



Culture, Tourism & Sport Board

Agenda

Wednesday, 21 June 2023
11.00 am

Hybrid Meeting - 18 Smith Square and
Online

There will be a meeting of the Culture, Tourism & Sport Board at **11.00 am on Wednesday, 21 June 2023** Hybrid Meeting - 18 Smith Square and Online.

LGA Hybrid Meetings

All of our meetings are available to join in person at [18 Smith Square](#) or remotely via videoconference as part of our hybrid approach. We will ask you to confirm in advance if you will be joining each meeting in person or remotely so we can plan accordingly, if you wish to attend the meeting in person, please also remember to confirm whether you have any dietary/accessibility requirements. 18 Smith Square is a Covid-19 secure venue and measures are in place to keep you safe when you attend a meeting or visit the building in person.

[Please see guidance for Members and Visitors to 18 Smith Square here](#)

Catering and Refreshments:

If the meeting is scheduled to take place at lunchtime, a sandwich lunch will be available.

Political Group meetings and pre-meetings for Lead Members:

Please contact your political group as outlined below for further details.

Apologies:

Please notify your political group office (see contact telephone numbers below) if you are unable to attend this meeting.

Conservative:	Group Office: 020 7664 3223	email: lgaconservatives@local.gov.uk
Labour:	Group Office: 020 7664 3263	email: labgp@lga.gov.uk
Independent:	Group Office: 020 7664 3224	email: independent.group@lga.local.gov.uk
Liberal Democrat:	Group Office: 020 7664 3235	email: libdem@local.gov.uk

Attendance:

Your attendance, whether it be in person or virtual, will be noted by the clerk at the meeting.

LGA Contact:

Emma West
emma.west@local.gov.uk

Carers' Allowance

As part of the LGA Members' Allowances Scheme a Carer's Allowance of £9.00 per hour or £10.55 if receiving London living wage is available to cover the cost of dependants (i.e. children, elderly people or people with disabilities) incurred as a result of attending this meeting.

Culture, Tourism & Sport Board – Membership

[Click here for accessible information on membership](#)

Councillor	Authority
Conservative (7)	
Cllr Peter Golds CBE (Deputy Chair)	Tower Hamlets Council
Cllr Victoria Wilson	Staffordshire County Council
Cllr Barry Lewis	Derbyshire County Council
Cllr Gary Ridley	Coventry City Council
Cllr Phil Seeva	Cornwall Council
Cllr Bradley Thomas	Wychavon District Council
Cllr Rebecca Poulsen	Bradford City Council
Substitutes	
Cllr Chris Dey	Enfield London Borough
Cllr David Jeffels	North Yorkshire County Council
Cllr Neil Jory	West Devon Borough Council
Labour (7)	
Cllr Shabir Pandor (Deputy Chair)	Kirklees Metropolitan Council
Cllr Michael Graham	Wakefield City Council
Cllr Afrasiab Anwar	Burnley Borough Council
Cllr Richard Henry	Stevenage Borough Council
Cllr Becky Gittins	Coventry City Council
Cllr Jemima Laing	Plymouth City Council
Cllr Kelly Middleton	Telford and Wrekin Council
Substitutes	
Cllr Lewis Allison	Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole Council
Cllr Luthfur Rahman	Manchester City Council
Cllr Jonathan Simpson MBE	Camden London Borough Council
Liberal Democrat (2)	
Cllr Gerald Vernon-Jackson CBE (Chair)	Portsmouth City Council
Cllr Chris White	City and District of St Albans
Substitutes	
Cllr Sean MacLeod	Lewes District Council
Independent (2)	
Cllr Julie Jones-Evans (Vice-Chair)	Isle of Wight Council
Cllr James Hall	Swale Borough Council
Substitutes	
Cllr Natalie McVey	Malvern Hills District Council

Agenda

Culture, Tourism & Sport Board

Wednesday, 21 June 2023

11.00 am

Hybrid Meeting - 18 Smith Square and Online

Item	Page
CTS Board away day, Plymouth - Agenda	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 11.00 – Hybrid Board Meeting (Microsoft Teams & Market Hall, Duke St, Devonport, Plymouth, PL1 4PS)• 11.00 – Chair’s Welcome, Apologies and Substitutes, Declarations of Interest• 11.02 – Minutes of the previous meeting <i>Substantive item:</i>• 11.05 – Fan-led Review of Football Governance, Tracey Crouch MP via Teams (40 min including discussion) <i>For information only:</i>• 11.45 – LGA Annual conference 2023• 11.45 – End of Year report• 11.50 – Outside Bodies (including Chiles, Webster, Bateson Commission)• 12.00 – Welcome to Plymouth - Q&A <i>Political Support for Culture (25 min including discussion):</i><ul style="list-style-type: none">- 12.00 (5 mins) – Cllr Tudor Evans OBE, Leader, Plymouth City Council- 12.05 (5 mins) – Cllr Jemima Laing, Deputy Leader of the Council, and Cabinet Member for Children’s Social Care, Culture, Events and Communications and Member of the LGA CTS Board- 12.10 – 15 mins Q&A• 12.25 – Plymouth Culture Strategic Partnership and NPOs (20 min including discussion)<ul style="list-style-type: none">- 12.25 (5 mins) – Lindsey Hall, Chair Plymouth Culture and Chief Executive, Real Ideas Organisation (RIO) – <i>The role of Plymouth Culture and the work of Real Ideas Organisation CIC</i>- 12.30 (5 mins) – James Mackenzie-Blackman, CEO Theatre Royal – <i>An overview of Plymouths NPOs and partnership working</i>- 12.35 – 15 mins Q&A• 12.45 – AOB and close• 12:45 – 13.10 – Networking lunch (Board Members/Plymouth speakers)	

- **13.10 – 13.25 – Tour of Market Hall** (15 mins), Lindsey Hall, Chief Executive, RIO and Chair of Plymouth Culture
- **13.25 – 13.45 – Board Members travel to TR2** (via taxi)
- **13.45 – 14.15 – Tour of Plymouth Theatre Royal Production Centre** (30 mins), James Mackenzie-Blackman, Theatre Director
- **14.15 – 14.35 – Board Members travel to The Box** (via taxi)
- **14.35 – 15.05 – Tour of The Box** (30 mins) Victoria Pomery, Chief Executive Officer
- **15.05 – Close and depart**

1.	Welcome, Apologies and Substitutes, Declarations of Interest	
2.	Minutes of the last meeting	1 - 6
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7.	Welcome to Plymouth	35 - 38
8.	Plymouth Culture Strategic Partnership and NPOs	39 - 56

Date of Next Meeting: Wednesday, 13 September 2023, 1.00 pm, 18 Smith Square, London, SW1P 3HZ

Minutes of last Culture, Tourism & Sport Board meeting

Culture, Tourism & Sport Board

Wednesday, 22 March 2023

Virtual Meeting

Attendance

An attendance list is attached as **Appendix A**

Item	Decisions and actions
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1	Welcome, Apologies and Substitutes, Declarations of Interest
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The Chair welcomed Members, officers and guests to the meeting.

