

Outside bodies feedback from Members

Purpose of report

For information.

Summary

This paper provides Members with the opportunity to feedback on recent meetings of outside bodies at which they have represented the Board.

The Chair's reports for June and July are attached as **Appendix A**.

As requested at the last Board, attached as **Appendix B** are current nominations to CTS Outside Bodies. Please note that in line with the LGA's municipal year nominations and Outside Bodies are due to be reviewed at the September CTS Board.

Recommendation

Members currently representing the Board on outside bodies are asked to **provide any appropriate feedback** from recent meetings, details of which are enclosed.

Actions

Subject to comments from the Board, officers to take forward any suggested actions.

Contact officer:

Fatima de Abreu

Position:

Programme Support Officer

Phone no:

020 7664 3136

E-mail:

fatima.deabreu@local.gov.uk

Outside bodies feedback from Members

Recent

Purpose	Key points discussed	Outcome
Cllr Flick Rea spoke at the South East Cultural Improvement Forum skills and Apprenticeship event, 18 May		
To update delegates on the LGA's policy position and work regarding skills and apprenticeships.	Cllr Rea highlighted councils' strong track record leading economic growth and supporting young people. Delegates also heard from Reading Borough Council about their approach and the Royal Opera House and Pinewood Studios shared the employers' perspective. The importance of 'hubs' which matched opportunities with young people was the key learning point. Councils also urged the Sector Skills Councils to simplify their offer.	Over 30 delegates from London and the South East attended the event and the learning has been shared widely via the CTS e-bulletin. Key learning points will continue to inform LGA lobbying on skills.
Sir Merrick Cockell and Members of the CTS Board visited the Olympic Park on 29 May		
To see at first-hand the final preparations at the Olympic Park.	LOCOG briefed Members on how they are working with the Host Boroughs and Members shared how they are engaging their communities in the Games, including the Torch Relay.	Reinforced the importance of a strong partnership between LOCOG and local government to the success of the Games.
Cllr Flick Rea spoke at a Leading Learning Programme (LLP) event on 11 June. The LLP is a leadership development programme for senior culture and leisure managers in local government.		
To discuss the importance of the Member / Officer relationship.	Cllr Rea shared a politician's perspective on the importance of culture and sport and emphasised the need for a flexible officer corps that thinks in a holistic rather than silo fashion. Delegates also heard from the Chief Executive of North West Leicestershire Council and participated in workshops on understanding the political environment.	Strengthened participants' understanding of the political environment in which they work. Promoted next year's Leading Learning Programme through the CTS e-bulletin.

Purpose	Key points discussed	Outcome
Cllr Flick Rea attended London 2012 Parliamentary Reception on 12 June		
To reinforce the role that local government will play in the Games.	Lord Seb Coe, London 2012 Chairman, gave a presentation on progress with getting ready for the Games and this was followed by short speeches from other politicians involved with the Games and networking.	Raised awareness amongst Parliamentarians about local government's role in hosting a safe and successful Games and the LGA's role supporting councils.
Cllr Flick Rea participated in a telephone interview regarding ACE's re-organisation on 18 June		
To set out the LGA's response to ACE's consultation on its new structure.	Cllr Rea emphasised the importance of the new structure reinforcing the essential partnership between ACE and local government who together bring the majority of funding for culture and libraries to the table.	Alan Davey, Chief Executive of ACE, has agreed to meet CTS Lead Members to discuss the new ACE structure and what it means for local government in more detail.
Sir William Lawrence attended the Accessibility Forum on 20 June		
To represent the views of local government on accessibility issues in tourism.	It was noted that LGA had renewed their membership of Tourism for All UK. Visit England highlighted the need for more data on public toilet provision and asked for the LGA's assistance. This information is vital for visitors with accessibility issues.	LGA to raise the issue of information about public toilet provision for people with disability issues in the CTS bulletin.
Sir William Lawrence attended the British Board of Film Board Consultative Council		
To represent the LGA.	As usual, the Council watched a film and offered independent advice to the British Board of Film on classification.	Uniformity to the classification of film nationally, which remains a local government statutory power.
Cllr Simon Henig chaired the sport workshop at LGA Annual Conference on 26 June		
To share good practice and debate the big issues facing local authority supported sport.	There was much interest in the Pompey Respect Programme, which worked with the Football Club to engage young people and achieve a 20% reduction in crime. Delegates also heard from Sport England about the support and funding that they offer councils.	30 delegates attended the workshop. The presentations have been shared widely via the CTS e-bulletin. The views expressed will help to shape the Leadership Academy that we are running with Sport England 18/19 July.

