

Note of last Culture, Tourism & Sport Board meeting

Title:	Culture, Tourism & Sport Board
Date:	Wednesday 16 March 2022
Venue:	Hybrid meeting (via Microsoft Teams & Council House, Coventry, CV1 5RR (Hosted by Cllr Gary Ridley)

Attendance

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

Item Decisions and actions

1 Chair's Welcome, Apologies and Substitutes and Declarations of Interest

The Chair welcomed Members, officers and guests to the meeting.

Apologies for absence had been received from Cllrs Brigid Jones, Dhanisha Patel, Tom Hollis and Guy Nicholson.

Cllrs David Jeffels, Neil Jory, Chris Penberthy and Jonathan Simpson, MBE, attended the meeting as substitutes.

No declarations of interest had been received.

2 Itinerary for Coventry

The itinerary document contained within the agenda pack was noted without discussion.

3 Minutes of the last meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on 19 January 2022 were agreed as an accurate record, subject to the following amendments to the attendance list:

- Cllr Chris Penberthy to be marked as present.
- Cllr Chris White's authority to be corrected from Hertfordshire County Council to St Albans.

Cllr German requested an update in relation to deprivation data sets. Ian Leete, Senior Adviser, confirmed that the requested information would be submitted to a future meeting of the Board.

4 Levelling Up the United Kingdom: White paper

The Chair welcomed Elisabeth Bouchard, Strategy Lead for Culture,

Tourism and Civil Society, and Harman Saggar, Head Economist for Arts, Heritage and Tourism, to the meeting and invited Ian Leete, Senior Adviser, to introduce the report.

Ian introduced the report which provided information related to the Levelling Up White paper, outlining how it intended to deliver on its flagship policy. The white paper also included additional detail on the UK Shared Prosperity Fund (SPF), which was designed to replace EU funding streams. The report identified the key elements of the white paper related to culture, tourism and sport, and sought the Board's views on priority engagement and lobbying issues on levelling up. It also sought to test initial LGA narratives related to levelling up with the Board.

Elisabeth provided a brief overview of the missions set out within the white paper and information which related to pride and place. In addition, she set out the following points:

- Conversations continued to take place between the Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS) and the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (DLUHC) which related to pride and place.
- It was intended that the missions set out within the white paper be cross-sector, offering 'bottom-up' solutions. Also, that the missions provide consistency and clarity, increase performance in all areas and closing gaps, whilst bringing individuals together to talk about an ambitious, bold agenda.
- The white paper also focused on the role of cultural place-making, sport, and tourism, as well as boosting productivity.
- DCMS were working with arms-length bodies to improve the join-up across the different work within sectors.

Harman presented a series of slides which related to the Culture and Heritage Capital Framework. The first iteration of the framework had been published in January 2021, and it set out the ambitions and approach of the programme. The slides covered a number of points, which included the reasoning behind the culture and heritage approach, the four key points, the framework model, which assets were being considered (collections and movable heritage, landscapes and archaeology, built historic environment, digital assets and performance) and the key outputs of the programme.

Board Members made a number of comments and asked questions which related to the following points:

- The visitor economy and its importance to developing new capacity and underperforming parts of the country.
- The value of world heritage and it's recognition through planning and funding.
- Addressing the gap in the evidence-base and the importance of understanding that one size does not fit all.
- The importance of culture in productivity and in working alongside government to drive gains through culture, the visitor economy and sport.
- Addressing issues related to health inequality by providing better access to green, open spaces, and sporting events.

- The UK City of Culture provided cities with the opportunity to be in the spotlight and sell themselves.
- The role of governance and changes throughout the white paper.
- Investment in place and amplifying its importance to the value that place had in society.
- The importance of access to leisure centres and the need for government funding to prevent leisure centre closures.
- The importance of Creative Industries in terms of economic power.
- Social prescribing and the need to discourage unnecessary NHS appointments and drug prescriptions.
- Access to the relevant venues and infrastructure to be able to host events and festivals.
- A concern was raised which related to high street recovery in London.

Harman and Ian responded to Board Members' comments, setting out the following points:

- Additional information could be circulated to Board Members which related to a conference which had taken place recently.
- LGA officers would continue to work with DCMS to promote the Culture and Heritage Capital Framework within Councils.
- Funding received from government through recent announcements were positive and investments continued to be made within London.
- DCMS' tourism team continued to focus on tourism and work to conduct a policy sprint into the North-East region, the lowest performing region in terms of visitor economy. The tourism team would be notified of the comments made by Board Members.