Apologies were received from Cllr Graham, Cllr Gittins, Cllr Golds CBE and Cllr Lewis. Cllr Jeffels and Cllr Dey served as substitutes.

No declarations of interest were made.

2	Minutes of the last meeting
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The minutes of the meeting held on 27 February 2023 were agreed as an accurate record.

3	Local Government Association Spring Budget Briefing 2023
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The Chair invited **Ian Leete, Senior Adviser**, to introduce the 2023 Spring Budget, which outlines the Government's spending plans by setting budgets for each central government department.

Key points included the following:

- There were two items of particular interest from the budget: one was tax relief for museums, galleries, and historic buildings; the other was the additional £63 million for public leisure facilities with swimming pools.
- The LGA is working with Sport England to look at the distribution of extra funding: £23 million of revenue costs to support with direct pressures from energy prices and £40 million, which will be a capital investment looking at energy efficiency.
- It will be a bidding process. Ian stressed that the bidding process should be as simple to bid for as possible because those councils that need it most tend to have the fewest resources.
- The Minister has acknowledged that while the funding isn't the full amount that is needed for the sector, he is keen that capital investment

is used to test and trial new ways of doing things which can then form part of future spending reviews.

Members made the following points:

- The Chair noted his pleasure and surprise in the additional funding and thanked the LGA for its ongoing work and engagement with the Minister at the meeting on the 27th of February.
- A Member believed that thanks should also go to Stuart Andrew, Minister for Sport, who met with the Board in February.
- A Member highlighted the challenges of basing funding decisions on usage data, which might unfairly penalise pools with low footfall.
- A Member said that the Board needs to continue to lobby relevant APPGs, Shadow Ministers and the Minister for Sport on the pressures facing the sector in the next year.
- A Member questioned the dissemination of the fund given complex governance structures when it comes to delivery models, asking if there was any indication which organisations would be able put in bids. Ian Leete replied that all current governance arrangements are eligible to receive the funding but it is not yet clear who will put the bid in.
- A Member asked if the funding was just for energy efficiency measures or if maintenance was in scope. Ian Leete confirmed that energy efficiency is the focus, not essential maintenance.
- The Chair believed that formal thanks should also be sent to UKActive. Ian Leete believed DLUHC representatives should also be thanked by the Board.

Recommendation:

Members **noted** the paper.

4 Fan led review of football governance

The Chair invited **Rebecca Cox, Principal Policy Adviser**, to introduce the fan led review of football governance and the key elements of the government's response to the review conducted by Tracey Crouch MP in 2021. It should be noted that local clubs are a significant asset and influencer in communities, so the LGA has maintained a watching brief on the review. Several LGA members have also committed to the Fair Game initiative and have asked the LGA to support reforms.

Key points included:

- Football's importance to communities is of interest to the Board.
- She drew Members' attention also to Annex A, which concerned work stemming from a joint piece of work on securing the future of public sport and leisure services that helps councils understand how they can support community ownership of leisure and sports assets.
- Members were asked to share their views and comments on that paper before its publication.

The Chair then invited **David Pennington** from the **Football Supporters' Association** to address the Board about the review. Key points included

the following:

- The review will have a particular focus on financial regulation, so that the regulator will be able to monitor the financial performance of clubs.
- The White Paper has confirmed that any future sale or move of football stadiums will have to be approved in advance by the regulator.
- He noted that there is broad political consensus for this work across parties.

Key points from Members included the following:

- The Chair asked if there were any methods to allow fans to see the real financial position of the clubs. Mr Pennington replied that there will be advisory boards set up with supporters. While this will give them access to more information, it would not be the same as full access to financial particulars.
- Members gave examples of governance issues in football in their own localities.
- A Member expressed concern about owners changing names, badges, home shirts and colours without consulting fans.
- Supporting the interests of local clubs' fanbases was noted as paramount.
- Dave Pennington reminded Members that the crux of the White Paper will be about the sustainability of football.
- A Member queried if there was a way that local government could be more involved on local advisory boards. Dave Pennington replied that it was unlikely given current arrangements.
- Views on football's impact on local communities and the involvement of councils in many clubs to deliver better health and economic outcomes were expressed by Members.
- A member asked for clarity on point 12 in the paper which says "there are no direct implications for councils". It was agreed that this would be amended.
- A Member believed that the government response did not go far enough but welcomed the report.
- David Pennington was asked how women's football would be promoted. He replied that there was a review currently ongoing by the FA with government support. The Member then asked that the Board review issues concerning women's football at a future meeting. The Chair agreed to this.

Rebecca Cox reminded Members that the policy team was also looking at the community ownership of leisure and sport assets. She asked Members to contact her if they had any queries or comments. She then updated Members about the Business in the Community (BITC) Place Taskforce, which will review role of business in place-based regeneration to tackle regional inequalities.

Recommendations:

The Board

- **noted** the report
- **committed** to keeping a watching brief on developments

- **noted** forthcoming LGA briefing on supporting community ownership of sport and leisure assets.

Action

The Board **will review** issues concerning women's football at a future meeting.

Point 12 **will be amended** to reflect the councils' involvement in clubs. Rebecca Cox will email the Board about involvement in the BITC Taskforce.

5 CTS Conference 2023

Rebecca Cox, Principal Policy Adviser, updated Members on the impact of the CTS Conference 2023, inviting them to feedback on their experience as delegates and facilitators and provide an early steer to inform thinking about the 2024 conference.

Key points included the following:

- The conference benefited from taking place at the same time as the budget announcement.
- Against previous years, there was learning for the LGA about running hybrid events and the paper also looks ahead to next year.
- She asked if Members would be happy with an in-person event next year.
- She reminded Members of the tour around the country with the conference, informing them that the LGA had been approached by Knowsley Council for next year's event.

Members made the following points:

- A Member commented that in future it would be useful to see who is attending conferences in advance, though appreciated GDPR considerations.
- It was noted that as it was a hybrid event, it would have been useful to have a sense of how many people were attending online as well as in person.
- It was noted that the Underground strike had caused problems. A Member asked for advance notifications to go to delegates if such occurrences happen on the day of events in future, as had happened this year.

Recommendations:

The Board:

- **provided** thoughts and reflections on the day
- **agreed** that the 2024 conference takes place in March 2024
- **agreed** that the LGA events team explore Knowsley as the preferred location.

6 Board visit to Plymouth, 21 June 2023

Cllr Jemima Laing updated Members on arrangements for the Board meeting in Plymouth. Key points included the following:

- The draft itinerary includes meeting at Devonport Market Hall.
- The Board will meet with leaders from the city's cultural sector.

