programme and 51 projects submitted expressions of interest with participation of over 100 councils. This week we were pleased to announce the 10 successful support programme projects which will take part in the first wave of the Programme. The projects are:

- Northumberland with Durham
- Bolton, with Bury, Manchester, Oldham, Rochdale, Salford, Stockport, Tameside, Trafford, Wigan
- Bradford
- Lincolnshire, with Rutland, Cambridgeshire, North East Lincs
- Suffolk
- Oxfordshire with Kent
- Herefordshire with Shropshire
- Cornwall with Devon, Plymouth, Torbay
- Lewisham with Bexley, Bromley, Croydon, Greenwich, Lambeth & Southwark
- Kensington & Chelsea with Hammersmith & Fulham

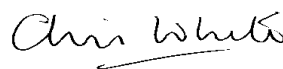
The programme will take the best learning from these 10 pioneering projects and make it available across the wider public library network so that everyone can benefit from the work.

If your authority is not involved in the 10 projects announced this week we hope that you will follow their progress and consider the learning from this programme and its relevance to your own authority. We expect the programme to set a fast pace and ambitious trajectory which we hope you can and will be part of in later phases of the programme. Further details on the announcement are available at http://www.culture.gov.uk/news/news_stories/7381.aspx.

The MLA will keep their website updated with progress on the support programme and the solutions they are exploring with the participating authorities. The site also includes improvement advice, best practice case studies and field team contacts (please see http://www.mla.gov.uk/what/strategies/The_future_libraries_programme). We would be very grateful if you could draw this letter to the attention of portfolio holders responsible for libraries in your authority.



ED VAIZEY
**Minister for Culture, Communications &
Creative Industries**



Cllr CHRIS WHITE
**Chair, LGA Culture, Tourism & Sport
Board**

Item 3

Museums Improvement

Purpose of report

For discussion

Summary

This paper summarises the MLA-led Renaissance in the Regions programme that invested in regional and local museums. Members are invited to discuss the programme and the future improvement of museum services in the context of the announcement, on 26 July 2010, that the Museums, Libraries and Archives council will be wound up by April 2012.

Recommendation

That members note the report and discuss the issues raised

Action

Subject to members' comments, officers to take forward any suggested actions.

Contact officer: Steve Skelton
Position: Business Manager, LGA
Phone no: 020 7664 3074
E-mail: steven.skelton@lga.gov.uk

Item 3

Museums improvement

Background

1. The Secretary of State for Culture, Olympics, Media and Sport, on 26 July 2010, released a written statement on DCMS arms length bodies. Amongst other announcements, the statement confirmed that the Museums Libraries and Archives Council would be abolished, and its activities wound up by April 2012.

Renaissance Programme

2. The Renaissance in the Regions programme has invested around £300 million of central government funds to improve and develop museums in England. The programme added about 13% to the revenue budgets of participating museums, and was the first time that central government had contributed revenue funding in this way. It accounts for over half of the MLA's funded activity.
3. The programme was delivered through regional "hub" museums, which supported the development of smaller museums within their regions. The only formal monitoring of performance associated with investment was in relation to hub museums. An independent evaluation of the impact of Renaissance between 2001 - 2008 found that the investment programme could claim several achievements:
 - Visits to museums in England, which were in decline at the turn of the millennium, began to recover at the same time that Renaissance funding became available;
 - From 2003 to 2007 hub increases were in line with, or exceeded, those museums [that received funding directly from DCMS];
 - The general trend has been for hub museums to out-perform their counterparts in Scotland and Wales, where there is no equivalent to Renaissance;
 - The increase in visit numbers reflects more visits by people from the immediate local authority area;
 - There is evidence of a stable and heavily-used schools service;
 - Hub museums' visitor profiles of people from ethnic minorities broadly match their proportion in the population in all regions except London. There is also a correlation between museum visits and the proportion of the population receiving Disability Living Allowances.
4. However, the evaluation criticised the performance monitoring and reporting embedded in the programme, and was critical about the MLA's engagement with local authorities: "*MLA's relationships with hub museums' primary funding partners, the majority of which are local authorities, appears to be more*

Item 3

theoretical than actual. It has largely ignored the realities of working within local government structures.”

5. The evaluation also made several recommendations for improving the programme. These included:
 - structural and cultural change within the museums sector should be accelerated, for example, through a greater commitment to partnership working, both within and outside the sector; the greater sharing of expertise, experience and resources;
 - the programme should engage in high level partnerships with primary funding partners – namely local authorities and universities, and within the context of those arrangements, Renaissance should contribute to the realisation of local policy goals;
 - the programme should both extend and simplify its current practice of partnership working to embrace other organisations including social entrepreneurs, health trusts and the voluntary sector;
 - the programme should actively explore other models of delivery, including the more effective development of museums as the providers of services commissioned by others – for example, by Children’s Services or Primary Care Trusts;
 - there should be a dismantling of regional hubs and they should be replaced by flexible partnerships, centred around a small number of core museums;

Future of Renaissance

6. The Government have currently made no firm commitments about the future of Renaissance funding. Were it to be continued however, the demise of the MLA means that new administrative and governance structures would be required. In the new context of public spending reductions, local and national public subsidy to cultural institutions needs to work more efficiently together, and councils will want to play a central role in the further development of the programme.
7. Drawing on the Boards’ recent discussions around libraries improvement and the above recommendations of the independent evaluation, **members are invited to comment on potential future models for the further development of the Renaissance programme.**

Financial Implications

8. None for the LGA arising from this report. Changes to Renaissance programme will have significant implications for funded museums.

Item 4

Supporting the visitor economy

Purpose of report

For discussion and direction.

Summary

Central government support for tourism is currently delivered at a regional level, with funding from Regional Development Agencies (RDAs). The move from RDAs to Local Enterprise Partnerships (LEPs) means that this will change. This paper seeks members' views on various aspects of this transition.

Recommendations

Members are asked to:

- Comment on and endorse the proposal at paragraph 6 that the Chair should write jointly with representatives of the tourism industry to LEPs;
- Discuss aspects of the transition from RDAs to LEPs at paragraph 9;
- Comment on the nature and content of a letter to the Minister for Tourism, as set out at paragraph 12.

Action

Subject to members' discussion of the above points, officers to take forward agreed actions.

Contact officer: Steven Skelton
Position: Business Manager, LGA
Phone no: 020 7664 3074
E-mail: steven.skelton@local.gov.uk

Item 4

Supporting the visitor economy

Background

1. The Secretary of State for Business, Innovation and Skills and the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government wrote to councils on 29 June inviting them to put forward proposals to form a Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) to take on the responsibilities previously held by Regional Development Agencies (RDA). The LGA has long lobbied for the devolution of RDA roles and responsibilities, and this is a welcome development.
2. The introduction of LEPs has the potential to improve public support for tourism. Central government support for tourism is currently delivered at a regional level, with funding from RDAs. The move from RDAs to LEPs means that this will change, and the introduction of LEPs has the potential to improve public support for tourism businesses – 80% of which are small and medium sized enterprises – by focussing work at the level of the actual destinations that people visit, and by exploiting local knowledge about what visitors like best about these destinations and what needs improving.
3. RDAs will be wound up by April 2012. It is currently unclear when LEPs will be formed, or what access they will have to RDA funding and assets. The Economy and Transport Programme Board is leading on these issues for the LG Group and officers will keep members updated on future developments.
4. Officers are currently discussing the impact and management of the transition from RDAs to LEPs with government, VisitEngland and the tourism industry, and **this paper seeks members' views on this.**

Supporting the visitor economy

5. As the fifth largest industrial sector in the UK, tourism has massive potential to support employment, investment and skills development. Tourism is, essentially, the business of selling the idea and experience of places to people, and so councils – which provide the core infrastructure of places, such as transport facilities and clean, safe and attractive public spaces – are heavily involved in supporting the visitor economy.
6. The Chair has indicated that he wishes to write jointly with representatives of the tourism industry to all LEPs once they are formed, to advocate for the value and potential of tourism as an industry, and to reinforce the importance of

Item 4

strong partnerships between councils and businesses locally. **Members are invited to comment on and endorse this proposal.**

7. Councils are the largest public funder of the industry, investing over £100m per year in business support, visitor information and destination marketing. They also spend a significant amount on culture and heritage and support major cultural, business and sporting events; all of which are key attractions for tourists.
8. A majority of councils, often working with other authorities and closely with local businesses, support a destination management organisation (DMO) or similar body. Many of these also receive support from RDAs. Amongst other things, these bodies develop the local tourism offer, help improve the look and feel of destinations, support businesses to improve their customer service standards so that places are more welcoming and market the destination to potential visitors.
9. **Members are invited to discuss the nature of future relations between LEPs and DMOs and the impact of the transition from RDAs**, including:
 - How LEPs might commission DMOs to deliver their functions going forward;
 - Any potential for duplication between the two bodies;
 - How existing central government funding for tourism should be utilised;
 - How tourism businesses can best continue to be supported, and how the necessary supporting architecture can be retained, during the transition from RDAs to LEPs.