Decision:

- Board Members noted the report.

Action:

- Officers to circulate additional conference-related evidence from DCMS to Board Members.

5 Cultural Improvement update

The Chair invited Rhian Gladman, Programme Manager, and Helen Hull, Adviser, to introduce the report. Rhian and Helen introduced the report which provided an update on the LGA's cultural services improvement programmes. An update on the sport and physical activity improvement offer was included at the last Board meeting, and a further update would be included at the next meeting of the Board.

Decision:

- Board Members noted the report.

6 CTS Conference update

Decision:

- It was agreed that the LGA Culture and Tourism Conference 2022 would take place in Autumn as a hybrid event at 18 Smith Square.

7 Commission on Culture and Local Government: update

The Chair invited Lauren Lucas, Adviser, to introduce the report. Lauren introduced the report which provided an update on the Commission on Culture and Local Government, following the detailed paper which was discussed with the Board in January.

Board Members made comments and asked questions which related to the following points:

- Cllr Peter Golds, the Board's Advisor to the commission, had emphasised the importance of local government in the development of the arts sector in the UK in a recent meeting. He had met with Harry Brunjes, Chair of the English National Opera (ENO), and asked that he present the work of the ENO to a future meeting of the CTS Board.
- Cllr Phil Seeva, the Board's Creative Industries (CI) Council representative, had recently attended and presented a brief paper which related to the commission, combined authorities, and their involvement within the CI sector. It was anticipated that the commission would address issues which related to the disconnect between CI and local authorities.
- The relationship between the commission and the CTS Board and a request for monthly feedback.

Lauren said that the CTS Board was a key advisor to the commission and very closely involved. Regular updates would be submitted to each of the Board meetings and comments would be fed back into the work of the commission.

Decision:

- Board Members noted the report.

Action:

- Officers to provide regular updates to each meeting.

8 Outside Bodies

The Chair announced that he would step down from the Tourism Alliance. It was agreed that Cllr Chris White be appointed to take over as the Board's Tourism Alliance representative.

The Chair invited Board Members to update the Board on recent activity in relation to their outside body appointments.

Cllr Henry provided a written update in relation to the LGA's representation regarding The London Marathon Charitable Trust (LMCT):

- The LMCT had met once since the Board last met in December. Following the restructuring of the London Marathon Group, LMCT and delivery partner London Marathon Events Limited (LMEL), met to discuss, debate and sign off the new Group Strategic Framework and the LMCT strategies and focus for the future.

Decision:

- Board Members noted the report and the updates provided.

9 Any other business

- The Chair expressed his thanks, on behalf of the Board, for hosting the Board meeting in Coventry and for an excellent tour of the City of Culture.
- Cllr Barry Lewis confirmed that Derbyshire County Council would host the next meeting of the Board on 8 June 2022 as a hybrid meeting.

Appendix A - Attendance

Position/Role	Councillor	Authority
Chairman	Cllr Gerald Vernon-Jackson CBE	Portsmouth City Council
Vice-Chairman	Cllr Julian German	Cornwall Council
Deputy-chairman	Cllr Peter Golds CBE Cllr Andrew Western	Tower Hamlets Council Trafford Metropolitan Borough Council
Members	Cllr Steve Hastings Cllr Barry Lewis Cllr Gary Ridley Cllr Phil Seeva Cllr Anne Welburn Cllr Peter Kelly Cllr Richard Henry Cllr Muhammed Butt Cllr Amy Cross Cllr Chris White	Isle of Wight Council Derbyshire County Council Coventry City Council Cornwall Council West Lindsey District Council Preston City Council Stevenage Borough Council Brent Council Blackpool Council St Albans City and District Council
Apologies	Cllr Brigid Jones Cllr Dhanisha Patel Cllr Tom Hollis	Birmingham City Council Bridgend County Borough Council Ashfield District Council
In Attendance	Cllr David Jeffels Cllr Neil Jory Cllr Chris Penberthy Cllr Jonathan Simpson MBE Cllr Geoff Knight	North Yorkshire County Council West Devon Borough Council Plymouth City Council Camden London Borough Council Lancaster City Council