Comments from Members included the following:

- The Chair reminded Members that the 21st would be his last meeting as chair of the board. He also informed them he would not be in attendance.
- A Member queried if hybrid options will be available. Cllr Laing replied that a hybrid option would be available.
- It was requested that a list of recommended local hotels be provided to Members.

Actions:

LGA officers will confirm arrangements for the meeting.

Cllr Laing will ask the organisers to provide a list of recommended local hotels to share with Members.

7 Outside Bodies

This item was not addressed at the meeting, but a written update concerning the work of the Chiles, Webster, Batson Working Group had been provided to the Chair ahead of the working group's first meeting.

Appendix A -Attendance

Position/Role	Councillor	Authority
Chairman		
Vice-Chairman	Cllr Geoff Knight	Lancaster City Council
Deputy-chairman		
Members	Cllr Bradley Thomas	Wychavon District Council
	Cllr Rebecca Poulsen	Bradford City Council
	Cllr Afrasiab Anwar	Burnley Borough Council
	Cllr Jemima Laing	Plymouth City Council
	Cllr Kelly Middleton	Telford and Wrekin Council
	Cllr Chris White	City and District of St Albans
	Cllr Julie Jones-Evans	Isle of Wight Council
Apologies	Cllr Peter Golds CBE	Tower Hamlets Council
	Cllr Barry Lewis	Derbyshire County Council
	Cllr Michael Graham	Wakefield City Council
	Cllr Becky Gittins	Coventry City Council



In Attendance

Cllr Neil Jory

West Devon Borough Council

Fan led review of football governance

Purpose of Report

For information

Summary

In 2021 Tracey Crouch MP conducted a review of football governance. While the review and proposals do not directly affect local government, local clubs are a significant asset and influencer in communities. Councils can also play a role in supporting the welfare and future careers of players exiting the game - particularly because for many it can result in mental health problems or turning to crime or drugs. To date the CTS Board has maintained a watching brief on the review.

Several LGA members have committed to the Fair Game manifesto and the CTS Board received a presentation from at the March Board meeting. Following these discussions Tracey Crouch MP has been invited to the June Board meeting to discuss what councils can do in this space.

Is this report confidential? No

Recommendation/s

That the Board:

- a) Note Tracey Crouch's views on the direction of the game.
- b) Identify the key role for local government in supporting the implementation of review.
- c) Explore any cross-collaboration opportunities between the LGA and the APPG for Arts, Health and Wellbeing or the APPG for Women's Football.

Contact details

Contact officer: Samantha Ramanah

Position: Adviser

Phone no: 07887 503 136

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Tracey Crouch MP – biography



1. Tracey Crouch was elected to represent the constituency of Chatham & Aylesford in 2010 with a majority of 6,069 and in doing so became the first Conservative MP for the seat.
2. Tracey was the Minister for Sport, Civil Society and Loneliness for the Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport between 3 July 2017 - 1 November 2018 but resigned due to a delay over the introduction of reduced limits on the stakes of fixed odds betting terminals.
3. In 2021 she delivered the Fan Led Review of Football governance. Of note, she is the chair of the All-Party Parliamentary Group on Arts, Health and Wellbeing, the Vice-Chair of the APPG for Football Supporters and the Chair of the All-Party Parliamentary Group on Women's Football. Tracey is a keen sports enthusiast and since 'retiring' from playing football has become a FA qualified football coach.

Background

4. In response to several serious failings in a number of English football clubs the Government committed to deliver a fan-led review of football governance.
5. Tracey Crouch MP delivered a Fan Led Review of Football governance. The [report](#) published in 2021 was based on engagement with supporters' trusts, fan groups, women's football representatives, football authorities, club owners, players representatives, and underrepresented interest groups, alongside over 20,000 fans responding to an online survey.
6. The Review made several strategic recommendations primarily for a new Independent Regulator for English Football to be established to oversee the financial regulation and fairer distribution of funds across all levels of football and corporate governance and ensure new owners and directors are good custodians and qualified to run the club. There were recommendations for a greater focus on improving equality, diversity and inclusion in clubs and parity for women's football.
7. On 22 February 2023 the Government announced a series of measures which will respond to key recommendations in the review. These include:

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7.1 A new independent regulator to help prevent repeat of financial failings

7.2 A strengthened owners' and directors' test to protect clubs and their fans from unscrupulous owners, including stronger due diligence on sources of wealth and a requirement for robust financial planning

7.3 Fans given greater say in running of clubs, and key heritage such as team names, badges. It will require clubs to seek regulator approval for any sale or relocation of the stadium, with fan engagement a major part of that process.

7.4 Powers to block English clubs from joining unpopular breakaway leagues like the European Super League

8. To date the CTS Board has maintained a watching brief on the review. Previous to this it published a [guide for grassroots sports organisations on how to work effectively with local government](#) in 2019. A guide on "Supporting community ownership" is due to be published shortly.

Areas for discussion

9. While the recommendations in the Fan Led Review of Football governance do not directly affect local government, there are two specific recommendations, which relate in part, to councils' responsibilities for place shaping, training and skills development, safer communities and safeguarding. The two recommendations are:

9.1 Football clubs are a vital part of their local communities, in recognition of this there should be additional protection for key items of club heritage.

9.2 As an urgent matter, the welfare of players exiting the game needs to be better protected — particularly at a young age which for many can result in severe mental health issues or turning to crime. [In October 2015 141 former players were in the British prison system. Around 90 per cent of these offenders were reported as being under the age of 25, with a similar percentage incarcerated for drug-related offences.](#)

10. The Government's [Levelling Up the United Kingdom White Paper](#) recognises the role club football plays in local communities and its social impact. Arguably, a well-run club could contribute towards achieving the Government's Levelling Up missions for improving pride of place, increasing local employment and productivity, and reducing crime.

11. It is intended that future rounds of the Community Ownership Fund (COF) will enable more communities to take control of their local football grounds and other vital local sporting and community assets where they are at risk.

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12. Under the Government's measures, fans will be given greater say the strategic running of their club and help protect club heritage to stop owners changing names, badges and home shirt colours without consulting fans.

Questions to consider:

13. Question for Tracey: Many councils are considering how they can improve community engagement and involvement with their local football club. What did Tracey hear about the role of councils when undertaking the review?

14. Questions for the Board:

14.1 What is the role of local government in implementing these findings and strengthening the local game?

14.2 Do they need new powers or new funding in order to undertake this?

Implications for Wales

15. The review and response relates to England only. However, the LGA's work on community ownership and engagement is applicable to Welsh authorities.

Financial Implications

16. This work has been delivered within existing budgets.

Equalities implications

17. The wider reforms include measures to make football more inclusive, with particular action to remove barriers to professionalisation in women's football. The emphasis on support involvement in governance, should promote greater local connections, although will not in itself tackle the challenges of improving inclusion in football.

Next steps

18. The LGA team will act according to the Board's directions

LGA Annual Conference 2023

Purpose of Report

For information.

