

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 last two chair's reports are also attached as **Annex A & B**.

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 LGA/Arts Council England Libraries Seminar for new portfolio holders on 12 September 2013		
To support new library portfolios to understand the policy landscape for libraries, and share practical examples about how libraries are helping councils to achieve wider community outcomes.	Cllr Rea updated councillors on the LGA's advocacy and support priorities for libraries. Sue Charteris, (EqualValue and an expert on public libraries) led a session on involving and consulting with communities on changes to library provision. Case study presentations covered how libraries can boost local growth (Northamptonshire), work with volunteers to run them (Merton), support people impacted by welfare reform (Dorset) and be run as social enterprises (Lewisham).	15 portfolio holders for libraries attended and were supported to lead transformation of library services.
Cllr Flick Rea MBE met Nick Bitel, Chair of Sport England on 27 September 2013		
An introductory meeting to share with the new Chair of Sport England the LGA's priorities on sport and physical activity, and to emphasise the value of our joint political leadership improvement programme.	Cllr Rea emphasised the vital leadership role councils play in bringing together local partners who are helping to increase participation in sport, and the opportunities for sport to be part of a whole-place approach to improving health. They reinforced the importance of our joint Leadership Academies, which have already supported over 80 portfolio holders to lead transformational change of leisure services.	Actions agreed included sharing with councils creative ways to keep playing fields and other sporting assets viable, playing into Sport England's work on the economic value of grass roots sport, linking Sport England's work on sport assets to the LGA's One Public Estate work, and a further conversation on lottery match-funding requirements.
Sir William Lawrence attended Tourism for All's Accessible Tourism Forum on 10 October 2013		
To represent the LGA's policy positions on the visitor economy.	Sir William Lawrence will update Members on key points discussed at the Board.	Sir William Lawrence will update Members on any actions at the Board.
Cllr Flick Rea MBE, Cllr Andrew Lewer, Cllr Sonja Crisp and Cllr Doreen Stephenson spoke at the LGA/Arts Council England (ACE) Cultural Leadership Academy on 22-23 October 2013.		
To develop and strengthen political leadership skills amongst councillors with a portfolio	Cllr Rea introduced the event by sharing with councillors our work with ACE to embed a single cultural conversation locally and nationally.	This was the first Cultural Leadership Academy and we supported 14 portfolio holders to build resilient

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for cultural services in local government.	Cllr Lewer and Cllr Crisp co-facilitated the Academy. Cllr Stephenson shared how East Lindsey District Council has boosted growth through a programme of cultural events and festivals. Other case studies covered working with Local Enterprise Partnerships, commissioning and how culture can help to improve outcomes for children and young people, and strengthen cohesion.	and sustainable cultural services.
Cllr Flick Rea MBE participated in a roundtable hosted by Nick Hurd MP, Minister for Civil Society, and Play England on 29 October 2013		
Play England convened the roundtable to discuss with Nick Hurd MP how to strengthen cross-Government buy-in to play policy.	Cllr Rea highlighted the different ways in which councils support play opportunities, and join-up play policy with health and wellbeing. She also said that strong local partnerships between councils, schools, the voluntary sector and other partners were central to effective local play provision.	Nick Hurd MP and the organisations represented at the roundtable were updated on the vital local dimension to play policy.
Cllr Flick Rea MBE spoke at the LGA/Sport England Leadership Academy on 12-13 November 2013		
To support councillors to achieve fit-for-purpose sport and leisure provision for their communities within the context of unprecedented budget pressures.	Sessions explored creative ways to keep sporting assets viable, the opportunities presented by public health reform, understanding the commissioning landscape and leading transformational change in councils.	This was the seventh sport Academy and 14 councillors were supported to strengthen local political leadership of sport and leisure services.
Cllr Flick Rea MBE spoke at the LGA / Sport England Alumni event on 19 November 2013		
To enable portfolio holders who have attended a sport Leadership Academy to continue to share learning with each other.	Cllr Rea and Sport England updated councillors on the latest policy developments for sport and physical activity. Interactive sessions enabled councillors to share what they have done since attending the Academy, the progress they have made and challenges faced.	12 portfolio holders supported to revisit leading transformational change of sport and leisure services.

Forthcoming at the time of writing

Title	Date	Attendees
Age Collective Conference at the British Museum to explore how museums engage older people	22 November	Cllr Flick Rea MBE
King's Cultural Institute presentation of findings of its Cultural Inquiry into Culture and Major Events	26 November	Cllr Flick Rea MBE Cllr Andrew Lewer
Introductory meeting with Sir Laurie Magnus, Chair English Heritage	27 November	Cllr Flick Rea MBE
LGA / Arts Council England Cultural Leadership Academy	4-5 December	Cllr Flick Rea MBE Cllr Andrew Lewer Cllr Sonja Crisp Cllr Doreen Stephenson
Introductory Meeting with Helen Grant MP, Sports Minister	28 January	Cllr Flick Rea MBE
Annual CTS Conference, Portsmouth	3 – 4 March	Board Members

Culture, Tourism and Sport Board – Report from Cllr Flick Rea (Chair), October 2013

Libraries

1. I was delighted that 15 portfolio holders for libraries attended the LGA's libraries leadership seminar on 12 September. Colleagues shared some extremely impressive examples of how libraries are helping to achieve wider community outcomes. We heard from Northamptonshire County Council about the practical support that people who want to set up their own business can access in libraries. The London Borough of Merton shared how they have recruited more than 3,000 volunteers to help run their libraries. Dorset County Council highlighted how the libraries' digital offer is helping people to claim benefits online, and the London Borough of Lewisham shared how they worked with a local social enterprise to transfer the library asset and put the service on a more sustainable footing.