Incentivising support for the visitor economy

10. The Prime Minister, on 12 August 2010, made a speech on tourism in which he suggested that the government might introduce measures to create greater incentives for local authorities and their partners to invest in support for the visitor economy. Speaking at the Serpentine Gallery, the PM said: *“If a local council does more to attract tourists to its area they know they’ll be picking up costs but they’ll get none of the additional business rate revenue. Central government sucks in 100 per cent of this revenue generated by all local economic growth. This is just mad. Local authorities must be allowed to invest some of this back into their own communities.”*
11. The speech also announced that the Minister for Tourism and Heritage, John Penrose MP, would produce a report by October setting out the Government’s strategy for tourism. It is unclear at present how this work will align with Visit England’s national tourism strategy, which was launched in March 2010.

Item 4

12. The LGA will write to the Minister setting out its views on supporting tourism businesses and incentivising local authorities to invest in the visitor economy, and **members are invited to comment on the nature and content of this letter.**

Financial Implications

13. None for the LG Group arising from this report. The development of LEPs will have significant impacts on funding for economic services locally.

Implications for Wales

14. Tourism is a devolved matter. This paper only concerns English local authorities.

Item 4

Annex A

Excerpts from the Prime Minister's speech on Tourism

The full transcript of this speech can be found at
<http://www.number10.gov.uk/news/speeches-and-transcripts/2010/08/pms-speech-on-tourism-54479>

The strongest possible tourism strategy

I want us to have the strongest possible tourism strategy. I think there are four parts. First – what government does nationally. Second – the role of local government and the support of the local area. Third – how we stimulate the private sector in tourism. And fourth – how we make policy in other areas that will impact the tourism industry.

[...]

What Government does nationally

First, what government does nationally. We're going to bring a whole new approach – and a new attitude – to tourism. Because we think tourism is one of the missing pieces in the UK's economic strategy. Our commitment to tourism is not new-found.

We're going to be a government that understands the huge potential of our tourism industry that gets tourism and that gives the industry the backing it needs. A successful tourism policy needs an active and engaged government. But taking Britain up the league table of tourist destinations isn't something that we in government will do alone. It's something that we will all do together.

[...]

Industry in the lead but with government – and society as a whole – standing behind you every step of the way.

Local Government and the support of the local area

Second, local government and the support of the local area. Tourism is a local industry. You can't support local industry with national diktats from Whitehall. The old model was just too top-down failing to incentivise innovation and local enterprise and failing to reward local authorities which seized the chance to support the expansion of their local economy. It completely disempowered the local area. We're going to do things differently.

The old Regional Development Agencies put bureaucratic boundaries over natural geography. Take the Cotswolds artificially spread across different Regional Development Agencies including the South East, the South West.

Now if areas like this want to work together across those old, centrally-imposed boundaries they can. That is why we have invited local businesses and local authorities to come to us and tell us what works for them.

13 September 2010

Item 4

And of course to tell us what doesn't work like the current business rates system which fails to support the development of tourism.

If a local council does more to attract tourists to its area they know they'll be picking up costs but they'll get none of the additional business rate revenue. Central government sucks in 100 per cent of this revenue generated by all local economic growth. This is just mad.

Local authorities must be allowed to invest some of this back into their own communities. This wouldn't just help tourism – it would help all sectors of local industry across our country. And it's a vital part of how we can begin to rebalance our economy.

[...]

John Penrose is doing a report for me, which he will present in October, to tell me whether that is a realistic objective or not but I want us to aim high not low. In fact, I want John to go further.

I want John to work with you day in and day out to develop a tourism strategy by the end of this year that brings together the best of the ideas you have that ensures London 2012 provides the best economic and tourism legacy that any Olympic host city has ever done and that sets us on a path to break into the top five tourist destinations in the world.

Item 5

2011 Culture, Tourism and Sport annual conference

Purpose of report

For discussion.

Summary

This paper updates Members on progress made by LG Group officers on arrangements for the 2011 Culture, Tourism and Sport annual conference.

Recommendation

That members note the report and comment on the key themes that the conference should cover.

Action

Subject to members' comments, officers to take forward any suggested actions.

Contact officer: Rebecca Rossini
Position: Events Manager, LGA
Phone no: 020 7664 3104
E-mail: rebecca.rossini@local.gov.uk

Item 5

2011 Culture, Tourism and Sport annual conference

Background

1. Members were updated on progress on the 2011 Culture, Tourism and Sport conference at the Board meeting in May 2010. Members agreed at that meeting that officers explore dates for the conference in late-February or early-March, so as to prevent any potential clashes between the conference date and the local government purdah period.
2. Members also expressed a preference for the conference to be held in Cardiff.

Update on conference planning

3. Although Cardiff was originally chosen as the preferred location to hold the Culture, Tourism and Sport conference in 2011, the only venue suitable for this event could, unfortunately, not accommodate the Group in the preferred dates chosen by the Board.
4. After a site visit in Cardiff and further consultation with Board Lead Members, it became apparent that the event would have to take place on either the first week of March (1-4 March) or the second week (7-11) only.
5. Officers were therefore asked to research venues across the country which could accommodate this event during the preferred dates and a number of venues were shortlisted which were then put through for consultation with the Board's Lead Members.
6. Based on venue availability, location, space and cost, York came on top of the preferred list and the Royal York Hotel (a four star hotel) is therefore recommended as the conference venue, with 3 – 4 March 2011 suggested as the dates for the conference.

Conference programme

7. Members will be updated at the Board meeting on potential themes and study tour visits identified by officers, and are invited to comment on themes that they feel should be covered at the conference.

Financial Implications

8. The financial implications of the conference described in this paper are in line with existing LG Group financial plans for conferences and events.

Item 6

Culture, Tourism and Sport Programme Board membership and terms of reference

Purpose of report

For decision.

Summary

This report outlines the membership of, and terms of reference for, the Local Government (LG) Group Culture, Tourism and Sport Programme Board for the 2010 / 11 meeting cycle.

Recommendation(s)

The Board is asked to:

- formally note the membership and terms of reference for the LG Group Culture, Tourism and Sport Programme Board (attached as **Appendix A** and **B** respectively);

Action

Officers to take forward any actions as appropriate.

Contact officer: Paul Johnston
Position: Member Support Officer, LGA
Phone no: 020 7664 3031
E-mail: paul.johnston@local.gov.uk

Item 6

Appendix A

**Culture, Tourism and Sport Programme Board -
Membership 2010/11**

Councillor	Authority
Conservative (6)	
Stephen Castle [Deputy Chairman]	Essex CC
Sir William Lawrence	Stratford-on-Avon DC
Ken Maddock	Mendip DC
Kevin Carroll	Torbay Council
Geoffrey Theobald OBE	Brighton & Hove Council
Andrew Lewer	Derbyshire CC
Substitutes:	
Anne Hawkesworth	Bradford MDC
David Lloyd	Hertfordshire CC
Labour (4)	
Simon Henig [Vice Chair]	Durham CC
Bryony Rudkin	Ipswich BC
Chris Roberts	Greenwich LB
Caitlin Bisknell	High Peak DC
Substitutes:	
Mike Amesbury	Manchester City
David Phillips	Swansea City
Liberal Democrat (3)	
Chris White [Chair]	Hertfordshire CC
Flick Rea	Camden LB
John Commons	Manchester City
Substitute	
Gary Millar	Liverpool City
Independent (1)	
Geoff Knight [Deputy Chair]	Lancaster City

14 Member Board

Terms of Reference

LG Group Culture, Tourism and Sport Programme Board

The purpose of the Culture, Tourism and Sport Programme Board is to provide strategic oversight of all the LG Group's policy and improvement activity in relation to tourism, sport, the licensing of regulated entertainment and gambling, the Olympic and Paralympic Games, digital media and communications technology and cultural services including heritage, museums, libraries, archives and the arts, in line with the LG Group priorities.