Is this report confidential? No

Summary

The LGA Annual Conference 2023 programme has now been confirmed. A must-attend event for senior representatives working in local and central government as well as senior colleagues from other public sector bodies, charities, and business, the Conference is taking place 4-6 July and will feature five events relating to culture, tourism and sport, three parallel sessions and two innovation zone sessions.

LGA Plan Theme: Communications and events

Recommendation(s)

That the Board note the following events relating to culture, tourism and sport taking place at LGA Annual Conference 2023.

Contact details

Contact officer: Georgia Goddard

Position: Graduate Trainee – Culture, Tourism and Sport

Phone no: 0207 664 3143

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LGA Annual Conference 2023

Background

1. The LGA Annual Conference and Exhibition is a must-attend event for senior representatives working in local and central government as well as senior colleagues from other public sector bodies, charities, and business.
2. This year, the Conference will be hosted in Bournemouth, 4-6 July.
3. The full programme and details of how to book is available on the [Programme](#) tab on the [website](#).

CTS Events

4. [BCP Council. Bournemouth Beach Walk and Seafront Strategy.](#)

05/07/2023, 08:15 - 09:15.

With award-winning beaches just a stone's throw away from the conference venue, join BCP Council for a morning stroll along the promenade, taking in some of the Council's 15 mile stretch of south-facing beaches. As you're revitalised by the vitamin sea, you'll get to hear about the Council's plans for rejuvenating the seafront as part of their Seafront Strategy and how they will be using Levelling Up funding to enhance the accessibility of coastal activities as well as increasing digital connectivity and keeping people safe plus much more.

5. [Leisure centres: fit for the future](#)

05/07/2023, 11:30 - 12:15

With speaker(s): Cllr Caroline Jackson - Leader, Lancaster City Council; Alice Tai MBE – Paralympic Swimmer.

Leisure centres have faced a challenging return after the pandemic leading many councils to reconsider and review their delivery models. This session will explore the ways in which councils are re-focusing the service to be a preventative wellbeing service, while ensuring access to those on lower incomes. It will also cover the 'greening' of centres, reducing one of the highest direct carbon emitters of a council's estate, leisure centres have faced a challenging return after the pandemic leading many councils to reconsider and review their delivery models. This session will explore the ways in which councils are re-focusing the service to be a preventative wellbeing service, while ensuring

access to those on lower incomes. It will also cover the 'greening' of centres, reducing one of the highest direct carbon emitters of a council's estate.

6. [Cultural place making and levelling up: what role can culture play in supporting thriving places and connecting people to opportunity?](#)

06/07/2023, 09:30 - 10:30.

With speaker(s): Cllr Graham Morgan - Leader, Knowsley MBC; Andrew Emery and Andrea Francis, Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole Council Chair: Cllr Gerald Vernon-Jackson - Chair, LGA Culture, Sport and Tourism Board.

As the biggest public funders of culture, councils know that investment in local civic infrastructure makes thriving vibrant places for communities. Libraries, arts centres, museums, heritage sites, theatres and other cultural facilities create jobs and contribute to growth in the burgeoning commercial creative sector. They underpin the visitor and night-time economies, create more educational opportunity and support better health and wellbeing for local people. But rising costs and pressure on councils' budgets has created a challenging environment for cultural investment and there are still significant regional inequalities in provision. This session will explore the role of the local authority in cultural placemaking, and the opportunities associated with culture-led strategies for place.

7. **Innovation Zone:** [Modernisation and transformation of a local authority leisure service in Northern Ireland](#)

04/07/2023, 16:10 - 16:40

With speaker(s): Matt McDowell - Director, Parks and Leisure, Antrim and Newtownabbey Borough Council ; Lesley Millar - Performance and Transformation Manager, Antrim and Newtownabbey Borough Council ; Deaglan O'Hagan - Head, Leisure Operations, Antrim and Newtownabbey Borough Council

The Innovation Zone is delighted to host Antrim and Newtownabbey Borough Council to provide their perspective on leisure services and share the learning from their excellent success journey. Following the amalgamation of two councils, elected members and senior management at the council recognised the urgent need to modernise their leisure service to meet ambitious corporate objectives and to provide real value to its users. With an excellent vision, the leisure team radically changed their operating model, developed and introduced innovative programming, and reduced barriers that previously prevented residents from participating in physical activity. The result has seen annual

participation numbers more than double, a significant reduction in subsidy, and the award-winning service cementing itself as a model of outstanding practice.

8. **Innovation Zone:** [Spotlight on... All Our Money: Using theatre to engage communities in Local Authority Budget Setting](#)

05/07/2023, 10:25 - 11:00

With speakers: Karen Cheney - Head of Service, Neighbourhood Development Support Unit, Birmingham City Council ; Dominic Thompson - Digital and West Midlands Producer, Stan's Café ; James Yarker - Artistic Director, Stan's Café

7,000 golden dominoes and a life-size bear named Bordesley have been helping the citizens of Birmingham to learn about their Council's £3bn+ budget. Where does all the money come from, where does it go and how much control does anyone have over any of this? Mixing live performance with video and discussion Karen Cheney from the Council's Neighbourhood Development Support Unit and the theatre company Stan's Cafe explain the background context, what happened, what the impact was and ask you where it could all go next. Not to be missed!

Implications for Wales

9. No implications for Wales.

Financial Implications

10. No financial implications.

Equalities implications

11. Panels have been developed with equalities and inclusion in mind, although a balance of speakers has not been achieved for all sessions.

Next steps

12. Board members are welcome to book their place for annual conference via the official website: <https://www.local.gov.uk/events/lga-annual-conference-2023>.

End of year report, September 2022 - June 2023

Purpose of Report

For information.

Is this report confidential? No

Summary

This paper outlines the Board's main activities and achievements during the past year, covering media and press work, conference and events, leadership training and peer challenges, policy impacts, publications, and engagement with outside bodies.

LGA Plan Theme: Efficient business management

Recommendation(s)

That the Board notes the achievements and activities of the past year and identify any priorities to be presented to the new Board when it convenes in September.

Contact details

Contact officer: Ian Leete

Position: Senior Adviser

Phone no: 020 7664 3143

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Error! Reference source not found.

Background

1. The Board is required to review its achievements at the last Board meeting of the 2022/23 cycle.
2. The text below provides highlights of the CTS Board and team's work over the year, but is not a comprehensive list. The CTS team responds on a daily basis to a wide range of issues facing councils and their partners, which this year has included issues between the Church of England and council archives, supporting council archaeology services on planning consultations, exploratory work on a national blue plaque scheme, Royal celebrations and commemorations, written to new Ministers, and supporting councils to respond to the cost-of-living challenges facing communities.