Purpose	Key points discussed	Outcome
Cllr Flick Rea chaired the libraries workshop at LGA Annual Conference on 27 June		
To share good practice and debate the big issues facing public library authorities.	The Leader of Surrey County Council and the Mayor of the London Borough of Lewisham gave very informative presentations about how they are re-designing library services. This was followed by delegates sharing their own examples.	<p>50 delegates attended the workshop. The presentations have been shared widely via the CTS e-bulletin.</p> <p>Launched the LGA's new libraries publication to share good practice.</p> <p>The views expressed will also inform the LGA's improvement offer to councils on libraries.</p>
Cllr Caitlin Bisknell attended the Tourism Alliance AGM on 5 July		
To represent councils' interests to the tourism industry and the Tourism Minister who attended the meeting.	Cllr Bisknell urged government to give local partners the flexibility and powers to take the decisions, forge partnerships and allocate scarce resources in all the domains upon which a thriving visitor economy rests – in particular, transport, infrastructure, and culture. She also highlighted the importance of a place-based approach to public investment.	Raised key issues for councils with the Tourism Minister.
Cllr Flick Rea attended the launch of the Heritage Lottery Fund's strategic framework 2013 - 2018 on 5 July		
To represent local government at the event.	Dame Jenny Ambramsky, Chair of English Heritage, set out how the Heritage Lottery Fund intends to allocate funding through open and targeted programmes, including the 20% increase in heritage's share of Lottery income.	Set out the LGA's response to the framework in the next CTS ebulletin.
Cllr Flick Rea and Cllr Andrew Lewer spoke at the culture and sport commissioning event for Members on 9 July		
Support councillors to understand better the commissioning landscape and how	Cllr Rea set the scene by emphasising the contribution of culture and sport to other political priorities. This was followed by a discussion about what commissioning is and the role of	20 councillors were supported and the key points will be shared widely through a short publication.

Purpose	Key points discussed	Outcome
to enable their culture and sport services to better engage with the commissioning process locally.	elected members. Following a briefing on public health, Cllr Lewer used examples from Derbyshire County Council to illustrate what culture and sport brings to the commissioning table. The event concluded with a discussion about supporting culture and sport to position itself in the commissioning process.	

Forthcoming (at the time of writing)

Title	Date	Attendees
LGA / Sport England leadership academy for sport portfolio holders	18 / 19 June 2012	Cllr Flick Rea
Meeting Justin Tomlinson MP, Chair of All Party Parliamentary Leisure Group) and sponsor (Simon Johnson CEO Business in Sport and Leisure)	To be confirmed	Cllr Doreen Stephenson
Meeting Baroness Kay Andrews, Chair, English Heritage	16 July 2012	Cllr Flick Rea
Meeting Alan Davey, Chief Executive Arts Council England	September 2012 (date TBC)	Cllr Flick Rea, Cllr Simon Henig, Cllr Andrew Lewer and Cllr Geoff Knight (subject to availability)
VisitEngland's 2012 Visitor Economy Forum	22 November 2012	Cllr Flick Rea

Culture, Tourism and Sport Board – report from Cllr Flick Rea (Chair), June 2012

Regulated Entertainment

1. I have written to John Penrose MP, Licensing Minister, to reinforce councils' concerns about the Government's plans to deregulate entertainment. Councils are fully in favour of making it easier for people to hold concerts, plays and public events and we support the aim of making the process as easy, transparent and free from red tape as possible. However, we believe the proposals go too far and will leave councils without sufficient powers to deal effectively with the potential dangers and nuisance of higher risk events, such as those held outdoors. We have offered to work with the Minister to ensure that proportionate and safe deregulation is achieved.

Culture

2. On 16 May I met Mark Taylor, Director of the Museums Association, to discuss how we can work together to support council run and supported museums to improve. I emphasised the importance of professional leadership working with political leadership to develop new ways of working that allow the museums sector to change and thrive in tough financial times. We also agreed on the importance of positioning museums as part of an area's strategic vision.
3. On 18 May I spoke at the South East Cultural Improvement Forum event on apprenticeships in culture and sport. Over 30 delegates attended this practical learning event to share how their areas are supporting apprenticeships. Organisations including the Royal Opera House and Pinewood Studios shared the employers' perspective. I highlighted councils' strong track record leading economic growth and supporting young people and the changing policy landscape. We will capture and share the learning through the LGA's growth campaign.