Programme Boards should seek to involve councillors in supporting the delivery of these priorities (through task groups, Rural and Urban Commissions, Special Interest Groups (SIGs), regional networks and other means of wider engagement); essentially operating as the centre of a network connecting to all councils and drawing on the expertise of key advisors from the sector.

The Culture, Tourism and Sport Programme Board will be responsible for:

1. Developing a thorough understanding of council priorities and performance in the areas of responsibility, using strong networks and robust information.
2. Helping to shape the LG Group Business Plan by ensuring the priorities of the sector are fed into the process.
3. Overseeing a programme of work to deliver the strategic priorities set by the LG Group Executive, covering lobbying/campaigns, research/policy, good practice, improvement support and events – as specified in the business plan, taking into account linkages with other policy boards where appropriate.
4. Representational and lobbying activities on behalf of the LG Group and responsibility for the promulgation of activity through public statements in its areas of responsibility.
5. Building and maintaining effective relationships with key stakeholders.

The Culture, Tourism and Sport Programme Board may:

- Appoint members to relevant outside bodies in accordance with guidance in the Political Conventions.

Item 6

- Appoint member champions where appropriate (who must be a current member of the Board) on key issues, with responsibility for liaising with portfolio holders on key issues that require rapid response/contact with councils.

Item 7

Membership of Outside Bodies and feedback from members

Purpose of report

For information.

Summary

This report outlines outside bodies to which the Programme Board is asked to appoint for the 2010 / 11 meeting cycle. This report also seeks to confirm to Members appointed to the Board will not, by virtue of their appointment, incur any fiduciary duties on those outside bodies to which they are appointed.

Members that have attended recent meetings of outside bodies are also **invited** to provide any relevant oral feedback.

Recommendation(s)

The Board is asked to:

- formally appoint to outside bodies detailed at **Appendix A**, in accordance with the procedure outlined in **Appendix B**, and at **Appendix C** for the European and International Programme Board; ensuring that the bodies to which they wish to appoint accurately reflect LGA priorities;
- that members currently representing the Programme Board on outside bodies **provide any appropriate feedback** from recent meetings, details of which are enclosed at **Appendix D**;
- provide the LG Group Executive October meeting with the Board's 2010-2011 list of outside body appointments.

Action

- Officers to inform outside bodies of any changes in, or confirm continuation of, LGA representatives.
- Officers to confirm appointments directly to members and also via a paper for information to the next appropriate full Programme Board.

Contact officer: Paul Johnston
Position: Member Support Officer
Phone no: 020 7664 3031
E-mail: paul.johnston@local.gov.uk

Item 7

Membership of Outside Bodies and feedback from members

Background

1. The Local Government Group currently benefits from a wide network of member representatives on outside bodies across all Programme Boards. These appointments are reviewed on an annual basis across the Group to ensure that the aims and activities of the outside bodies remain pertinent to the LG Group.

Programme Board appointments

2. A list of the organisations to which the Culture, Tourism and Sport Programme Board currently appoints member representatives is attached as **Appendix A**. Members are asked to note and comment upon the appointments for this meeting cycle, which are to be made in proportion with political representation across the LG Group.
3. A new database for centrally recording all the information relating to appointments has been created and is held by the Member Services team.
4. In order to clarify the process for making appointments; the method of recording information on appointments; and to set out the level of support we will offer to appointed members, a procedure has been drawn up (**Appendix B**) which aims to ensure that Members are, ahead of the first meeting of the cycle, fully briefed on both the policy direction of the outside body and the logistical arrangements, such as meeting frequency, meeting location and membership.

Financial Implications

5. There are no financial implications arising directly from this report. Reasonable travel and subsistence costs will be paid by the LGA Group for expenses incurred by a member appointee, whilst carrying out a representative role on an outside body on behalf of the LGA.

Contact officer: Paul Johnston
Position: Member Support Officer
Phone no: 020 7664 3031
E-mail: paul.johnston@local.gov.uk

Item 7

Appendix A

Culture, Tourism and Sport Programme Board Outside Bodies:

* indicates previous representative is no longer a Board member. Such positions should initially be considered vacant, unless members decide otherwise

Organisation / contact details	Background	2009-10 Representatives	Allowances/ Expenses	LGA Contact Officer
<p>2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games Nations and Regions Group (NRG)</p> <p>LOCOG</p>	<p>Chaired by London 2012 Organising Committee Board member Charles Allen, the NRG is made up of 12 senior representatives from UK business and sport: nine from the English regions and one each from England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland.</p>	<p>1 LGA appointment: Cllr Chris White (as Chair of the Board) Cllr Stephen Castle also attends as Chair of the NRG East)</p>	<p>LGA will cover reasonable travel and subsistence</p>	<p>Laura Caton Policy Consultant (020) 7664 3154 laura.caton@lga.gov.uk</p>
<p>DCMS Informal Local Government Network</p>	<p>The informal local government network allows DCMS to communicate ideas and proposals to people who have a direct influence over the provision of culture and sport at a local level</p>	<p>4 appointments (lead members): Cllr Chris White Cllr Ian Mearns (*) Cllr Stephen Castle Cllr Andrew Cooper (*)</p>	<p>LGA will cover reasonable travel and subsistence</p>	<p>Steven Skelton Business Manager (020) 7664 3074 steven.skelton@lga.gov.uk</p>
<p>Parliamentary All Party Leisure Group and Sports Caucus</p>	<p>The Sports Caucus was set up in November 2003 to provide a focus for the sports lobby in Parliament.</p>	<p>1 appointment Cllr Stephen Castle</p>	<p>LGA will cover reasonable travel/subsistence</p>	<p>Steven Skelton Business Manager steven.skelton@lga.gov.uk</p>
<p>National Youth Libraries</p>	<p>The National Youth Libraries Board</p>	<p>1 appointment:</p>	<p>LGA will cover</p>	<p>Steven Skelton</p>

Item 7

Board The Reading Agency	champions the role of libraries in delivering outcomes for children	Cllr Flick Rea	reasonable travel and subsistence	Business Manager (020) 7664 3074 steven.skelton@lga.gov.uk
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 appointment: Cllr Sir William Lawrence	Reasonable travel expenses can be claimed from the BBFC.	Steven Skelton Business Manager (020) 7664 3074 steven.skelton@lga.gov.uk
Tourism Advisory Council DCMS	The TAC advises the Minister for Tourism. It has been dormant since the 2010 General Election	1 appointment: Chris White (as board Chair)	LGA will cover reasonable travel and subsistence	Steven Skelton Business Manager (steven.skelton@lga.gov.uk)
<u>Tourism Alliance</u>	The TA seeks to establish and maintain a favourable operating environment for all businesses involved in the delivery of tourism, particularly in England. The LGA has a non-voting place on the Board.	1 appointment: Cllr Kevin Carroll	LGA will cover reasonable travel and subsistence	Steven Skelton Business Manager (020) 7664 3074 steven.skelton@lga.gov.uk
<u>British Tourism Development Committee</u>	The BTDC is Visit Britain's main consultative mechanism with the tourism industry. It acts as a forum for discussion and representation to Government and others.	1 appointment: Sir William Lawrence	LGA will cover reasonable travel and subsistence	Steven Skelton Business Manager (020) 7664 3074 steven.skelton@lga.gov.uk