Culture

3. The **LGA's Independent Commission on Culture and Local Government** published its final report, [Cornerstones of Culture](#) in December 2022. 220 people signed-up to attend the launch event, with 70 of those being in-person. The launch posts on the LGA's corporate Twitter received 49,554 impressions and 977 engagements, placing them in the top 10 posts of the year. The Cornerstones of Culture report was the 6th most viewed webpage on the LGA website during the week of its launch. The work of the Culture Commission also included the publication of a case study resource of over 50 case studies, a series of four short films profiling council cultural services and a series of illustrations based on the Commission's discussions.
4. The report has received a number of Parliamentary references and was specifically mentioned by Arts and Heritage Minister Lord Parkinson in his appearance on Front Row to discuss funding for culture in March 2023. Prior to the work of the Commission, the vital role of local government in supporting cultural infrastructure was not regularly recognised at a national level: following the work of the Commission, we have seen the fact that councils are the biggest public funder of culture referenced repeatedly across Parliament, stakeholder publications and wider media.
5. The Spring 2023 Budget announced that the **temporary higher headline rates of relief for cultural taxes** including Theatres Tax relief (TTR), Orchestra Tax Relief (OTR) and Museums and Galleries Exhibition Tax Relief (MGETR) will be extended for two additional years, a recommendation of the LGA. The rates will be gradually reduced down to normal rates by 1 April 2026.

6. In January 2023, Arts Council England announced details of the next rounds of the programmes that make up the Cultural Investment Fund. These are: the **Museum Estate and Development Fund (MEND)**; the **Libraries Improvement Fund (LIF)**; and the **Cultural Development Fund (CDF)**. New rounds of MEND and LIF opened in early 2023 with £22.6 million available through this round of MEND, and £10.5 million through LIF (funding amounts may be subject to DCMS business planning). This will be the final round of LIF, while further applications for MEND will take place in early 2024, alongside another round of CDF. The LGA supported sector lobbying for these funds, and has undertaken a communication and support role for the sector following the announcement.

7. **Energy Bill Relief Scheme.** In January the Government announced the outcome of the review of the Energy Bill Relief Scheme, and published guidance. The scheme comprises two elements: support for all businesses, charities, and public sector organisations, and support at a higher level for energy and trade intensive industries. Museums, libraries and archives, historical sites and buildings, and zoos are included in this latter group of eligible sectors. The LGA was part of cross-sector advocacy efforts in favour of their inclusion.

8. The LGA has signed a new [Joint Statement with Arts Council England](#), which sets out how Arts Council England and the Local Government Association (LGA) will work together over the period from 2023-2025. Its purpose is to outline our shared vision for the contribution that arts, museums and libraries make to the nation, to places, and for people and how the two partners aspire to work together to realise it. This is the third joint statement signed by Arts Council England and the Local Government Association. It not only reflects the ongoing importance of collaboration between the development body for arts and culture and the membership body for local government, but also the strengthening and deepening of the relationship, which is reflected in the Arts Council's increased focus on place and everyday creative activity in their most recent strategy Let's Create.

9. The team has worked closely with the Creative Industries Council as they develop the [Government's Creative Industries Sector Vision](#), launched on 14 June, and which includes a commitment to "strengthen our collaboration with the Local Government Association, local authorities and leaders to support them in the development of local creative industries strategies...". This will build on our November 2022 publication on [Combined Authorities and the Creative Industries](#).

10. The LGA was named as one of only three organisations to be invited to every session held by [Baroness Sanderson as she developed her recommendations for the Government's forthcoming Libraries Strategy](#). Each session was attended by an LGA

Officer or LGA councillor (drawn from the CTS Board or the Library Sounding Board), and one deep dive session was held at the LGA offices. While not yet published, it is believed that several LGA recommendations will be put forward for inclusion in the new strategy. The LGA has also been referenced in the new Defra rural strategy as a partner to develop advice and support for rural libraries.

11. The Board Libraries Champion continues to co-chair the **Library Sounding Board** with Arts Council England, bringing together portfolio holders for libraries to discuss developments and issues facing library services.

Sport and physical activity

12. The CTS Board consistently lobbied the Government to urgently provide **support for swimming pools and leisure facilities**. This included meeting with the Sports Minister, Rt Hon Stuart Andrew MP in March 2023, to press the government to recognise the pressure of rising fuel bills on council run pools, highlighting that energy costs are up 300 per cent for some leisure centres. We also encouraged councils to write to their local MP and collaborated with key local government and sport sector stakeholders on joint letters to the Chancellor and Ministers.
13. As a result of our collective lobbying, the **£63 million Swimming Pool Support Fund** was announced in the Spring Budget to help publicly-owned swimming pools manage the increasing cost pressures. Of this, £23 million is for revenue costs and £40 million is for capital funding for energy efficiency improvements. This is a significant achievement given that public swimming pools and leisure centres were only one of two sectors to receive emergency support in the budget. Although this will not fully cover additional energy costs, the support is welcomed by the sector. We are now supporting Sport England to design and launch the fund which is due to go live at the end of June.
14. On behalf of the CTS Board, officers sit on the **Moving Communities Board** and contribute to strategic plans to promote the value of and increase the visibility of Moving Communities, which was acknowledged as critical to securing funding for the sector. The data provided by councils and leisure providers to [Moving Communities](#) was crucial to proving the importance of swimming pools to local communities and was instrumental in demonstrating the challenging financial position facing the sector and the potential loss in participation and social value, helping to facilitate the £63 million swimming pool support fund announced in the Spring Budget. The data also supports councils, providers and policymakers to take informed decisions to keep communities active and the recovery of public leisure services.

15. We produced [a briefing note with ukactive on the impact of utilities on leisure services](#) for councils and for operators running council-owned facilities.
16. We published the [LGA guide: Harnessing culture and sport to deliver social prescribing and improve health outcomes](#) it shares ideas and case studies to support councils to harness innovation in culture and leisure related services to deliver social prescribing initiatives.
17. We published the [LGA guide: Identifying additional financing options for public sport and leisure services](#) it highlights additional financing options to help sustain the sport and leisure sector and showcases learning from councils who are already doing this. A further guide on Supporting community ownership is due to be launched at the LGA Annual conference to coincide with the policy session '[Leisure centres: fit for the future](#)' on 5 June 2023.

Visitor economy

18. The LGA fed into the consultation on **reforming destination management organisations (DMOs)** – a long-standing call for action from the LGA. The resulting report adopted many of the LGA recommendations, placing DMOs on a more strategic footing (and now to be called Local Visitor Economy Partnerships (LVEPs)), and providing a £4 million pilot in the North East. We are continuing to work with VisitEngland and tourism partners on the rollout, including hosting a [webinar with VisitEngland](#) to update councils on the rollout.
19. Following LGA lobbying, Government consulted on **introducing a tourist accommodation scheme in England to regulate the increase in short-term lets**. The [LGA responded to this](#) making several recommendations for regulation, which in turn led to two further consultations – on [introducing a registration scheme for short-term lets](#), and [introducing a use class for short term lets](#). Government will now consider the responses before taking further action, although the registration scheme is now a commitment in the Levelling Up Bill.
20. The LGA's senior adviser has been reappointed to the **Government's Tourism Industry Council**, providing advice to Government on management and support of the visitor economy, and ensuring local government views and capabilities are considered.