Sport

2. I had an extremely positive introductory meeting with Nick Bitel, the new Chair of Sport England, on 27 September. We discussed the vital leadership role councils play in bringing together local partners who are helping to increase participation in sport, and the opportunities for sport to be part of a whole-place approach to improving health. We reinforced the importance of our joint Leadership Academies, which run throughout the year. We have already supported over 80 portfolio holders to lead transformational change of leisure services, and we are looking forward to the next Academy 12-13 November. Actions we agreed included sharing with councils creative ways to keep playing fields and other sporting assets viable, playing into Sport England's work on the economic value of grass roots sport, linking Sport England's work on sport assets to the LGA's One Public Estate work, and a further conversation on lottery match-funding requirements.

The Arts

3. Arts Council England (ACE) has confirmed the 23 councillors who will represent local government on its five Area Councils. The Area Councils are responsible for agreeing strategic development priorities for ACE activity in the regions, and for funding decisions less than £800,000. It is very positive that the new Area Councils continue to have strong local government representation in recognition of councils' vital role supporting and funding culture locally. I have written to the councillors to congratulate them on their appointment, and to invite them to join a national network that will help to identify key issues and good practice to shape the LGA's national dialogue with ACE. Councillors have responded very positively and I am looking forward to working with them.

Culture, Tourism and Sport Board, 9 September

4. The substantive item at the September Board was a discussion on heritage funding. Deborah Lamb, English Heritage's Director of National Advice and Information, updated the Board on the Government's proposal to establish a charity to care for the historic properties in the National Heritage Collection. This would be on a self-financing

25 November 2013

Item 7

basis, supported by Government investment of £80 million. Members emphasised the importance of sustainable funding for the Collection and highlighted the opportunities for even close partnership working between English Heritage's planning and heritage protection responsibilities. The regulatory function will be known temporarily as the National Heritage Protection Service, and English Heritage agreed to work with LGA and councils to test how partnerships might work in the new arrangements.

5. I have also written to Sir Laurie Magnus, the new Chair of English Heritage, to congratulate him on his appointment, and I am looking forward to meeting him on 11 November.

CTS Annual Conference, 3 – 4 March 2014, Portsmouth (in partnership with the Chief Cultural and Leisure Officers' Association)

6. I am delighted that next year's annual CTS Conference is in Portsmouth – an extremely fitting host city with much to share about culture and sport-led regeneration, including the wonderful new Mary Rose Museum. I am also pleased that the Chairs of Arts Council England, VisitEngland, Sport England and English Heritage have all agreed to speak at this definitive event for the sector. We are working closely with Portsmouth City Council to finalise the programme and are looking forward to sharing the latest good practice through workshops on hot topics.

Culture, Tourism and Sport Board – Report from Cllr Flick Rea (Chair), November 2013

Culture and Growth

1. I was delighted to speak at the first Culture and Growth Leadership Academy 22 – 23 October, hosted in partnership with Arts Council England. Through impactful case studies and practical exercises, we supported 14 portfolio holders to build resilient and sustainable cultural services.
2. Councillors Andrew Lewer, Deputy Chairman of the CTS Board, and Sonja Crisp, CTS Board Member, co-facilitated the Academy. The case study speakers included Councillor Doreen Stephenson, Leader of East Lindsey District Council and member of the CTS Board, who shared how the council's programme of cultural festivals has boosted the local economy. Other sessions explored different delivery models, working with Local Enterprise Partnerships and we heard from the Royal Shakespeare Company about how they are working with local government to boost the visitor economy.
3. All delegates agreed that the Academy had given them the basis for further improvement, and we are looking forward to the next Academy 4 – 5 December.

Sport

4. I was pleased to welcome 14 portfolio holders for sport to the seventh LGA / Sport England Leadership Academy 12-13 November. This highly successful programme supports councillors to achieve fit-for-purpose sport and leisure provision for their communities within the context of unprecedented budget pressures. Sessions explored creative ways to keep sporting assets viable, the opportunities presented by public health reform, understanding the commissioning landscape and leading transformational change in councils.
5. I have also written to Helen Grant MP, the new Sport and Tourism Minister, to congratulate her on her new role, and to emphasise the role that council sport and leisure services can play in actively promoting good health. We are meeting on 28 January.

Play

6. On 29 October I attended a roundtable on play policy convened by Play England and hosted by Nick Hurd MP, Minister for Civil Society. Representatives from a range of organisations with an interest in play also attended. The meeting was an opportunity to highlight the different ways in which councils support play opportunities – including the provision of formal and informal safe spaces to play, using the planning system to design in opportunities for play and linking play to other policy agendas in a joined-up approach to children and young people's health and wellbeing. I emphasised that strong local partnerships between councils, schools, the voluntary sector and other partners was central to effective local play provision.