Item 7

<p>British Resorts and Destinations Association Peter Hampson Director peter.hampson@btconnect.com</p>	<p>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.</p>	<p>1 appointment: Cllr Geoffrey Theobald</p>	<p>LGA will cover reasonable travel and subsistence</p>	<p>Steven Skelton Business Manager (020) 7664 3074 steven.skelton@lga.gov.uk</p>
---	--	--	---	---

Appointments to LGA groups

LGA Body:	Background:	2009-10 LGA Representatives:	Frequency of Meetings:	LGA Contact Officer:
Rural Commission Local Government Association	Provides the forum within the Association for member authorities with an interest in rural affairs.	One position held or all 1 appointment: Cllr Andrew Cooper (*)	2 times per year	Sarah Monaghan Member Support Officer (020) 7664 3214 sarah.monaghan@lga.gov.uk
Urban Commission Local Government Association	Provides a forum LGA for member authorities whose areas are wholly or partly urban.	1 appointment: Cllr Ian Mearns (*)	2 times per year	Sarah Monaghan Member Support Officer (020) 7664 3214 sarah.monaghan@lga.gov.uk
European & International Strategy Group §	LGA's new International and European governance arrangements	1 appointment: Cllr David Lloyd	TBA	Nick Porter Policy & Public Affairs Officer Nick.porter@lga.gov.uk

§ - **Please note:** this group will be replaced by the new European and International Programme Board, appointments to which will be made in accordance with the process outlined at **Appendix C**

Item 7

Appendix B

Procedure for LGA appointments to Outside Bodies

1. List of Outside Bodies

- 1.1 It is the responsibility of the Boards to review the need for representation on outside bodies as part of their annual appointments process. Boards should:
- Ensure that the list of outside bodies reflects LGA priorities, both by ending appointments where these are not felt to be of value and by actively seeking representation on new organisations;
 - Evaluate both the value of the LGA's relationship with the organisation and the level of LGA influence on that body; and
 - Have consideration of when it is necessary to appoint a member representative and when an officer appointment would be more appropriate.
- 1.2 The Boards will submit a report to LGA Executive setting out their current list of outside bodies every year in October.

2. Political Proportionality

- 2.1 As stated in the LGA Political Conventions:

Every effort will be made to ensure that all groups recognised by the Association are fairly represented on outside bodies both numerically and in terms of the range/type of appointments made. Each Board or Panel responsible for making appointments should agree the means by which this is achieved ... Appointments to individual outside bodies should reflect political balance where possible, subject to the constraints set by the number of appointments to individual bodies.

- 2.2. While the Boards are responsible for ensuring appointments are made in accordance with the LGA's political proportionality, the political group offices have oversight of this process through:
- a) Considering individual appointments in the context of all appointments to outside bodies across the organisation.
 - b) Maintaining lists of members of Boards and other councillors willing to serve on outside bodies, together with details of their particular skills and experience.
 - c) Discussing nominations to outside bodies with their members at the political group meetings preceding September Board meetings.
 - d) Being kept informed of any additional appointments that arise during the course of the board cycle.
 - e) Finding a representative if a Board is unable to secure an appointment.

Item 7

3. Appointments

- 3.1 Appointments will be agreed by each Board at their September meeting and will be time limited – set according to the outside body's governance arrangements.
- 3.2 The Business Manager will then write to each organisation notifying them of the appointment and requesting details of forthcoming meetings.
- 3.3 Certain appointments are made centrally and appointments are also made by LGE to negotiating bodies and by the European and International Unit. While the process for making these appointments will be different, this information will be recorded on the central database and the same requirements for review and for support to members apply.

4. Recording information about appointments

- 4.1 A database of existing outside body appointments will be maintained centrally by the member support team, to include:
- Councillor details, including political party;
 - Term of Office;
 - A key contact at the organisation;
 - Any allowances or expenses paid by the outside body; and
 - Named LGA link officer.
- 4.2 The Member support team will add details of the appointment to the notes on the appointed councillor's CRM entry and on the organisation's CRM entry.
- 4.3 The list of Outside Bodies, broken down by Board, will be published on the LGA website and details will also be added to each member's web profile. The member support team has responsibility for ensuring this is kept up to date.
- 4.4 This list will also include any 'member champions' – board members appointed to hold a particular portfolio area of responsibility within the LGA, for example the European and International Champions on each Board.

5. LGA support for members appointed to Outside Bodies

- 5.1 Members appointed to outside bodies must receive support from LGA officers in order to maximise their contributions to outside bodies, including being kept informed of key LGA lobbying messages. Support will therefore be provided in line with the following Scrutiny Panel recommendations, agreed by the LGA in 2003:
- For each Board making appointments to outside bodies, there should be a designated LGA member of staff to oversee the appointment process for that executive, including the provision of introductory briefing for new appointees.
 - A named member of staff should be appointed as the liaison person for each outside body.

Item 7

- Each Board should consider the need for induction support for appointees in relation to particular outside bodies.
- Where deputies or substitute representatives are appointed, they should also be made aware of arrangements for support and report back.
- Details of any financial support from either the LGA or the outside body should be provided for all appointees.

5.2 Business Managers will oversee the appointment process and in most cases will be the liaison officer for outside bodies linked to their Boards; however, in certain cases it may be more appropriate for a Policy Consultant to act as the liaison.

5.3 Member Support Officers will ensure that appointees receive a letter setting out the details of the appointment, term of office, future meeting dates, arrangements for expenses and the contact details of both the organisation's named contact and the LGA's link officer.

5.4 New appointees will receive an initial briefing on the work of the outside body and relevant LGA lobbying messages from the link officer and will also be kept informed of any arising policy issues and of other LGA contact with the organisation.

6. Mechanisms for feedback

6.1 All appointees should be encouraged to provide updates to the link officer following meetings and when important issues arise.

6.2 All appointees, including non-board members, should be encouraged to feed into board 'other business' reports every 2 months. Appointees who are not board members may also wish to attend a board meeting to report back.

6.3 Towards the end of each year, all appointees will be contacted by either the Member Support Officer or Business Manager and invited to feed back their views of the appointment, in preparation for the Boards' annual review of appointments. This should cover how many meetings they have attended, how useful they feel their role has been, whether they wish to continue and whether they have any additional support needs.

6.4 The named contact at the outside body should also be contacted annually to confirm details of attendance and provide an update on any changes.

7. Expenses

7.1 Reasonable travel and subsistence costs will be paid by the LGA Group for expenses incurred by a member appointee, whilst carrying out a representative role on an outside body on behalf of the LGA.

Item 7

Appendix C

Nominations to the new European and international Programme Board

1. From September 2010, a new European and International (E&I) Programme Board will be established to provide strategic oversight and coordinate the Group's E&I work. Since the Board will be composed of representatives from each of the other eight programme boards, nominations are sought.

Formation

2. There will be 14 members of the Board. The political balance will be 6 Conservatives, 4 Labour, 3 Liberal Democrat and one Independent.
3. There will be a Chair, Vice Chair and two Deputy Chairs.
4. The other ten places will be held by leading representatives of bodies such as Committee of the Regions, Congress and CEMR (pan European LGA) plus **one representative from each of the eight Programme Boards:**
 - Economy and transport
 - Improvement
 - Workforce
 - Environment and Housing
 - Children and Young People
 - Community Wellbeing
 - Safer and Stronger Communities
 - **Culture, Tourism and Sport**
5. The role of each representative will be:
 - to champion the integration of European Union lobbying and international policy development within their nominating board. LGA officers will provide support for this; and
 - through their place on the E&I programme board, to play a role in developing strategic oversight of the Group's E&I work.

Frequency of meetings

6. The Board will meet at least four times a year in London:
 - Friday 26 November, 2.00pm
 - Thursday 20 January 2011, 2.00pm
 - Tuesday 24 May 2011, 2.00pm
 - Tuesday 19 July 2011, 2.00pm

Item 7

7. Other dates may be suggested for the Board to meet outside of London (dates tbc).

Process for Programme Board nominations

8. There are **four available Conservative places, three available Labour places and one available Lib Dem place.**
9. **Each Party group on the Culture, Tourism and Sport Programme Board should nominate one member (totalling one Conservative, one Labour and one Lib Dem) to the E&I Programme Board.**
10. These names will be put forward, along with nominations from other Programme Boards, to the **Political Group Offices**, who will make the final decision of membership.