CTS Annual conference 2023

21. The annual Culture, Tourism and Sport Conference 2023 was held on 15th March 2023. Keynotes speeches were given by LGA President and Paralympian Baroness Tanni Grey-Thompson and Baroness Lola Young, Chair of the LGA's Commission on Culture and Local Government. Talks from across the day demonstrated the huge contribution culture, tourism and sport can make to delivering on levelling up, and providing cost of living support, and colleagues ended the day with a walking tour of the impressively renovated London Coliseum.
22. 85 delegates registered to attend the 2023 conference – this is on par with the last in-person conference in 2020. The final net profit for the conference was £12,014.
23. The LGA Board and team also continue to offer free webinars to members throughout the year on various relevant topics and in support of Board objectives. Please see Annex D for details on events supported this year.

Improvement

24. The LGA continues to deliver an improvement programme for Arts Council England and one for Sport England. Cllr Michael Graham has helped to design programmes, while Cllr Peter Golds and Cllr Julie Jones-Evans have presented at them.
25. The [Arts Council England offer](#) includes leadership training for councillors, and for the first year has piloted training for officers, which has been oversubscribed. The programme also includes 3 culture peer challenges, and 10 library peer challenges, which continue to be well regarded and featured in several of Baroness Sanderson's deep dive session as good practice.
26. The [Sport England offer](#) continues to focus on leadership training and systems thinking, offering training for councillors and a separate programme for officers, including those based in trusts and Active Partnerships.
27. Discussions are underway with both partners over contracts for 2023/4 and both programmes are expected to continue in some form.
28. A pilot leadership session for officers has been commissioned on the **visitor economy**, using the LGA policy budget and is expected to start in September 2023. It will bring together 20 officers in an action learning format and cover key topics, such as strategies, data and evidence, sustainability, and inclusive tourism.

Media

29. The CTS Board shares the services of a Senior Media Relations Officer and a Digital Campaigns Marketing Adviser, who undertake a range of proactive and reactive items. Over the Board cycle, the team have engaged with most of the national media outlets, including the Guardian, Telegraph, Daily Mail, BBC, Sky News, and the Sun, with both reactive responses and proactive stories, including contributing to editorial items. The teams work also appears in sector press such as the Local Government Chronicle and Municipal Journal, particularly around the Culture Commission.
30. This year has included significant reputational management around council's contribution to holding street parties for the Coronation, as well as articulating the pressures on budgets that are leading to some service reductions, and the choices councils have to consider when hosting events in public spaces.
31. Most proactive media work this year has focused the issues facing leisure services, with most national papers including coverage of our partnership work with sports sector organisations at some point. A selection of key messages and articles are set out in Annex B to illustrate the Board's reach and impact.
32. In addition to supporting the leisure stories, the social media focus was on promoting the work of the Culture Commission and the contribution of councils to culture. Details of the impact and reach of these activities, as well as download figures for this year's publications, are included in Annex C.
33. The team have also communicated regularly with member councils through the weekly bulletins from Cllr James Jamieson to Leaders and Portfolio Holders, and from Mark Lloyd to Chief Executives and Directors. The monthly CTS e-bulletin has been delivered each month and reaches over 13 000 subscribers. The team has also secured seven articles in First magazine from Board members and partner organisations (see paragraphs 6-12 in Annex B).

Outside Bodies

34. The Board's work continues to be supported by members undertaking a liaison role with key stakeholders or acting as a point of contact on specialist subjects. During this Board cycle, the following members undertook these roles:
- 34.1. Tourism Alliance – Cllr Chris White (LibDem)
 - 34.2. London Marathon Charitable Trust – Cllr Richard Henry (LAB)
 - 34.3. Coastal SIG – Cllr David Jeffels (CON)

- 34.4. Creative Industries Council – Cllr Phil Seeva (CON)
- 34.5. Library champion – Cllr Julie Jones-Evans (IND)
- 34.6. Improvement Champion – Cllr Michael Graham (LAB)
- 34.7. Chair, Chiles, Webster, Batson Commission working group – Cllr Shabir Pandor (LAB)

Implications for Wales

- 35. Most culture, tourism and sport powers, funding streams, and activities are fully devolved. However, the LGA engages regularly with Culture and Leisure Officers Wales (CLOW) and the WLGA, through quarterly CLOA meetings. Most publications include a Welsh case study, and practical delivery points are usually applicable across boundaries.

Financial Implications

- 36. This year's work has been delivered within budget.

Equalities implications

- 37. The team has ensured that all events and training programmes have featured a representative group of speakers, drawn from different backgrounds and lived experiences, as well as the usual urban/rural, political colour, and type of council considerations.
- 38. The Culture Commission explicitly considered equality and diversity across all of its themes, and there are recommendations for how councils can enhance their reach and engagement, removing barriers to access.
- 39. Inclusion was also a key lobbying issue when discussing the impact of closing leisure facilities on communities. As part of this work, we were able to ensure that the new Moving Communities platform captured demographic data and was able to inform national policy decisions.

Next steps

- 40. Members are invited to:
 - 40.1. Note the significant achievements over the past year
 - 40.2. Identify areas of work that will continue to be a priority for members over the Summer
 - 40.3. Any new areas of work that should be put forward for consideration to the new Board convening in September for the 2023/24 cycle.

ANNEX A**Parliamentary engagement:**

1. The team regularly engages with Select Committee inquiries, either through briefings or oral evidence. The public affairs officer covering this portfolio regularly meets with the clerks of relevant committees to ensure local government expertise is considered when inquiries are established, and Cllr Vernon-Jackson has written to Dame Caroline Dinenage as the new Chair of the Culture, Media, and Sport Select Committee.
- 2.

Parliamentary committee/ APPG/ other	Inquiry/ event	Type of engagement	Date
Levelling Up, Housing and Communities Committee	Parks follow-up one-off evidence session	Written evidence	28/06/2022
Levelling Up, Housing and Communities Committee	Parks follow-up one-off evidence session	Oral evidence (Cllr Gerald Vernon-Jackson)	20/07/2022
Lords Communications & Digital Select Committee	The future of the creative industries	Oral evidence (Cllr Phil Seeva)	08/11/2022
Lords Communications & Digital Select Committee	The future of the creative industries	Written evidence	November 2022

Parliamentary briefings web views:

3. [Developing a tourist accommodation scheme in England](#) - 11 Oct 22

Total page views: 301

Unique page views: 151

4. [Mitigating the impact of rising utility costs on leisure services](#) - 23 Nov 22

Total page views: 834

Unique page views: 408

5. [Government support for leisure centres](#) – 15 Dec 22

Total page views: 598

Unique page views: 305

6. [Debate on Report from the National Plan for Sport and Recreation Committee: 'A national plan for sport, health and wellbeing', House of Lords, 9 February 2023](#) – 9 Feb 2023

Total page views: 462

Unique page views: 223

ANNEX B**Culture, tourism and sport board news coverage****Overall council cost pressures**

1. During the month of October, we put spokespeople up for a number of interviews to discuss overall council cost pressures in the run up to the Autumn Statement. The interviews focused on pressures more broadly, but our interview briefings included lines on libraries and leisure centres.
 - 1.1. Cllr James Jamieson was interviewed on **BBC News** and **BBC Radio 4 World at One**, and had an article featured in **Politics Home**.
 - 1.2. Cllr Shaun Davies was interviewed on **BBC News**.
 - 1.3. Cllr Gerald Vernon-Jackson quote included in a **BBC News Online** piece looking at the risk of cuts to libraries despite a rise in users.

