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

Purpose of report

For information / noting.

Summary

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

1. 2012 Games and school sport
2. Tourism
3. Museums
4. Health and wellbeing
5. Self regulation for local government

Recommendation

Members are asked to note the update.

Action

Secretariat / CLOA Advisory Panel as appropriate

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Culture, Tourism and Sport Board – update on current issues

2012 Games

LGA 2012 Games Conference

The LGA's annual 2012 Games Conference on 2 February 2011 heard from keynote speakers Hugh Robertson MP (Minister for Sport and the Olympics), and Charles Allen (Chair of Nations and Regions, LOCOG), who both emphasised the vital role that local authorities are playing in delivering the Games and securing the legacy benefits for local communities across the UK.

The Conference was chaired by Cllr Chris White and Cllr Stephen Castle spoke during a plenary session on volunteering and a workshop on increasing community sports participation. There were also a range of interactive workshop sessions showcasing how local authorities are preparing for 2012 and using the inspirational power of the Games to strengthen existing local priorities such as engaging and inspiring young people and promoting tourism.

Joint working with the Northern Ireland Local Government Association (NILGA)

Cllr Chris White spoke at the Northern Ireland Local Government Annual Conference in Belfast on 11 February about LGA's work in relation to 2012 and the opportunities for local government presented by the Games. The plenary session also included an address from Rosalie Flanagan, the Permanent Secretary for the Department of Culture Arts and Leisure (DCAL) of the Northern Ireland Executive, on 2012 Games-related activity in Northern Ireland. Cllr White also spoke at the NILGA Executive meeting, which provided an opportunity to further raise awareness of the potential benefits for local communities from the Games amongst leading Councillors from across Northern Ireland.

National Local Authority Olympic Resilience team

The team is actively supporting local authorities across England and Wales to prepare for resilience issues associated with the 2012 Games and is representing local authorities in national discussions on Olympic resilience issues. A Programme Co-ordination Group comprising of local authority Heads of Emergency Planning has begun meeting on a monthly basis, as have project teams which are taking forward three key areas of work: emergency co-ordination and information management; venue and emergency planning; and training and exercising. The Member Steering Group for the programme will meet for the second time on 8th March to consider progress with the project and address key emerging issues and blockages. This follows the second meeting of the Chief Executive-level Programme Board on 16th February.

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School Games

Jeremy Hunt has set out his vision for the School Games tournament – inspired by the London 2012 Olympics and Paralympics – to give every child the opportunity take part and compete. As part of the offer:

- 500 schools across nine regions will pilot an annual School Games Day: a 'finals' day stemming from a programme of intra-school competition which will offer disabled children as many opportunities as non-disabled children
- a rolling programme of leagues and tournaments will promote more competition between schools at a town or district level
- up to 60 new, county or city-level 'Festivals of Sport' will showcase the best of local competitive sport in the inter-school finals
- the most talented young sports people will have the chance to represent their schools in a high-profile, national event
- In the spring Government will publish a prospectus for schools – setting out exactly how teachers and coaches can get involved in the School Games, including registering online.

The LGA and CLOA have highlighted the important strategic contribution councils could make to the school games by, for example, providing pathways from school sport to local sports clubs. CLOA emphasise the importance of sustainable structures for school sport. The LGA and CLOA are working with the County Sport Partnership Network to develop a shared way forward on what changes to school sport might mean for County Sport Networks and their local brokerage role.

Tourism

With the demise of Regional Development Agencies (RDAs) and the emergence of local enterprise partnerships (LEPs), the tourism landscape is undergoing significant change. Cllr Chris White has written to tourism portfolio holders to offer some thoughts on how these changes might impact upon how councils relate to Destination Management Organisations (DMOs) or similar bodies, where they exist. The letter is attached as **Annex A**.

Museums

Arts Council England and the Museums, Libraries and Archives Council (MLA) have outlined plans for the funding of Renaissance in 2011/12 and the 'road map' for development of the programme in future years. Since the Arts Council agreed in December to assume responsibility for Renaissance in the Regions, the regional museums and libraries development agendas, and the cultural property functions, the two bodies have been working to develop their transition plans and provide clarity for

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currently funded regional museums and other organisations as quickly as possible. The LG Group is a key consultee.

