

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.

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:	Laura Caton
Position:	Senior Advisor
Phone no:	020 7664 3154
E-mail:	laura.caton@local.gov.uk

Outside bodies feedback from Members

Recent

Purpose	Key points discussed	Outcome
Cllr Flick Rea MBE spoke at the National Culture Forum (NCF) leading learning programme on 3 June		
To bring the councillor's perspective to the NCF, which is the only national leadership programme for senior council officers working in the cultural sector who wish to develop further into senior management.	Cllr Rea MBE gave a presentation on the local government political landscape.	Participants had a better understanding of the political context within which senior officers operate.
Cllr Flick Rea MBE attended the launch of the Reading Well Books on Prescription on 4 June		
To represent the LGA at the launch of the Reading Well Books on Prescription scheme, which enables people to borrow GP-approved books from public libraries to self-help adults with a range of conditions.	Ed Vaizey MP, Culture Minister, and Normal Lamb MP, Care and Support Minister attended the launch event, along with senior health and public library professionals. There were short presentations highlighting how self-help reading based on cognitive behavioural therapy help with a range of common mental health conditions including anxiety, depression, phobias and some eating disorders.	LGA promoted the launch of the scheme to councils via the CTS Bulletin.
Cllr Flick Rea MBE spoke at the Theatres Trust Conference on 11 June		
To participate in a session on how Government policies to promote greater local and neighbourhood ownership of planning decisions and community assets have created opportunities for theatres.	Cllr Rea MBE highlighted the LGA's work in promoting culture and the arts; the involvement of theatres in Local Enterprise Partnerships; the positive role that planning can play supporting cultural assets and how theatres can position themselves to contribute to a place's growth and visitor economy priorities.	A better understanding about how theatres and local government can work in partnership to drive local growth.
Cllr Flick Rea MBE met Diane Lees, Chair of the National Museums Directors' Council on 13 June		
To discuss key issues for the national and larger	Cllr Rea MBE and Diane Lees	A First World War centenary commemoration

Purpose	Key points discussed	Outcome
regional museums, which the National Museums Directors' Council represents.	discussed the economic impact of museums of all sizes and the importance of strong partnerships that share learning and innovation across the museums sector. Diane Lees updated Cllr Rea MBE on the Imperial War Museum's First World War Centenary Partnership - a growing network of over 1,000 local, regional, national and international non-for-profit groups and organisations with plans to commemorate the centenary. Becoming a member of the Partnership is free and provides access to a wealth of First World War expertise and resources.	article will be included in a future edition of First Magazine. LGA to promote the Imperial War Museum's First World War Centenary Partnership to councils.
Sir William Lawrence attended the British Board of Film Classification Consultative Councils meeting on 13 June		
To represent the LGA.	As usual, the Council watched a film and offered independent advice to the British Board of Film Classification.	Uniformity to the classification of film nationally, which remains a local government statutory power.
Cllr Flick Rea MBE and Cllr Andrew Lewer attended the Society of Chief Librarians' Conference on 20 June		
To represent the LGA at the annual conference of the Society of Chief Librarians.	Cllr Flick Rea MBE chaired a session at which Sue Charteris (Equal Value) shared her reflections on the state of public libraries, highlighting the opportunities presented by the digital agenda. Cllr Andrew Lewer chaired a session at which John Sharland (Sharpe Pritchard) shared learning from recent court rulings on public libraries. Ed Vaizey MP, Culture Minister, also addressed the conference and welcomed hearing from public libraries about the impact of Universal Credit.	Further strengthened the positive partnership between the LGA and the Society of Chief Librarians.

Purpose	Key points discussed	Outcome
Cllr Flick Rea MBE attended the LGA / Sport England Leadership Academy on 26 June 2013		
To develop and strengthen political leadership amongst sport portfolio holders.	This was the fifth Sport Leadership Academy and it provided councillors with an opportunity to share learning and develop solutions to local challenges.	15 portfolio holders attended and provided very positive feedback. Greater awareness of the tools and advice available to councils from Sport England.
Cllr Flick Rea MBE attended a roundtable on libraries and public health on 26 June. It was hosted by Ed Vaizey, Culture Minister, and also attended by Anna Soubry, Public Health Minister, and Janene Cox, President of the Society of Chief Librarians		
To discuss the contribution of libraries to public health.	Attendees discussed the many ways public libraries can help to improve health, including the Reading Well Books on Prescription scheme.	Raised awareness about the contribution of libraries to public health.

Forthcoming

Title	Date	Attendees
Visitor Economy workshop at LGA Annual Conference	2 July	Cllr Flick Rea MBE
Launch of the Summer Reading Challenge	7 July	Cllr Flick Rea MBE Cllr Andrew Lewer
LGA / English Heritage Leadership Seminar for portfolio holders and heritage champions	10 July	Cllr Flick Rea MBE Cllr Andrew Lewer
LGA / Arts Council England Libraries Seminar for new portfolio holders	12 September	Cllr Flick Rea MBE

**Annex A Culture, Tourism and Sport Board – Report from Cllr Flick Rea MBE
(Chair), June 2013**

Culture, Tourism and Sport Board, 22 May

1. We were pleased to welcome Yinnon Ezra MBE, DCMS Libraries Adviser, to the CTS Board. Mr. Ezra outlined the issues he is seeking to address in his new role. Members discussed potential mutual priorities around supporting local political leadership, promoting shared services and embedding libraries in the government's wider public sector reform programme, especially Community Budgets and welfare reform.
2. We were also pleased to welcome members of the Farrell Review team who are carrying out an independent review of architecture and the built environment for Ed Vaizey MP, Culture Minister. Members emphasised the role of local government in creating attractive places to live and visit and promoting good design. We look forward to submitting a written response to the review in due course.

Arts Council England Governance Review

3. CTS Board Lead Members have written to Sir Peter Bazalgette to emphasise that we are delighted the new Arts Council area councils will continue to have strong local government representation in recognition of councils' vital role supporting and funding the arts, libraries and museums locally. We are pleased that local government is able to nominate its own representatives.
4. Having discussed the practical implications of moving from nine regional councils to five area hubs at the CTS Board, we have also offered to coordinate the nominations process for local government outside London. The LGA's national mandate, coupled with our extensive experience of running political nominations, means we are in an excellent position to do this and it will also ensure that local government nominations are genuinely representative of the sector.

First World War Commemorations

5. I attended the launch of the Heritage Lottery Fund's small grants programme for First World War commemorations on 15 May. Maria Miller, Culture Secretary of State also attended the event, and the LGA is promoting the availability of the funding to councils.

Sport

6. I attended SPORTA's Parliamentary reception on 8 May. SPORTA is the national umbrella body for cultural and leisure trusts which deliver around 40% of culture and leisure provision. The reception was an opportunity to discuss how local government is increasingly working with culture and leisure trusts.

The National Leisure and Culture Forum Leading Learning Programme

7. On 3 June, I spoke at a Leading Learning Programme event for senior officers. The programme is the only year-long leadership development programme specifically tailored to the needs of management across the leisure and culture sector. It is now in its fifth year and my presentation was an opportunity to discuss the relationship between political and professional leadership.