Contact: Jasbir Jhas 020 7664 3114 jasbir.jhas@local.gov.uk

Item 7

Appendix D

Member feedback from outside meetings

Recent

Title	Date	Attendees
Informal dinner with London Organising Committee of the Olympic Games and Paralympic Games (LOCOG)	14 July 2010	Cllr Chris White, Cllr Stephen Castle and Cllr John Commons
Local Connectivity Working Group	14 July 2010	Cllr Stephen Castle
LGA / English Heritage conference	19 July 2010	Cllr Chris White
Meeting with John Penrose MP	26 July 2010	Cllr Chris White
Meeting with Hugh Robertson MP	28 July 2010	Cllr Chris White and Cllr Stephen Castle
Meeting with Ed Vaizey MP	28 July 2010	Cllr Chris White and Cllr Stephen Castle
LGA meeting with South West RDA	3 September 2010	Cllr Chris White
2012 Social Legacy Delivery Board	9 September 2010	Cllr Chris White

Forthcoming

Title	Date	Attendees
The future of Culture, Tourism and Sport conference	14 September 2010	Cllr Chris White
LGA / LOCOG bilateral meeting	16 September 2010	Cllr Stephen Castle and Cllr Simon Henig
Culture First – Elected Members Forum	24 September 2010	Cllr Chris White
NRG meeting	30 September 2010	Cllr Chris White
LGA / Sport England meeting	27 October 2010	Cllr Chris White and Cllr Stephen Castle
Please notify Paul Johnston (paul.johnston@local.gov.uk) of any events/meetings that have not been included		

Item 8

Revenue Support Grant

Purpose of report

For information.

Summary

This report updates members on recent and future changes to Revenue Support Grant top-slice that will affect the Local Government Group.

Recommendation

The Board is asked to note the report.

Action

Subject to members' comments, officers to take forward any appropriate action.

Contact officer: Steve Skelton
Position: Business Manager
Phone no: 020 7664 3074
E-mail: steven.skelton@local.gov.uk

Item 8

Revenue Support Grant and Programme Boards' improvement role

Background

1. The LG Group has reached agreement with CLG for restrictions on the use of Revenue Support Grant (RSG) top-slice money by the Local Government Group (LGG) to be relaxed. This money funds, amongst other things, improvement activity. The Group can now allocate funding flexibly and decide on the best way of delivering its services. In return we are bidding for RSG top-slice of £31.5m - a 30% reduction. CLG is currently consulting councils on these proposals.

Summary of RSG Submission

2. Over the summer, work has been underway across the LG Group on the RSG top slice bid, building on a consultation exercise with councils carried out in the Spring by Rob Whiteman, Managing Director of Local Government Improvement and Development, and further discussions with councils at the LG Group conference.
3. The priorities suggested by this consultation are:
 - improve **local productivity**; identifying the key productivity gains for local government and making sure councils deliver these savings quickly;
 - radically transform the way services are organised to deliver the services people want in a joined up way through **local budgets and accountability**;
 - support councils in working closely with businesses and local people to create **strong local economies**;
 - improve the skills of councillors so they play a full role in helping local people build stronger civil society through strong **local political leadership**;
 - ensure an affordable and flexible pay, reward and conditions system for the whole of local government in order to deliver a **transformed local workforce** that is flexible and productive;
 - monitor and assess **local performance and value for money** to provide assurance to local people on the effectiveness of local services.
4. These will be signed off by the LG Group Executive on 16 September, where **Programme Board Chairs will have the opportunity to feed back**, and by the Group Resources Panel the following week.
5. As well as forming the basis of the submission to CLG, these priorities will be central to the LG Group's strategy and business plan for 2011/12, which will be discussed further with members over the autumn.

Item 8

Performance, Improvement and Assessment

6. **The Board has already taken a close interest in the performance and improvement of culture, tourism and sport services.** The new terms of reference (see item 6) give the Culture, Tourism and Sport Programme Board oversight of all the related activity across the LG Group. A large part of this work consists of support programmes that help councils improve and develop their services, many of which are funded from top-slice.
7. The LG Group has made an **offer to government to help develop a new approach to public services** by streamlining the state, cutting public spending and devolving power to local people. These all have implications for the way local councils and partnerships assess and improve their performance.
8. As well as the work endorsed and lead by the LGA Executive on **Place-based budgets**, key aspects of the Group offer also include:
 - **A Place-based Productivity Programme:** Work has begun with partners to take forward a programme that will support councils to develop their own ways to improve productivity according to local circumstances. The aim is to identify practical ways that Councils can achieve savings this year and consider options for longer term transformational change. The Chairman of the Improvement Board wrote to all Council Leaders on 2 July to highlight the importance of this programme.
 - **Place-based self regulation and improvement:** The LG Group has also offered a new approach to self regulation and improvement designed to provide appropriate level of assurance to citizens and Government and as a result enable Government to cut back on inspection and assessment. Key elements of this approach involve:
 - i. Stronger accountability to the public through greater transparency;
 - ii. Self awareness. Councils and local partners will develop stronger arrangements at local level for monitoring and assessing their own performance through regular self evaluation and peer challenge;
 - iii. Providing early warning of the risk of failure. The LG Group and its performance partners will work with the inspection and regulatory bodies to draw on data to provide “early warning” of potential major financial, governance or performance failure;
 - iv. statutory financial audit to continue – addressing financial resilience, value for money, probity and the reliability of local data.
9. The Board may wish to consider at a future meeting what these programmes might mean and look like in relation to culture, tourism and sport services.

Item 9

Culture, Tourism and Sport Programme Board – update on current issues

Purpose of report

For noting.

Summary

This report updates Members on current issues of interest to the Board which are not covered elsewhere on this agenda. Updates are included on:

- Sport and physical activity
- Leisure and cultural services
- Tourism
- Funding
- Licensing

Recommendations

Members are asked to note policy developments.

Action

Secretariat / CLOA Advisory Panel as appropriate.

Contact officer: Steven Skelton
Position: Business Manager, LGA
Phone no: 020 7664 3074
E-mail: steven.skelton@local.gov.uk

Culture, Tourism and Sport Programme Board – update on current issues

Sport and physical activity

Arts and Health

1. London Arts in Health Forum have received funding from Arts Council England to take the lead in drawing together a group of organisations from across the country who will act in partnership to promote understanding of the impact the arts can have on health and well being and support the growth and co-ordination of the sector.

Local Leadership, Local Legacy (LLLL) update

2. This is the 12-month programme being delivered by three of the five Beacon 2012 Legacy councils; Essex CC, LB Hackney and Kent CC. It focuses on how sport and physical activity within the 2012 context can help localities tackle the health inequalities agenda. It is funded by CLG.
3. The programme's delivery plan has been signed off by CLG, and IDeA peer mentoring training is now in place for Members and officers in October.
4. The Self Assessment Questionnaire for Local Authorities has been finalised. This will provide target authorities an assessment of their sport and physical activity programmes which can be related to the 2012 Games – providing a baseline for health inequality development.
5. In addition, the commissioning brief for the LLLL website has been written and will be available to tender shortly.
6. 14 Local Authorities have been shortlisted as targeted authorities for LLLL delivery. A launch event for November is being planned.
7. The three Beacon authorities have been invited to report progress to the CLG Transition Fund Programme Board on 5 October 2010.

Local Connectivity Working Group

8. The Local Connectivity Working Group, meeting from April to July 2010, and chaired by Cllr Stephen Castle for the LGA, brought together a range of partners across the sports and physical activity sectors to look at delivering a genuine and lasting legacy throughout the country from a safe and successful 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games. The Group recently published a paper, which represents the Group's collective recommendations for how – working as

a “whole team” – we can best deliver a lasting legacy from the 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games at a local level. The paper is attached as **Appendix A**.

