

Note of decisions taken and actions required

Title:	LG Group Culture, Tourism and Sport Programme Board
Date and time:	Wednesday 19 January 2011, 1.00pm
Venue:	Rathbone Rooms 1 & 2, Local Government House

Attendance

Position	Councillor	Council
Chairman	Cllr Chris White	Hertfordshire CC
Deputy chair	Cllr Stephen Castle	Essex CC
Deputy chair	Cllr Geoff Knight	Lancaster City
Members	Sir William Lawrence	Stratford-on-Avon DC
	Cllr Ken Maddock	Somerset CC
	Cllr Andrew Lewer	Derbyshire CC
	Cllr Bryony Rudkin	Ipswich BC
	Cllr Chris Roberts	Greenwich LB
	Cllr Guy Nicholson (substitute)	Hackney LB
	Cllr Florence Nosegbe (substitute)	Lambeth LB
	Cllr Flick Rea	Camden LB
	Cllr John Commons	Manchester City
In attendance	Nigel Lynn	CLOA
Apologies	Cllr Kevin Carroll	Torbay
	Cllr Geoffrey Theobald	Brighton & Hove
	Cllr Simon Henig (Vice Chair)	Durham CC
	Cllr Caitlin Bisknell	High Peak DC

Officers: Paul Raynes; Rob Whiteman; Martyn Allison; Philip Mind; Brendan Harris; Laura Caton; Paul Johnston (all LG Group)

Item	Decisions and actions	Action by
1	<p>Culture, Tourism and Sport Programme Board – note of last meeting</p> <p>The note of the last meeting was agreed as a correct record.</p> <p>Officers updated the Board on arrangements for the Culture, Tourism and Sport conference in March, and asked Members for their assistance in promoting the conference.</p> <p>Action</p> <p>Officers to circulate a draft email for Board Members' to use to promote the LG Group / CLOA Culture, Tourism and Sport Conference.</p>	<p>Paul Johnston</p>
2	<p>The visitor economy landscape</p> <p>Members received a presentation from James Berresford, Chief Executive of VisitEngland.</p> <p>The presentation outlined the value of tourism to the English economy, along with the challenges and opportunities in developing the English tourism offer. VisitEngland has a new strategic framework, and has developed a number of action plans, to focus on its role of championing tourism in England. There will be less public funding for tourism, and the winding down of Regional Development Agencies will have a significant impact, but industry will play a much bigger role. There are also some significant opportunities to boost tourism, including the 2012 Games and 'decade of sport'.</p> <p>James concluded by outlining potential common areas of interest for both VisitEngland and the LG Group, including Local Enterprise Partnerships, VisitEngland's new strategic framework, destination management pathfinders and the compilation and sharing of tourism intelligence and data.</p> <p>Members made the following comments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Destination Management Organisations (DMOs) do not exist in all parts of the country, and the national approach to tourism needs to take account of this • There were also different approaches to destination 	

- management, including private sector led
- The LG Group, working with VisitEngland, has a role to play in sharing good practice in relation to tourism
 - We need to ensure that the skills offer reflects the needs of the tourism industry

In response to questions, James Berresford updated Members on the work of People 1st, the agency with national responsibility for skills improvement.

Members thanked James for attending the Board and had a further discussion on destination management.

Decision

Members agreed that the Chair, on behalf of the Board, should write to Councils to share options on the future of Destination Management Organisations.

Action

Officers to draft correspondence on behalf of the Board Chair regarding the future of Destination Management Organisations.

Laura Caton

3 Digital inclusion and superfast broadband

Members noted the LG Group's work on digital inclusion, and made the following comments:

As Council services were increasingly being made available online, Councils and other partners would need to address the disparity in broadband provision and availability between rural and urban areas

Members discussed the extent to which Councils should focus on providing services online. Members said that the way Councils would use the internet would continue to evolve, and that service provision would evolve accordingly.

Members said that the equipment necessary to provide superfast broadband was currently very cumbersome, and that there were potential planning issues arising in conservation areas.

Decision

Members agreed that the LG Group become a partner of Race Online and undertake promotional activity in support of that partnership.

Members agreed that officers further explore potential planning issues arising from the installation of equipment necessary for superfast broadband provision in conservation areas.

Action

Officers to explore means of promoting Race Online.

Phillip Mind

Officers to further explore potential planning issues arising from the installation of equipment necessary for superfast broadband provision in conservation areas.

Laura Caton

4 CTS Programme Board forward plan

Members agreed on the headline improvement and policy priorities as suggested within the report, subject to further focus on the arts, on the public health agenda and on skills. Officers said that responsibility for skills had to date rested with the Group's Economy and Transport Programme Board and that the Group's Community Wellbeing Board had led on public health, with appropriate liaison between the Programme Boards.

Members also asked the report to note that improvement support could be commissioned from a range of providers.

Members said that the benefits of cultural services could be felt across a number of Council departments, and that the Board should have a role in raising the profile of cultural services across the political agenda.

Action

Officers to circulate the recent paper on skills presented to the Economy and Transport Programme Board.

Laura Caton

5 Future of the 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games Nations and Regions Group

Members said that the Local Government Association had a role to play in facilitating conversations between local and regional

partners involved in delivering the 2012 Games, as Regional Development Agencies start to wind down.

Members agreed to write to the Sports Minister to reiterate the Board's key messages around local authority engagement with the 2012 Games.

Action

Officers to draft a letter to the Sports Minister

David Kidston

6 Member feedback from outside bodies

Members noted the report.

Referring to his meeting with Ed Vaizey MP, Cllr Chris White said that the second wave of superfast broadband pilots would be launched shortly, and that LG Group officers were developing a proposal for an LG Group offer to support Councils in developing their online capability and sharing good practice.

Action

Officers to circulate further details about the superfast broadband pilots.

Phillip Mind

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

Members noted the report.

8 CLOA case studies

Members noted the report.

Date of next meeting: Wednesday 2 March 2011