The principle agreements to date are:

- MLA retains responsibility for 2011/12 funding decisions, but decision-making on budgets with a longer-term impact will be shared with the Arts Council;
- MLA will shortly release plans for the 2011/12 Renaissance budget that will enable nearly £35m worth of grants to go to regional museums;
- The Arts Council will announce its long term plans for Renaissance in autumn 2011. Applications for Renaissance funding for 2012-15 will open in September and funding decisions will be announced by the end of 2011;
- 2011/12 will be a transitional year for a reshaped Renaissance Programme. The Arts Council will consult with local government and museums during the spring and summer before taking final decisions as part of its effort to create a coherent cultural offer that encompasses the arts, museums and libraries
- The Arts Council will review the role it expects Core museums to fulfil within the museums sector alongside the role of those organisations with whom the Arts Council will forge a strategic relationship in its new National Portfolio funding programme.

The LG Group has developed its own vision for the future of museums improvement and the Renaissance Programme – local museum partnerships, which we are pursuing in political and officer meetings with government. Drawing upon the principles underpinning the Future Libraries Programme, our proposal would put council museums in charge of their own improvement and maximise the resources that go towards keeping front line museums open. CLOA has highlighted the uncertainties caused by the transition period and the importance of capturing and transferring knowledge and experience as new systems are set up.

Health and Wellbeing

In January the "Operating Framework for the NHS in England 2011/12" was published. This is an important document and incorporates several matters of importance to culture and sport:

- PCTs will remain statutorily accountable in 2011/12 and 2012/13 but more "clusters " of PCTs will form in 2011;
- Some PCT staff will be allocated to emerging GP consortia;
- Public Health England will assume responsibility for delivering public health services from 2012. Local authorities will receive shadow funding allocations in 2012/13, with full resources expected the following year; and
- The Government is consulting on the Public Health White Paper until 31 March.

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This was followed in early February with guidelines on the establishment of "clusters" which are intended to consolidate management capacity, with single executive teams each managing a cluster of PCTs. This is intended to provide space for the developing GP consortia to operate effectively, and provide space for the new arrangements with local authorities and the Health and Wellbeing Boards to develop.

Prevention is a vital component of the health and wider public agendas, and that our sector has a key role to play in delivering it cost-effectively. It is therefore vital that we keep abreast of the changes in the NHS and ensure that active steps are taken to build relationships with the Health & Wellbeing Boards, the staff appointed to the emerging "clusters" of PCTs, and the emerging GP consortia.

We are aware of places where this is happening; others where it is proving difficult and others, notably district councils, where more support is needed.

The LG Group is actively working to influence the health and social care Bill and putting together a response to the Public Health White Paper that will emphasise the role of culture and sport in the prevention agenda.

Self regulation for local government

Launch of new outcomes framework for culture and sport

The outcomes framework has been developed to help culture and sport service providers demonstrate the difference their service makes to local people and communities, and the contribution it makes to local non-cultural or sporting priorities and outcomes. It will also help to make the case for continued or additional investment of public money in culture and sport.

The web-based framework provides straightforward 'at a glance' tools and supporting evidence, along with step-by-step guides that take you through creating your own local outcomes framework. The framework has been developed by LG Improvement and Development with the support of a number of local authorities and was commissioned by the National Culture & Sport Improvement Project Board, whose membership includes the Non Departmental Culture and Sport Bodies, DCMS, LGA and CLOA. <http://www.idea.gov.uk/idk/core/page.do?pagelId=21649171>.

Launch of new Local Government Group approach

The Local Government Group has launched an approach to self regulation for the local government sector, which will help local authorities strengthen their accountability and revolutionise the way they evaluate and improve services.

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The seven point offer is designed to help local authorities capitalise on the LG Group's successful campaign for the £2bn burden of central government inspections to be drastically reduced.

"Taking the Lead" will offer a range of local accountability tools to help councils and other local authorities further improve the way they gather and respond to feedback from residents, partners and community groups. These tools aim to help local authorities boost their own accountability and transparency in ways which are most appropriate to them and their residents.

The offer also includes a number of new tools local authorities can use to explore how effectively they are delivering services, including a "Peer Challenge" which will be free of charge. It will be carried out by a mixture of local authority leaders, chief executives and directors of finance, along with people from a range of organisations including the third sector and business communities.