Warm spaces

2. In November, as winter drew closer, we received a notable number of enquiries and interview requests to discuss the use of warm spaces. Our lines crossed over into housing and public health portfolios, but also included a focus on the use of libraries.
 - 2.1. Cllr Shaun Davies spoke to **BBC News**.
 - 2.2. Cllr David Renard was interviewed on **BBC Radio 4's Today programme**, **BBC Breakfast**, **BBC News** and **BBC regional radio news**.

Cornerstones of Culture

3. Earlier in the year, the LGA's commission on culture and local government launched, with Cllr Gerald Vernon-Jackson interviewing with **Arts Professional**. After nine months of round tables and the publication of a final report, we secured further trade coverage.
 - 3.1. A comment piece from Cllr Gerald Vernon-Jackson was published by **Arts Professional** in January.

Leisure centres and rising energy bills

4. The topic that attracted the most media attention during November and into the new year was concerns around the impact of rising energy costs of leisure centres.
 - 4.1. **The Telegraph** ran a piece on the state of swimming pools, referencing the LGA's repeated calls for investment in public sport and leisure facilities.
 - 4.2. Cllr Gerald Vernon-Jackson had a quote included in a **Telegraph** piece on swimming pools potentially closing this winter due to energy bills.

- 4.3. Cllr Gerald Vernon-Jackson took part in a discussion on **BBC Radio 4's Front Row** about museums and leisure centres being impacted by rising costs.
- 4.4. In the second week of January, we issued a response to the Government's Energy Bill Support Scheme which omitted swimming pools from the extra support. Our lines were covered by BBC Sport, The Independent, Mirror and Sun.
- 4.5. In the second week of January, our joint letter with UK Active and others that was sent to Government was reported on, as well as our lines, by BBC Sport, The Guardian and BBC Radio 4's Today programme.
- 4.6. Local Government Chronicle reported our letter to Jeremy Hunt and Michael Gove signed by local government organisations.

Coronation of King Charles

5. In the months leading up to the coronation in May, we received a notable number of media enquiries relating to council preparations. These included a focus on street party applications and fees; rules around bunting and other decorations; and the process for applying for a road closure for the event.
 - 5.1. **The Telegraph, Daily Mail** and **Sun** were all sent comments regarding the above topics on a number of occasions.

First magazine articles

6. [Vital role of culture highlighted](#) – Cllr Gerald Vernon-Jackson, 18 October 2022
7. [Cornerstones of culture](#) – Baroness Lola young, 6 January 2023
8. [Cultural services key to recovery](#) – Editorial team, 6 January 2023
9. ['Complacency' on creative industries](#) – Cllr Gerald Vernon-Jackson, 31 January 2023
10. [Joining the nation in celebration](#) – Kate Groves, Eden Project, 28 February 2023
11. [A better quality of life](#) – Cllr Julie Jones-Evans, 28 February 2023
12. [The local value of the screen sector](#) – Hayley Armstrong, Creative England, 23 May 2023

Web media releases

13. [LGA statement on Budget funding for swimming pools](#)
Total page views: 1,021
Unique page views: 481
14. [Investment in public sports facilities also vital – LGA on sports in schools announcement](#)
Total page views: 224
Unique page views: 120
15. ['Cross-government support needed to address skills shortage in culture and creativity' – LGA statement on Communications and Digital Committee Report on our creative future](#)
Total page views: 195
Unique page views: 110

16. ['Leisure centres and public pools still at risk': LGA statement on energy bills support announcement](#)
Total page views: 777
Unique page views: 385
17. [Culture key to recovery and prosperity: Cornerstones of Culture Report](#)
Total page views: 1,013
Unique page views: 478
18. [Adult activity levels bouncing back: LGA statement on Sport England report](#)
Total page views: 252
Unique page views: 127

ANNEX C**Publications and social media****LGA publications**

1. [Cornerstones of culture](#)
Total page views: 8,649
Unique page views: 3,617
2. [Combined authorities and creative industries](#)
Total page views: 655
Unique page views: 323
3. [Harnessing culture and sport to deliver social prescribing and improve health outcomes](#)
Total page views: 1,691
Unique page views: 765

Case studies

4. Sixty-six case studies covering culture, sport and physical activity, and heritage have been collated and added to the [LGA case study bank](#). They gained a combined 6675 page views.

Social media

The LGA's CTS work on social media focused on the two priorities of 2022-23.

5. **Leisure work** - We amplified proactive and reactive work on Twitter and LinkedIn, contributing to **two of our top 5 posts of 2023** so far on the LGA corporate Twitter and LinkedIn. Of these two posts alone, we received a (combined) 100+ RTs, 100+ Likes and 30k impressions.
 - 5.1. <https://twitter.com/LGAcomms/status/1628334247336353795>
 - 5.2. <https://twitter.com/LGAcomms/status/1619990068952956929>
6. **Culture Commission** - We continued to promote the work of the Commission on Culture and Local Government, including the report launch in December 2022.
 - 6.1. In the lead up to the report launch, our **four short films received 4k video views** on Twitter.
 - 6.2. Our [Twitter post on the 'Cornerstones of Culture' report launch](#) reigned in the top 10 tweets of 2022 for the corporate LGA account highlighting our followers' interest in cultural services. The animation received 3.5k views. The posts received a combined 50k impressions and 1k engagements.

Podcast

7. The LGA launched a [podcast episode on cultural services](#) as part of our 'Forget What You Think You Know' series, featuring speakers Bobby Seagull, Baroness Lola Young and Chenine Bhatena. So far, the podcast has received 500 listens.

ANNEX D

Conferences and webinars

LGA events

1. 8 December 2022 - [Culture Commission launch](#).
2. 12 December 2022 - [Learning from Summer Reading Challenge](#), with the Reading Agency.
3. 9 February 2023 - [Implementing the review of destination management organisations](#), with VisitEngland.

Partner events

4. 10 November – [Meeting the challenge of the rising costs of leisure](#), with CLOA.