Torch Relay

9. The 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games will be preceded by a Torch Relay, which will present opportunities for local celebrations and Games-inspired activities, organised by local authorities and their partners in collaboration with the London Organising Committee (LOCOG). LOCOG's aspiration is that 95% of the population will be within one hour's journey time of the torch, although the route itself has not yet been determined. Local authorities have participated in a number of regional events and consultations that will feed into decisions on the route. LOCOG is also setting up a Torch Relay advisory committee in each region to advise the Organising Committee on making the most of the relay, in advance of detailed planning conversations that will be necessary with local authorities. Local government has been invited to nominate one representative per regional advisory committee.
10. The LGA has said to LOCOG that we believe existing regional 2012 partnerships should have the flexibility to set up the advisory committees in a way that builds upon existing groups and relationships, which are different in each region. We continue to advise LOCOG on engaging local authorities on the torch relay and will be discussing this further at a meeting on 16 September.

Leisure and Cultural services

11. On 19 July 2010, the Prime Minister gave a speech in Liverpool on his vision for the ‘Big Society’. The speech outlined three big strands of the Big Society agenda:
 - Social Action
 - Public Service Reform
 - Community Empowerment
12. The Prime Minister also outlined three techniques which will need to be used to galvanize the strands:
 - Decentralisation
 - Transparency
 - Providing Finance (paying by results)
13. The speech stated that the Government will create a Big Society Bank to help finance social enterprise, charities and volunteering groups through intermediaries. This will use funding in dormant bank and building society accounts in England.

14. Four vanguard communities have been identified to pilot projects, including Eden Valley in Cumbria, Windsor and Maidenhead, Sutton and Liverpool.
15. The Local Government Group are developing proposals for a local community bank, further details of which are under the Funding section of this report.
16. The Prime Minister also stated that there would be new powers for local communities to take over the running of parks, libraries and post offices. Devolving power and services to the local community and voluntary organisations has always been a key part of delivering leisure and cultural services in local communities.

DCMS Structural Reform Plan

17. The Department for Culture, Media, Olympics and Sport (DCMS) has published its Structural Reform Plan, which sets out the Department's priorities in going forward. The Plan is available via:
<http://www.culture.gov.uk/publications/7246.aspx>.

18. The priorities are:

2012 Olympics and Paralympics

Deliver a safe and successful Olympic and Paralympic Games in London in 2012, and urgently form plans to deliver a genuine and lasting legacy throughout the country;

Boost the Big Society

Encourage philanthropic giving and return the National Lottery to its founding principles, and foster the development of a new breed of strong local media groups, by removing local cross-media ownership rules to encourage local TV;

Media Reform

Reform the media regulatory regime for the digital age to reduce regulation, encourage investment and create the conditions for sustainable growth;

Universal Broadband

Deliver universal broadband at speeds of 2mbps and stimulate private sector investment to deliver the best superfast broadband network in Europe by 2015;

Encourage Competitive Sport in Schools

Use 2012 to encourage competitive sport in schools by establishing an annual Olympic and Paralympic-style schools event, improving local sports facilities and supporting sports clubs.

19. All departments have produced Structural Reform Plans, which replace the previous system of Public Service Agreements and are used to monitor progress on delivering the policies set out in the Coalition Agreement. Progress reports are available at <http://www.number10.gov.uk/other/2010/07/structural-reform-plans-53023>.

Government evaluation of the student immigration system

20. At its March meeting, the Board raised concerns about the previous Government's visa regime, particularly in light of the current restrictions on students from outside the European Union who wish to learn English in the UK and the damaging economic consequences arising from these restrictions. Cllr White and Cllr Roger Lawrence, Chair of the Asylum, Migration and Refugee Taskforce wrote to the Home Office to relay those concerns.
21. The UK Border Agency has responded, with correspondence attached as **Appendix B**. The correspondence indicates that the new Government has commissioned a thorough evaluation of the student immigration system to ensure the right balance is struck between providing a user friendly system for bona fide students and education providers. It is unclear at present whether this evaluation will produce a visa regime that addresses the concerns raised by the Board at its March meeting.
22. This is also an issue that is being raised at a number of outside bodies to which the Board appoints, including the Tourism Alliance and the British Resorts and Destinations Association.

Funding

23. The Local Government Group has recently submitted its response to the DCMS consultation on lottery funding (attached as **Appendix C**). This submission sets out in full the Group's proposals for a local community bank, to potentially include lottery funds. As the consultation has only very recently closed, we await to see the next steps that the Government will take.
24. The Local Government Group has also submitted evidence to the Culture, Media and Sport Select Committee inquiry into the funding of the arts and heritage. The key messages of the submission are that:
 - The public subsidy to arts and heritage bodies must be better aligned with the priorities of local communities, and these services must become more accountable to local people;
 - Councils and local partnerships must be given the maximum flexibility to spend the public money they have in a way that best supports their local area. The LGA is working with government to develop a radical place-

based approach to public services that would cut through funding silos. This model would provide opportunities for the arts and heritage to access new funding streams;

- Correspondingly, the capacity and capability of the arts and heritage sectors to be strategically commissioned to deliver outcomes against place-based funds, must continue to be built up;
- The arts and heritage sectors must work together to lead their own improvement and development. The focus of this work should be to develop new governance and delivery models that can adapt to reduced funding, and which open up the arts and heritage in a way that makes them a cornerstone of the Big Society.

25. Copies of the submission will be made available to Members at the Board meeting.

Licensing

26. Following the Prime Minister's decision Prime Minister that lead responsibility for premises and alcohol licensing under the Licensing Act 2003 be transferred from the DCMS to Home Office, Cllr White, as Chair of the Board, wrote to Cllr Lawrence, as Chair of the Safer and Stronger Communities Board in the 2009 / 10 meeting cycle to record formally that lead responsibility for alcohol and premises licensing policy within the LG Group should move over to the Safer Communities Programme Board. The letter is attached as **Appendix D**.

27. This mirrors the agreement by Members of the Culture, Tourism and Sport Board in the last meeting cycle that, as has previously been the case, LG Group member structures should closely mirror the portfolios of Government departments.

Local Connectivity Working Group

Recommended actions to achieve a visible and sustainable local sporting legacy from the London 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games.

1. Background

Delivering “a genuine and lasting legacy throughout the country” from a safe and successful 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games is the DCMS’ foremost strategic priority¹.

The Local Connectivity Working Group, meeting over the last four months, has brought together all those sectors, agencies and organisations that have a key role in delivering sport². This paper represents our collective recommendations for how – working as a “whole team” – we can best deliver a lasting legacy from the 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games at a local level. By a “whole team” approach, we mean the whole delivery system, under its own leadership, working in partnership as part of a broad, collectively agreed approach.

2. Our analysis of the current situation

By “local connectivity” we mean the way the community sports delivery system talks to its self and to those people who play and want to play sport. These conversations could be bilateral or multi-lateral and could be focused on a wide range of issues. For example, they might be between:

- Two sports clubs who want to join together to get discounted rates for bulk buying pitch hours at a local sports hall;
- A local authority, PCT and local athletics club who want to deliver a programme of opportunities for people to become more physically active; or
- A County Sports Partnership and a National Governing Body developing a facilities investment and optimisation strategy;

Local connectivity is about the places and spaces in which people play sport, and about bringing the people on the ground together to deliver more efficiently. It is not about duplicating existing conversations about national structures or agencies. The key stakeholders in the delivery of sporting legacy at local level are:

- **individuals** who may choose to participate informally, formally or not at all in sport;
- **voluntary sports clubs** and their governing bodies which traditionally have existed to meet the sporting needs of members, but to whom local authorities

¹ DCMS Structural Reform Plan (July 2010)

² For membership of the Local Connectivity Working group see Annex A.

are increasingly turning to meet wider objectives and to help them deliver the Big Society;

- **local authorities** which fund 80% of community sports facilities and programmes, and which have the leadership role necessary to forge partnerships, unblock problems and make the local sports system deliver better;
- **the networks**, at County (CSP), local / district (CSN) and school (SSP) levels and which are central to improving “connectivity” and communication, and to building sustainability and capacity locally.

