

Note of last Culture, Tourism & Sport Board meeting

Title: Culture, Tourism & Sport Board
Date: Friday 12 June 2020
Venue: Online Meeting, 18 Smith Square, London, SW1P 3HZ

Attendance

An attendance list is attached as **Appendix A** to this note

Item Decisions and actions

1 Welcome, declarations of interest and apologies

The chair welcomed members to the final board of 2019/20 and thanked members and LGA Officers for their work on the board.

2 Minutes of the last meeting

Members agreed the minutes from 20 March 2020.

3 Sport England & Community Leisure UK

Chris Perks, Sport England gave a presentation on the work Sport England have been doing to support to local government sport and services through funding and guidance. Chris Perks highlighted the support that will be offered to local government during the recovery phase of COVID-19.

Mark Tweedie, Community Leisure UK, gave a presentation on the work of Community Leisure UK has been actioning in support of local government. Mark Tweedie highlighted the COVID-19 - Support for Leisure/Cultural Trusts & their Partners themes:

1. Reaction
2. Reopening
3. Recovery
4. Reimagine - Strategy to *'Build back Better'*

Members made the following comments:

- What is the financial settlement needed to support the leisure sector and how can local government ensure the argument is made to keep this sector going?
- Local Government needs to understand the issues that the leisure sector is facing, so we able to get through the recovery period and keep these services up and running
- Keeping culture and leisure services open is a public health concern, particularly within the BME communities. Well run services is an equality issues and correct funding for these sectors needs addressing. Local Government needs to speak up and ensure these concerns are heard.
- The cost of opening leisure centres will soon outweigh the income generated, concerning social distancing. Councils cannot financially support those services on an ongoing basis in the long term.
- Our Leisure centres act as a community hub and drop in for people with all

kinds of health issues. They are encouraged to use the sport facilities and access mental health services. These provides a wealth of opportunities which helps their social inclusion as well as healthy lifestyles.

Chris Perks responded:

- A lot of work is going into making services as robust as possible and guidance has been given to councils on an ongoing basis. Keeping communication open right now will be key, as we enter the recovery phase.
- There is a broad challenge of inequalities within the sector, and within the next four years there will be a challenge of investing appropriately to ensure these issues are addressed. A governance code will also ensure partners have standards to work to on the equality agenda.

Mark Tweedie responded:

- Debt recovery will be vital for leisure services right across the rest of the financial year. Councils need to be having realistic discussions about what the local picture is with providers.
- Funding needs to be bespoke to ensure that communities that need access to our services can, during the recovery.

Decision

Members noted the presentations.

4 Creative Industries guide

Ian Leete introduced the report and detailed how the report was commissioned as a handbook to support councils in growing their local creative economy.

Patrick Towell and Richard Leeming from Golant gave a presentation on the handbook and how it is designed to help local authorities understand the sector and take them through a design process that will lead to positive results for their communities.

Members made the following comments:

- How can we make the case for investing in creative industries during the COVID-19 recovery?
- Parts of the creative industries have been embracing online spaces during the lockdown. But outside of the lockdown, councils should be opening local government spaces for the sector to put on events.
- This guide needs to have a new, Covid-19 theme running through it.
- Rural parts of the creative sector need support to grow, outside of urban areas.
- Town centres and business rates will struggle to develop to further support the creative industry.

Decision

Members noted the presentation, approved the progression to design phase and approved the delivery of a mini-conference webinar.

5 Culture Tourism and Sport Workplan

Ian Leete introduced the Culture Tourism and Sport Board Workplan to members, focusing on issues from the Covid-19 pandemic and the reopening and recovery period of the culture, sport and tourism sectors.

Members made the following comments:

- Tourism and sport need to have an increased role within the workplan, to go along with the strong cultural aims.
- Sport will be a big part of the recovery, post covid-19 period, as it is as much of a public health issue as an economic driver.

Decision

Members noted the report and agreed the priorities in paragraph 14 of the report.

7 End of Year Report

Ian Leete provided an overview of the issues and work the board has overseen during the last year.

Members wished to thank officers for supporting the board throughout 2019/20.

Decision

Members noted the achievements against the board's priorities in 2019/20.

8 Outside Bodies- feedback from Members

Members gave their final reports from the Outside Bodies, summarising the important work that has been carried out in the Culture, Tourism and Sport Sectors.

Decision

Members noted the updates.

Appendix A -Attendance

Position/Role	Councillor	Authority
Chair	Cllr Gerald Vernon-Jackson CBE	Portsmouth City Council
Vice-Chair	Cllr Julian German	Cornwall Council
Deputy-chairman	Cllr Peter Golds CBE	Tower Hamlets Council
Deputy-chair	Cllr Clare Coghill	Waltham Forest London Borough Council
Members	Cllr Derek Bastiman	Scarborough Borough Council
	Cllr Matthew Lee	South Kesteven District Council
	Cllr Cath Homer	Northumberland Council
	Cllr Barry Lewis	Derbyshire County Council
	Cllr Phil Seeva	Cornwall Council
	Cllr Nick Worth	South Holland District Council
	Cllr Peter Kelly	Preston City Council
	Cllr Brigid Jones	Birmingham City Council
	Cllr Richard Henry	Stevenage Borough Council
	Cllr Muhammed Butt	Brent Council
	Cllr Dhanisha Patel	Bridgend County Borough Council
	Cllr Jane Black	Bury Metropolitan Borough Council
	Cllr Chris White	Hertfordshire County Council
	Cllr Tom Hollis	Ashfield District Council