

11 September 2012

Item 7

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 current Chair's report is attached as **Annex A**.

Please note that in line with the LGA's municipal year CTS Lead Members are currently updating nominations to Outside Bodies.

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: Stephen Service
Position: Programme Support Officer
Phone no: 020 7664 3194
E-mail: stephen.service@local.gov.uk

Outside bodies feedback from Members

Recent

Purpose	Key points discussed	Outcome
Cllr Flick Rea met Alice Ferguson (Director, Playing Out) and Catherine Prisk (Director, Play England) on 17 August		
To discuss how LGA can support the Playing Out project which helps communities to obtain temporary road closures (in suitable places) that allow children to play outside without cars	Cllr Rea highlighted that bringing communities together is one of councils' key roles. The LGA has supported councils to reduce the red tape that communities face when organising street parties or staging community events and activities. Cllr Rea also highlighted the importance of organisers, neighbours and councils talking to each other to iron out any sticking points.	LGA to promote Playing Out project and case studies to councils via <i>First</i> magazine, relevant LGA bulletins and at relevant LGA events.

Forthcoming

Title	Date	Attendees
LGA Commissioning culture and sport political leadership seminar	17 October	Cllr Flick Rea
Meeting Alan Davey, Chief Executive Arts Council England	18 October	Cllr Flick Rea, Cllr Simon Henig and Cllr Andrew Lewer
LGA / VisitEngland visitor economy political leadership seminar	19 October	Cllr Andrew Lewer
LGA Young people and libraries roundtable with The Reading Agency	1 November	Cllr Flick Rea
LGA / Arts Council England libraries political leadership seminar	5 November	Cllr Flick Rea
LGA 2012 Games Task and Finish Group	8 November	Cllr Flick Rea Cllr Simon Henig
LGA / Sport England Leadership Academy for councillors	10 / 11 November	Cllr Flick Rea
LGA workshop at English Heritage conference for councillors	12 November	Cllr Flick Rea
VisitEngland's 2012 Visitor Economy Forum	22 November	Cllr Flick Rea
LGA / Arts Council England libraries political leadership seminar	12 December	Cllr Flick Rea

Annex A

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

Libraries

1. Ahead of the Culture, Media and Sport Committee's report into library closures, I have written to the Chair of the Committee to highlight why modernising the 1964 statutory duty to provide public libraries will help councils to ensure libraries continue to thrive in tough financial times. The LGA is calling for a twenty-first century Libraries Act: one that puts local accountability to the citizen and service user first, recognises that the library service is valuable for its outcomes and awards national government its true role as strategic leader, not superintendent.
2. I have also written to all library portfolio holders to update them on how the LGA and Arts Council England (ACE) are continuing to work in partnership to provide councils with valuable support in the re-design of their library services. As part of this we have invited expressions of interest in bespoke two-day peer support, as well as offering several upcoming free library political leadership seminars to be run throughout the country. The letter also included a copy of the LGA's recent publication "Local solutions for future local library services" which contains a plethora of good practice case studies.

2012 Games and Sport

3. As sporting fervour gripped the nation on the back of Team GB's gold medal haul, councils reported to us that leisure facilities were bursting with people wanting to get involved with sport. In response to the Prime Minister's comments about legacy, the LGA Chairman wrote to highlight that councils are ready to seize the opportunity to use the Games to make a long term difference to participation in physical activity and would welcome contributing towards the Government's plans on legacy. Councils are the biggest public sector funder of community sport, spending £1.8 billion a year. They are also uniquely placed to encourage greater connectivity locally between National Governing Bodies, County Sport Partnerships, voluntary sports clubs and schools.
4. On July 18, I spoke at the third LGA / Sport England Leadership Academy. The event supported 15 portfolio holders for sport to develop further their understanding of the opportunities and challenges faced by local government funded and supported sport. Once again we received very positive feedback from delegates and we look forward to building upon our partnership with Sport England this year through a programme of leadership events and peer support.

11 September 2012

Item 7

Street Play

5. Following on from my interview on BBC Breakfast about the Street Play scheme in Bristol, I met with the scheme's founder and Play England's Director on 17 August. Street Play is 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. This is an inexpensive and simple way for councils to support outdoor play and the LGA will share case studies to illustrate how it could work in other suitable places.

Contact officer: Paul Raynes
Position: Head of Programmes
Phone no: 020 7664 3172
E-mail: paul.raynes@local.gov.uk