The Group members are clear that this infrastructure *can* support the delivery of a local sporting legacy from the Olympic and Paralympic Games. The two key issues therefore are:

- a) How, working as a “whole-team”, we can fine tune the system to ensure it is sustainable and can deliver better results; and
- b) How the work of all partners can be more visibly and obviously linked to the legacy of the 2012 Games, so that people see a tangible impact of the Games in their local area and are inspired to get more involved in playing or supporting sports.

3. Recommendations

a) Fine tuning the system

As befits our times, these recommendations are overwhelmingly of a very low cost or cost neutral nature.

Objective	Action	Action led by
Inspire local authority leaders and elected members to support and invest in sport, by creating a compelling case for the positive impacts it makes on local communities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support the development of the Local Leadership Local Legacy Programme, led by the Olympic and Paralympic Beacon Councils • Develop a “whole team” advocacy document, based on clear evidence, to articulate the positive outcomes for local communities of a true sporting legacy – and promote this through members’ networks and contacts. • Provide local clubs and backbench councillors with straight-forward, clear evidence of the contribution of sport to meeting wider local priorities; 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LGA, with LCWG Members • LGA, with LCWG members • CCPR, LGA

<p>Challenge and support NGBs and clubs to create an attractive and sustainable offering to potential participants</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Further develop, publicise and scale-up more open and innovative club structures, such as ‘running networks’, ‘no strings’ badminton and ‘get back into netball’; • Identify a number of local authorities and clubs that are pioneering a service delivery partnership, evaluate the factors that make such a partnership effective for both partners and promote this model more widely. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CCPR, Sport England and NGBs • CCPR, CLOA, NGBs and Sport England
<p>Reinvigorate local networks driven through bottom-up community sports activism to sustain this offering</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promote the importance of Community Sport Networks amongst local authority Chief Officers and develop a “support-in-kind” offer to help strengthen this relationship • Champion the importance of CSPs, Community Sport Networks and School Sports Partnerships as cornerstones of local volunteering and key to delivering the Big Society 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CSPN, CLOA, Sport England • DCMS with LCWG members

b) Making the local sports system more visibly recognisable as part of the 2012 legacy

Whilst organisations may now apply for the ‘Inspiremark’, this has not led to a situation in which the vast majority of the local sports system is consistently and visibly identifiable with the 2012 Games and the legacy of the Games.

The group believes that, for the public to recognise and understand the sporting legacy, a clearly identifiable offering is required.

Objective	Action	Action led by
<p>Create a clear, visible link between local sports opportunities, programmes and facilities and the 2012 Games and legacy</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consider designating a small grants programme as a ‘sports legacy’ funding stream, thereby ensuring a nationally recognisable link to the 2012 Games, activated at local level. • Explore ways to further simplify and scale-up the ‘Inspiremark’ in the sports sector and, if possible, make this a more specific reference to 2012. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DCMS • DCMS, LOCOG

4 Conclusion

The members of the LCWG represent the whole of the sports delivery system in England. We are clear that there is a huge amount of work being done to promote sport and to exploit the huge potential of the 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games. What we now need, just two years out from the Games, is:

- a focused, sector-led effort – orchestrated by and communicated through the membership structures of national representative bodies – to fine tune the existing system; and
- a more successful means of cascading more of the 2012 gold dust down to local people so they can see that an Olympic and Paralympic opportunity is being made available to them in their local community, and that they have a clear opportunity to get involved.

Local networks of committed amateurs and professionals do exist right across the country; but their status, sustainability and access to resources are patchy and need to be improved.

If we don't improve this local connectivity, national strategies, funding and expertise will not be successfully ported down to local people and, as a result, we will not see a boom in sporting opportunities and participation, and we will not deliver a visible and sustainable sporting legacy from the Games.

Local Connectivity Working Group
July 2010

Membership of the Local Connectivity Working Group

Councillor Stephen Castle, Deputy Chair of the Local Government Association, Culture, Tourism and Sport Board (Chair)

Tim Lamb, Chief Executive, CCPR

Judith Dean, Director of Communities, Sport England

Philip Cox, Director, Thames Gateway and Olympics, Communities and Local Government

Cathy Paige, Head of Community Sport, Department for Culture, Media and Sport

Simon Cooper, Head of Sports Unit, Greater London Authority

Phil Collier, Business Development Director, Sportscoach UK

Richard Saunders, Chief Executive Officer and Chair, County Sports Partnership network

Grant Aitken, Divisional Director for Leisure, London Borough of Newham, CLOA

Andy Worthington, Chair of NW Sports Board and NW Steering Group, Nations and Regions Group

Richard Yule, Chief Executive, English Table Tennis Association

Steve Grainger, Chief Executive, Youth Sport Trust

Steven Skelton, Business Manager, Local Government Association (Joint Secretariat)

Andrew Hanson, former Head of Policy, CCPR (Joint Secretariat)

To :

Tel
Fax
Email
Web www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk

12 August 2010

Dear Councillor Roger Lawrence

Thank you for your letter of 26 July 2010, following correspondence received from Councillor Chris White, regarding concerns members have raised over the level of English language required for students on English language courses and the restrictions on non-student visas.

As you state in your letter, the changes to Tier 4 were introduced to ensure that the student route was less open to abuse from economic migrants. The Tier 4 Review exposed that low level courses were most open to abuse.

Following the outcome of the Tier 4 review, the previous Government raised the bar for the minimum level of English language course that could be studied. This was laid before the house on 22 July, with effect from 23 July. Setting the minimum level of English language that could be studied to B2 level of the Common European Framework of Reference (CEFR), meaning students must be competent at B1 level before being able to study in the UK. This minimum level of English was applied across all Tier 4 courses, with the exception of degree level study (except foundation degree).

Students wishing to study English language courses below CEFR level B2, and other courses not suitable under Tier 4 are still able to enter the UK for up to 6 months through the student visitor route. There is no bar on the minimum level of course that can be studied through the student visitor route. Upon completion of their 6 month stay in the UK the student would be able to return overseas and apply to join a higher-level English language course if they wish to pursue further studies, showing both a commitment to studying English language and a positive immigration history in the UK.

Overseas Government-sponsored students will continue to be permitted to study English language below level B2 of the CEFR under Tier 4. These students will have already been

selected by their own Governments and have every incentive to comply and return home on completion of their studies.

The minister has commissioned a thorough evaluation of the student immigration system to ensure the right balance is struck between providing a user friendly system for bona fide students and education providers, and keeping out those who would seek to abuse it. The review will seek am keen to hear the views of the English language sector and have asked my officials to contact representative bodies of that sector as a priority in order to develop and discuss new proposals.

Your letter also expresses concerns from members about the visa restrictions placed on non-student visas, with particular reference to performers in cultural events.

Visiting cultural artists may be able to use the entertainer visitor provisions within the Immigration Rules to enter the UK in specific circumstances. These include:

- Amateur entertainers seeking entry as an individual performer for a specific engagement;
- Amateur entertainers seeking entry as part of a group, such as a choir or youth orchestra coming for a specific engagement; This may include conductors, choreographers, stage managers and other non-performing staff supporting the group
- Professional entertainers taking part in a charity concert or show where the organisers are not making a profit and no fee is to be paid to the entertainer;
- Amateur or professional entertainer taking part in a cultural event sponsored by a government or recognised international organisation or a major arts festival included in the Permit Free Festival list.

Further details of these can be found on the UK Border Agency website www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk.

The costs of running the current visa operations and those costs associated with decisions taken in the UK including leave to remain are recovered in fees and charges. The aim is a sustainable system that is, as far as possible, self financing without reliance on the public purse and further, that is not disproportionate for the migrants or sponsors who benefit from migration.

Yours Sincerely,

Bharat Pamnani
Temporary Migration, UK Border Agency

Rt. Hon. Jeremy Hunt MP
Secretary of State for Culture, Olympics, Media and Sport
Department for Culture, Media and Sport
2-4 Cockspur Street
London
SW1Y 5DH

2 September 2010

Dear Mr Hunt,

CONSULTATION ON NATIONAL LOTTERY SHARES

I write in reply to your letter of 19 May 2010, which sought views on the proposed changes to the distribution of national lottery funds. I welcome this opportunity to respond on behalf of the Local Government Association's member councils, and to use it to draw to your attention the Local Government Group's ambitious plans that would see lottery funding play a central role in empowering local communities to take action and to help build the Big Society.

