

Item 8

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:

- Local Government Resource Review
- CCN Culture, Tourism and Sport Policy Network
- Gambling
- Arts Council / MLA transfer
- Cultural Endowment Fund
- Sport and physical activity
- Festivals
- Live Music

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

Local Government Resource Review

1. In March, Government published the terms of reference for phase 1 of its Local Government Resource Review (LGRR). The purpose of the review is to consider the way in which local authorities are funded, with a view to giving authorities greater financial autonomy and strengthening incentives to support local economic growth. Phase 1 of the review is focused primarily re-localisation of business rate, while phase 2 will subsequently focus on community budgets.
2. The LG Group Executive supported the principle of greater financial autonomy including localisation of business rates, but signalled that the LG Group's response to specific proposals needed to reflect the views of all member authorities. It was agreed that the LG Group's response should particularly take into account the disparity between different councils' tax bases, work through the implications for two-tier areas, and address the future treatment of new burdens. The Executive also emphasised the importance of engaging with business interests as we take this work forward. The LG Group has also consulted extensively with councils.
3. The CTS Programme Board has previously expressed its support for giving councils further financial autonomy in order to make it easier to invest in the visitor economy.

County Council Network (CCN) Culture, Tourism and Sport Policy Network

4. At the January meeting of CCN Executive Committee members formally agreed to establish a new system of Policy Networks which will engage a wider group of members in supporting the development of CCN policy and advocacy. The Policy Networks reflect key policy issues for member councils and largely mirror the LG Group Programme Boards.
5. The Policy Networks have been established to:
 - 5.1 Involve a wider group of CCN members in the work of CCN;
 - 5.2 Extend the number of members in leadership of CCN policy activity;
 - 5.3 Support CCN policy making and analysis by providing a mechanism for CCN members to contribute their expertise and experience;
 - 5.4 Strengthen links between CCN and LG Group activity at member level.

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6. Each Political Group in membership of CCN has nominated a member of CCN Executive as their lead member on each network. These lead members will be a sounding board for officers in preparing papers and policy positions; lead member contributions in Council or Executive; be available to support CCN contacts with Government Ministers and provide member level liaison on key issues with the LGG Boards.
7. The CCN Culture, Tourism and Sport Policy Network lead members are as follows:

Cllr Peter Philips	Shropshire Council	Chairman (Lib)
Cllr Andrew Lewer*	Derbyshire County Council	Lead Member (Con)
Cllr Saxon Spence	Devon County Council	Lead member (Lab)

* Cllr Andrew Lewer is member of LGG Culture, Tourism and Sport Programme Board. This will provide a link between the two groups and will help to ensure that there is no duplication of effort.
8. Policy Networks will operate largely through e-mail exchange. It is not expected that all networks will be active at all times. Rather networks will become active when there are "live" policy issues on which the CCN needs to develop a position or a response to a consultation or initiative and/or needs to feed into the work of the LG Group.
9. Policy Networks will not seek to duplicate the work of the LG Group but will concentrate on issues that are of key importance to CCN membership and where the policy context is distinctive due to the characteristics of CCN member authorities. Where possible, CCN Policy Networks will seek to support the work of the LG Group Boards. For further information contact CCN Deputy Director Simon Edwards simon.edwards@local.gov.uk

Gambling

10. The LG Group has submitted evidence to the Culture, Media and Sport Committee's inquiry into the 2005 Gambling Act. Our submission acknowledged that the Act has increased local influence over the licensing of gambling, but highlighted the need to strengthen the licensing and planning reform so that councils can deal with the problems of clusters of betting shops in some parts of the country, especially London.

Arts Council / MLA transfer

11. Cllr Chris White has written to Dame Liz Forgan, Chair of the Arts Council, setting out the LG Group's proposals for Local Museum Partnerships. The letter is **attached** at **Annex A**.

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12. The Arts Council has confirmed a number of key appointments: Nicola Morgan is to be the Director of Libraries (currently Programme Manager, Sector Improvement at MLA). Hedley Swain (currently Director, Programme Delivery at MLA) will take up the post of Director of Museums and Renaissance. Charlotte Johns, currently renaissance programme coordinator at MLA, will take up the post of Director, Museums and Investment at the Arts Council.

Cultural Endowment Fund

13. In December 2010 Jeremy Hunt announced an £80 million fund to help increase philanthropy, made up of £50 million from Arts Council England and £30 million from DCMS. This was boosted by an additional £20 million Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) contribution, taking the total to £100 million. Five million of the HLF money will go towards helping smaller cultural and heritage organisations build their financial resilience and improve their fundraising abilities, with the remainder forming part of the £55 million available for endowments. To apply for these new grants, organisations will also have to raise money from private philanthropic sources.
14. Arts Council England has also announced the detail of how their funding for philanthropy will be allocated through the £40 million Catalyst Arts, programme. An additional £10 million from the Arts Council will form part of the £55 million available for endowments. The LG Group is exploring with the Arts Council the implications for local government supported culture and heritage organisations.