2012 Games

4. The LGA Chairman, Leader of the Independent Group and Members of the 2012 Games Task and Finish Group and Culture, Tourism and Sport Board visited the Olympic Park on 29 May. This was an opportunity to learn more about the latest preparations and how the venues will be adapted into community facilities after the Games.

Culture, Tourism and Sport Board, 23 May

5. David Moorcroft OBE, Director of the Join In Trust, updated the Board on two 2012 Games initiatives highly relevant to local government. The first, Join In Local Sport, is a national campaign to encourage people to connect and get involved with local sports clubs over the weekend 18/19 August. Secondly, the Community Games is providing practical information and advice to communities who want to host their own Games-inspired events between now and the Autumn. Members were very supportive of both initiatives and highlighted the importance of building upon existing local activity and keeping councils informed about events.
6. David was followed by Jennie Price, Chief Executive of Sport England, who presented to the Board about Sport England's new strategy and how they are working with councils to grow and sustain participation in physical activity and sport. The LGA is working with Sport England to deliver a programme of leadership events for sport portfolio holders, building on last year's very successful events. Members also highlighted the importance of strong links between National Governing Bodies for sport and councils.

Contact officer:	Helen Johnston
Position:	Head of Programmes
Phone no:	020 7664 3172
E-mail:	helen.johnston@local.gov.uk

Culture, Tourism and Sport Board – report from Cllr Flick Rea (Chair), July 2012

LGA Annual Conference

1. The CTS Board hosted two lively and well-attended workshops at the LGA Annual Conference. I chaired the libraries workshop where the Leader of Surrey County Council and the Mayor of the London Borough of Lewisham gave very informative presentations about how they are re-designing library services. This was followed by delegates sharing their own examples. I was also delighted to launch the LGA's new publication "Local solutions for future local library services" which contains a plethora of good practice case studies. The publication can be downloaded from the LGA's website http://www.local.gov.uk/web/guest/culture-tourism-and-sport/-/journal_content/56/10171/3628286/ARTICLE-TEMPLATE.
2. Cllr Simon Henig chaired the sport workshop, which explored the huge potential of sport to improve the life chances of young people. Delegates heard from Portsmouth about how they worked with the Football Club to engage young people and achieve a 20% reduction in crime, and from Sport England about the support and funding that they offer councils.

Heritage

3. I have written to Baroness Kay Andrews, Chair of English Heritage, to express the LGA's concern about a proposed new national indicator to assess each local authority's commitment to the historic environment. It is disappointing that English Heritage is apparently moving away from our shared improved agenda and returning to the old world of national indicators and top-down performance management. I have offered to discuss with English Heritage how we can work together to support historic environment services through collaboration, the sharing of good practice and strong leadership. I am meeting Baroness Andrews on 16 July.

Arts Council England

4. I continue to represent councils' interests to Arts Council England (ACE) as they consult on a significant reduction in staff. In particular, I have emphasised the need for continued local government representation on the new regional bodies. This is essential in order to ensure accountability and transparency in

the new arrangements, and also in recognition of councils' vital role working in partnership with ACE to support libraries, museums and the arts.

LGA Culture and Sport Commissioning Workshop – 9 July

5. As part of our political leadership offer on culture and sport, 20 councillors attended a workshop about commissioning. Its purpose was to support councillors to understand better the commissioning landscape and how to enable their culture and sport services to better engage with the commissioning process locally.

Professional leadership

6. On 11 June I was delighted to address participants in this year's Leading Learning Programme, a leadership development programme for senior culture and leisure managers in local government. I shared a politician's perspective on the importance of culture and sport and emphasised the need for a flexible officer corps that thinks in a holistic rather than silo fashion.

Apprenticeships

7. On 18 June I spoke at the South East Cultural Improvement Forum's event on creative, cultural and sports apprenticeships. Over 30 delegates attended this practical learning event to share how their areas are supporting apprenticeships. I highlighted councils' strong track record leading economic growth and supporting young people. Delegates also heard from Reading Borough Council about their approach and the Royal Opera House and Pinewood Studios shared the employers' perspective. We have promoted the learning widely through the CTS bulletin.

Street Play

8. I was interviewed for BBC Breakfast about the Street Play scheme in Bristol, a community-led project which works with the council to temporarily close roads to traffic in order to allow children to play safely in the street. Similar schemes exist in other parts of the country, such as London Play. This is an inexpensive and simple way for councils to support outdoor play and I have asked Officers to share case studies with the sector.