Local authorities currently are a key player in the lottery funding system, acting principally as recipients and facilitators of bids. Whatever changes are made to the funding regime, councils will continue to play a convening role locally to encourage and support bids, and a leadership role to focus the efforts of local groups on those priority areas where additional funding might best add value.

We note that the DCMS is also consulting at present on a proposal to require the Big Lottery Fund (BLF) to focus its support exclusively on the community and voluntary sector. Such a change would have an impact on councils' ability to bid for BLF funds, although councils will still wish to support bids from local community and voluntary groups. In light of this, many councils would welcome moves to redistribute money to the arts, heritage and sport as this will increase the total amount of funds for which councils can bid.

You will be aware that the Local Government Group's Place Based Budgeting model, which we are currently exploring with government, proposes a more transparent, accountable and efficient approach to public services in an area³. Our place-based approach will support the government's aims of building the Big Society by bringing decision making in an area closer to local people and supporting the growth of a strong and diverse voluntary and community sector. In line with this thinking we believe that there is scope to increasingly devolve decisions over the distribution of

³ See *Place Based Budgets: the future governance of public services* for more information:
<http://new.lga.gov.uk/lga/aio/12294113>

available lottery funds to the local level. Coupled with other available funds from private enterprise, existing community development organisations and local and central government, the lottery could make a vital contribution to creating a “community bank” in each locality. Such an approach, we believe, would:

- Empower and involve local people in community funding, and bring this investment more in line with local needs and priorities;
- Increase the reach of investment into the community;
- Support new models of investment including mutuals, loans and asset transfer;
- Ensure a more efficient, cost-effective and joined up approach to decision-making and administration of funds, by bringing it together in one place;
- Increase transparency and reduce barriers to access for funds by simplifying the system and placing decision making within the local area;
- Present a more efficient approach to funding the voluntary and community sector by sharing services and cutting through bureaucracy.

There are currently a plethora of systems for funding community projects; collectively, these are complex, confusing and inefficient. Multiple funding providers operate at local, regional and national level, each with different processes, different priorities and different requirements to access funding.

We believe this effectively ‘locks out’ small and inexperienced groups from accessing investment. The web of funding providers causes duplication and waste in the system and places decision making with remote national distributors and providers, often focused on nationally set priorities with no direct experience of the challenges and work being undertaken at a local level.

In comparison we propose a very simple locally led approach that could lever in additional funding locally, and that would lower the barrier to access funding, reduce back-office costs and move decision making out of Whitehall and into local communities. We believe this will increase the reach of investment into communities, stimulate social enterprise and promote greater transparency and accountability over public funds. We would greatly appreciate the opportunity to discuss our ideas with you further.

Yours sincerely,

Cllr Chris White,
Chair, LG Group Culture, Tourism and Sport Programme Board

Cllr Les Lawrence
The Council House
Victoria Square
BIRMINGHAM
B1 1BB

23 August 2010

Dear Les,

Alcohol and premises licensing policy

You will know that the Prime Minister has decided that lead responsibility for premises and alcohol licensing under the Licensing Act 2003 be transferred from the DCMS to Home Office, while the licensing of regulated entertainment remains with DCMS.

I and my fellow lead members on the LGA Culture, Tourism and Sport Programme Board believe that, as has previously been the case, this change should be mirrored within our own structures.

This letter is therefore to record formally that, subject to your agreement and that of your lead members, lead responsibility for alcohol and premises licensing policy within the LG Group should move over to the Safer Communities Programme Board. Officers can then action this change and it will be reflected in the new terms of reference for both boards.

The CTS Board will continue to have lead responsibility for the licensing of regulated entertainment⁴ and, in line with best practice established by the SCB, members will no doubt wish to take regular updates on alcohol and premises licensing issues. I know that my colleagues on the CTS Board will in particular be keen to monitor the impact of the recent changes to Sex Entertainment Venue licensing and those that follow the introduction of new Interested Party powers for elected members, on which they lobbied extensively and successfully under the last government.

The principal business in relation to licensing is, of course, the current Home Office consultation on *Rebalancing the Licensing Act*. There are several proposals to empower licensing authorities that I know your colleagues on the Safer Communities Board will want to support, as well as proposals that require a more balanced response. The consultation is also an excellent opportunity to lobby for greater

⁴ Including a performance of a play; an exhibition of a film; an indoor sporting event; a boxing or wrestling entertainment; a performance of live music; any playing of recorded music; a performance of dance; or entertainment of a similar description to that falling within the performance.



flexibility in the current fees regime. I know that officers have an LGA Group response in hand and this will of course be put to members in due course.

I wish you and your Board colleagues the best in taking forward this work. I have copied this letter to Lead Members of both CTS and SC Programme Boards, and to Cllr Paul Bettison of Local Government Regulation.

Yours,

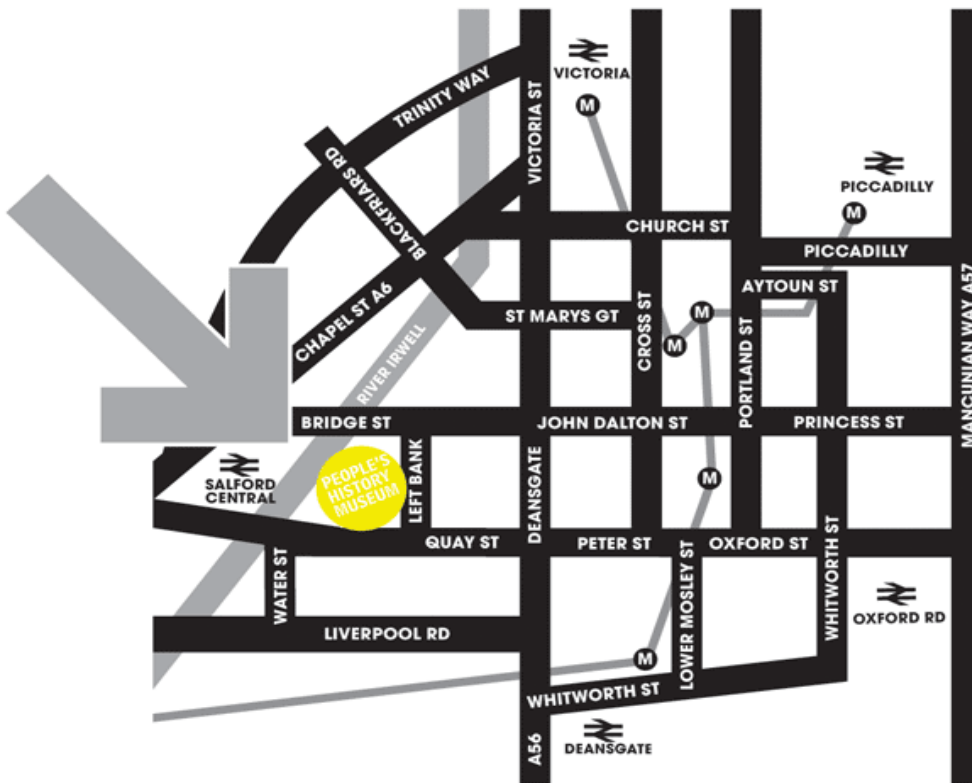
A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Chris White". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line underneath the name.

Cllr Chris White,
Chair, LG Group Culture, Tourism and Sport Board

People's History Museum

Map & Directions:

The museum is on Left Bank in Spinningfields in Manchester city centre.



Rail station – Salford Central (2 mins walk)

Metrolink station – St Peter's Square (10 mins walk)

Bus stop (1, 8, 12, 26, 27, 31, 32, 36, 37, 71, 73, X34) – Bridge Street (2 mins walk)

Metroshuttle stop – Bridge Street (no 1) and Gartside Street (no 3) (2 mins walk)

Car park – Bridge Street/King Street West/New Bailey Street/New Quay Street (2-5 mins walk)

On-street parking for disabled drivers – Corner of Dolefield and Wood Street

Coaches – Drop off only outside the museum