

12 September 2011

Item 1

Note of last Meeting

Title: LG Group Culture, Tourism and Sport Programme Board
Date and time: Thursday 21 July 2011, 1.00pm
Venue: Local Government House

Attendance

Position	Councillor	Council
Chair:	Chris White	Hertfordshire CC
Vice chair:	Simon Henig	Durham CC
Deputy chair:	Stephen Castle	Essex CC
Deputy chair:	Geoff Knight	Lancaster City
Members:	Sir William Lawrence	Stratford-on-Avon DC
	David Lloyd	Hertfordshire CC
	Andrew Lewer	Derbyshire CC
	Bryony Rudkin	Ipswich BC
	Chris Roberts	Greenwich LB
	Caitlin Bisknell (via teleconference)	High Peak DC
	Flick Rea	Camden LB
	Paul Crossley	Bath & NE Somerset
Apologies:	Ken Maddock	Somerset CC
	Geoffrey Theobald OBE	Brighton & Hove
LG Group Officers:	Helen Johnston, Siraz Natha, Laura Caton, Fatima de Abreu	
CLOA:	Richard Hunt	

Item	Decisions and actions	Action by
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Cllr White (Chair) welcomed Members to the meeting and notified them of apologies received.

Cllr Castle informed colleagues that his 3-year tenure as a Lead Member of the CTS Board was coming to an end, and this would therefore be his final meeting. Members noted that Cllr Andrew Lewer would succeed Cllr Castle as Conservative Lead Member from September.

The Chair thanked Cllr Castle for his valuable contribution to the CTS Programme Board and members wished him well for the future.

1 Note of last meeting

Members asked that officers amend the minutes so that they reflect the action point in relation to the DCMS Accessibility Forum.

Decision

Members agreed the note of the last meeting as a correct record, subject to the above amendment.

Action

Officers to amend the note to reflect Members' comments.

Fatima de Abreu

2 Torch Relay

Members received a presentation from Sarah Bartholomew, Government Relations Executive, and Angela Salt, Head of Nations and Regions, LOCOG and viewed a short film about the Torch Relay.

LOCOG outlined details of how they are consulting and working with local government on the Torch Relay, which is probably the biggest operational issue facing councils. Torch Relay Advisory Groups are operating in each region and involve councils. Members noted plans and timetables for the route and future announcements.

Members acknowledged the significant opportunities for local areas but highlighted some concerns, particularly the need to clarify roles and responsibilities and where costs will fall. Members also highlighted the importance of using local intelligence to inform the detail of the route.

Angela said that roles and responsibilities were covered in the contract that councils have been asked to sign and that the cost is scalable, depending upon the extent to which the local authority wants to organise other activity on the back of the Torch Relay. Angela also outlined the support that LOCOG is providing to councils: every council will be assigned an Advance Manager who will be a single point of contact. LOCOG will also give councils a community planning guide and various toolkits that will assist local planning.

In response to questions from Members, Sarah said that LOCOG is also planning the seven day Paralympic Torch Relay.

Decision

Members noted the LG Group's and LOCOG's continued commitment to work together in providing support to councils for both the Olympic Torch Relay and the Paralympic Torch Relay.

Action

Officers to continue liaison with LOCOG on the issues raised by Members and to continue to support councils to ensure the success of the Torch Relay.

Siraz Natha

3 The Digital Economy

The Chair updated Members on LG Group positions on the digital economy agenda and said that it would be timely to arrange a meeting with Martha Lane Fox, the UK Digital Champion.

In response to the draft work programme, Members highlighted the connectivity between access to broadband and mobile phones in rural areas. Members also emphasised the potential of the digital economy to drive economic growth, the challenges with rolling out broadband to some rural areas, and said that it was important to remember not all people will want to access services online.

Decision

Members noted the report and agreed the suggested Work Programme.

Action

Officers to reflect Members' comments in future discussions on the digital economy with government, Race Online 2012 and BDUK.

Laura Caton

Officers to arrange for the Chair of the Board to meet Martha Lane Fox.

Laura Caton

4 Culture, Tourism and Sport Improvement Officer

The Board noted the outline improvement offer for councils which reflected the new economic and political landscape.

Members emphasised the importance of strengthening local political leadership and supporting councillors to position culture, tourism and sport corporately. Richard Hunt emphasised concerns about the resourcing of Local Improvement Networks.

Decision

Members agreed the outline culture, tourism and sport improvement offer for councils.

Action

Officers to progress actions as suggested within the report.

Laura Caton

5 Future Libraries Programme

Members noted the report and proposals for phase two of the Future Libraries Programme (FLP2).

Members emphasised the important role member peers can play in supporting councils to modernise their library services. Members agreed to invite Sue Charteris, Founder Partner of Shared Intelligence, to present at the next meeting.

Decision

Members noted the report.

Action

Officers to progress actions as suggested within the report.

Laura Caton

Officers to invite Sue Charteris to present to the next Board.

Laura Caton

6 Outside bodies feedback from Members

Members noted the report.

The Chair asked officers to invite the Chief Executive of VisitEngland to update the Programme Board on their new partnership structure.

Decision

Members noted the report.

Action

Officers to invite VisitEngland to attend the meeting in September.

Laura Caton

7 CTS Annual Conference 2012

Officers circulated a draft programme for the CTS Annual Conference 2012 and updated Members on confirmed speakers.

Members said it was important to give the 2012 Games a high profile and agreed to invite Jennifer Litman, Chief Executive of Tourism for All, to speak.

Members agreed to hold a Programme Board on 6 March (the day before the conference) and said that timings would depend upon whether the 2011/12 Board wanted to host an event with councils in the area or just a Board.

Members noted that Rebecca Rossini (Events, LG Group) was leaving the LG Group and asked officers to convey their best wishes.

Decision

Members noted the draft Programme.

Action

Officers to progress arrangements for the CTS Annual Conference 2012.

Laura Caton

8 Update on current issues

Members noted the report.

9 Case Study Activity: Local Cultural Improvement Network update

Members noted the report.

**Date of next meeting: 2.00pm, Monday 12 September, 2011
Local Government House**