Sport and physical activity

School Sport and the School Games

15. CLOA would like to highlight the impact of changes in funding after September 2011 upon school sport arrangements and concerns about the impact on a sports participation legacy from the 2012 Games. The school sport partnerships (SSPs) are in varying and fragmented states with some SSPs leaving a reasonable infrastructure while others have simply stopped operating.
16. The local case for investment in school sport is focussing on commissioning by children's services. This is going to require a greater focus on the wider "out of school offer" that sport and culture can offer to help young people grow and develop and connect with their local communities. For example, in Leeds a programme called 'Breeze' is exploring ways to enhance support for out of school activities linked to outcomes such as attainment, attendance and obesity.

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17. The School Games themselves are still being assessed for value in terms of input required, timing to fully implement and coordinate with levels 1 and 2, and of course influence on outcomes for young people. CLOA is arguing for:

- 17.1 More accountability of School Games Organiser (SGO) activity in the system to the Local Organising Committee to enable a strategic connection and approach in supporting level 3 areas (county).
- 17.2 Clarity from Government / Sport England / Youth Sport Trust in guiding expectations of SGO activity and reach to schools in their local catchment.
- 17.3 Confirmation of guiding detail - structure, dates and what mandatory sports are going to make up Tier 3 and 4 of the framework. As things stand, outline competition plans for next year have been drawn up, yet there is no confirmation over the Tier 3 and 4 it is supposed to feed into.

Sport England New Strategy

18. CLOA will be meeting Sport England shortly for preliminary discussions around their strategy review and will offer views and advice to the LGG CTS Board in due course. Areas that CLOA are likely to raise include:

- 18.1 Planning and readiness for a post 2012 sports legacy
- 18.2 The impact of the Comprehensive Savings review
- 18.3 Developing effective local NGB shared priorities and partnerships
- 18.4 The refocus for Sport England around children and young people
- 18.5 Local improvement engagement
- 18.6 Future funding themes and commissioning
- 18.7 Sport, physical activity and public health engagement

Active People Survey

19. Sport England has published the latest snapshot from its Active People Survey on sports participation. Results show a return of the positive trend in participation in England following the dip seen in the last quarter. The number of adults who play sport at least three times a week now stands at 6.924 million. Sports which have performed particularly well in the past three months include athletics, where the running boom continues, and table tennis, which has seen particularly strong growth in London and the South East.

Satisfaction with sporting experience

20. Headline results from the third year of Sport England's 'satisfaction with the sporting experience' survey have been published. They show that participants from over 40 sports gave an overall satisfaction rating of 79.7 out of 100 –

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compared to 76.5 last year. 23 sports have achieved ratings of over 80 including cycling, goalball, judo and triathlon. The survey provides insight to sports' governing bodies, helping them to better understand their customers' experience of sport and to drive improvements

Festivals

21. To coincide with the music festival season officers have undertaken proactive media work to highlight councils' role in bringing economic benefits to local areas by supporting music festivals. The summer of live music will boost local economies by around £550 million. From highways, to trading standards, planning and licensing, councils across the country have been working behind the scenes with festival organisers for months to help guarantee huge outdoor events this summer run smoothly.
22. More details have been announced about the London 2012 Festival – a 12-week UK-wide cultural celebration in 2012, featuring performers from all over the world – which is the finale of the Cultural Olympiad. More than seven million people will have the opportunity to enjoy free events during the festival, including events that have already been announced such as the BBC Radio 1 Hackney Weekend and new additions to the programme, including a theatre show for Doctor Who fans by Punchdrunk created in collaboration with the Manchester International Festival and the BBC.

Live Music

23. Lord Tim Clement-Jones's Private Members Bill on live music has had its second reading in the House of Lords. The Bill proposes amending the 2003 Licensing Act to exempt performances of live music that attract an audience of fewer than 200 people from the need for a premises licence, where alcohol is already served and the live music will be 8am - midnight.
24. The government has signalled its intention to support the Bill, subject to a number of caveats being addressed, including lowering the cut-off point from midnight to 11:00pm. The House of Lord's Committee Stage started on 14 June. In view of government support, the PMB has a good chance of making it through the Parliamentary process.
25. Councils fully support efforts to lower barriers to putting on live music and the LG Group works with partners including the Musicians Union, the British Beer and Pub Association and DCMS to promote live music and lower the barriers to putting on performances within the existing licensing regime.

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26. However, licensing exemptions for live music based on crowd size only would lead to public safety risks and noise complaints and there are better, more targeted ways of helping promote more live music performances.
27. The Chair of the CTS Programme Board has written to John Penrose MP, Tourism and Licensing Minister, to express councils' serious concerns and has offered to work with the Minister on finding a democratic solution that both reduces red tape and protects the public.