ANNEX E**Speakers at the Board**

1. The Board, including Lead member meetings, has heard from a number of keynote speakers and organisations over the 2022/23 board cycle, including:
 - 1.1. Stuart Andrew MP, Minister for Sport
 - 1.2. Tracey Crouch MP
 - 1.3. Baroness Lola Young
 - 1.4. Sport England
 - 1.5. UKActive
 - 1.6. Street Games
 - 1.7. Lawn Tennis Association
 - 1.8. Football Supporters Association
 - 1.9. VisitEngland
 - 1.10. Arts Council England
 - 1.11. English National Opera
 - 1.12. Libraries Connected
 - 1.13. DCMS Libraries Team
 - 1.14. Chief Culture and Leisure Officers Association
 - 1.15. Community Leisure UK
 - 1.16. Chief Archivists in Local Government (CALG)
 - 1.17. Cllr Tudor Evans, Leader, Plymouth City Council
 - 1.18. Plymouth National Portfolio Organisations, including the Box and the Theatre Royal
 - 1.19. LGA Workforce team

Outside Bodies

Purpose of report

For discussion.

Summary

This report has two parts:

- A - CTS outside bodies background and appointments process 2023/24
- B - Report back on member meetings and appointments to outside bodies.

Is this report confidential? Yes No

Recommendation/s

That the Board Members:

- 1. note part A - CTS Outside Bodies Background and Appointments Process for 2023/24; and**
- 2. note part B – Report back on member meetings and appointments to outside bodies.**

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Outside Bodies

A - CTS Outside Bodies Background and Appointments Process 2023/24

Background

- 1 The Board terms of references says the Culture, Tourism and Sport Board may:
 - 1.1 Appoint members to relevant outside bodies in accordance with the Political Conventions.
 - 1.2 Appoint member champions and spokespersons from the Board to lead on key issues.

Appointment process

- 2 Members may put themselves forward to represent the LGA on specific subjects or on outside bodies. Members wishing to do this should approach their lead member, who will be responsible for putting their name forward to the Board.
- 3 Lead members will discuss nominations at their first meeting. If there is more than one nomination for the role, a vote of the Lead members will be held, with a casting vote by the Board Chair if necessary.
- 4 Outside bodies and champion roles must, as far as possible, be split equally between parties, in accordance with the political conventions of the LGA. Where there are odd numbers of roles, or a new role is added during the Board year, first chance to fill the role will be offered to those parties that hold the fewest roles – although they may choose not to nominate to that role.
- 5 The Board may also choose to appoint someone to a role due to their particular expertise, irrespective of party; appointments made for this reason should be agreed by all lead members.
- 6 The LGA does not provide expenses for costs associated with Champion or outside body roles. Some outside bodies may cover these costs directly and members may recover their costs from these.

B – Report back on member meetings since the last Board meeting and appointments to outside bodies

CTS Board Outside Body representation:

- Tourism Alliance – currently Cllr Chris White (LIB DEM)
- Former 'London Marathon Charitable Trust' (LMCT), now 'London Marathon Foundation' – currently Cllr Richard Henry (LAB)
- Coastal SIG – currently Cllr David Jeffels (CON)
- Library champion – currently Cllr Julie Jones-Evans (IND)
- Creative Industries Council – currently Cllr Phil Seeva (CON)
- Chiles, Webster, Batson Commission – currently Cllr Shabir Pandor (Chair) (LAB)
- Improvement Lead – currently Cllr Michael Graham (LAB)

Updates since the last Board meeting:

London Marathon Foundation (update from Cllr Richard Henry):

The London Marathon Group's restructure has recently come to an end. What was formally the 'London Marathon Charitable Trust' is now the 'London Marathon Foundation' and along with London Marathon Events form the London Marathon Group. A number of trustees will be retiring, and clear terms of office are now in place. New trustees have been appointed to better reflect the diversity of the UK. Following the Covid-19 Pandemic, the Marathon has resumed its usual April space in the event calendar. This year's event had almost 50,000 participants and was hugely successful.

Tourism Alliance (update from Cllr Chris White):

The following topics came up at a recent Tourism Alliance Board meeting:

- Statutory registration of short-term lets: the government consultation has been embraced, despite it not being a regulation system as such (i.e. one which would allow action to be taken against 'bad actors').
- Change in short-term lets planning classes: there was a feeling that there was an urgent need for short-term lets as an alternative to hotels classes for certain workers away on assignments.
- Defunding of tourism education: funding for existing courses is ending, although there is supposed to be a new system on its way.
- Martyn's Law which outlines the minimum requirements expected of responsible persons of premises for the evaluation and assessment of terrorism risk: there is a draft Bill which could affect all premises which can take more than 100 customers (which is most hospitality premises); those which can take more than 800 would potentially be subject to much tighter legislation.

Councillor Tudor Evans OBE
Leader of Plymouth City Council



Tudor Evans is in his 35th consecutive year on Plymouth City Council, having served as a District Councillor and, since 1998, a Unitary Authority member. He has led the Labour Group on the council since 1998.

Tudor has now led Plymouth Council 5 times: 1998 – 2000, 2003 – 2007, 2012 – 2016, 2018 – 2021 and May 2023 – present. He has also served as Leader of the Opposition 4 times.

Born in Ebbw, South Wales, Tudor moved to Plymouth in 1977 to study for a BSc (Hons) degree in Environmental Science. He became a councillor in 1988.

Tudor is an active member of the LGA as an accredited member peer, Leadership Academy Co-ordinator and a Director of the LGA. He serves on the LGA Board and Executive Advisory Board. He has helped many councils as a peer, through reviews, mentoring and coaching.

He was awarded the prestigious Leader of the Year Award by the LGiU in 2016.

He led the Council prior to its MJ Council of the Year Award.

He served as the Vice-Chair of the Co-operative Councils Innovation Network.

He has held many offices at local and regional level, including Joint Committees, RDA and LEP Boards. He is a delegate to SW Councils.

Councillor Jemima Laing
Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Children's Social Care, Culture, Events and Communications



Jemima is Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Children's Social Care, Culture, Events and Communications at Plymouth City Council. She has been a Labour councillor since 2018.

Jemima is a member of the LGA Culture, Tourism and Sport Board and is passionate about increasing access to culture, especially for children and young people.

She is a freelance writer and was a solicitor before pursuing a career as a journalist in regional newspapers and as a broadcast journalist at the BBC.

Jemima has many years' experience as a school governor and is a trustee of homelessness charity, Plymouth Access to Housing and the Ballard Youth trust and a director of Exim Dance.

LGA Culture, Tourism and Sport Board: Visit to Plymouth

Purpose of Report

For information.

Is this report confidential? No

Summary

1. Following the Culture, Tourism and Sport Board meeting in Plymouth on 21st June 2023, Board members who can attend in person, will be invited to visit several key cultural sites in Plymouth. These include:
 - Plymouth Market Hall: an immersive digital dome with extensive co-work facility and community spaces
 - The Theatre Royal production and learning centre (TR2): set, costume, prop-making and rehearsal facilities, supporting one of the biggest education and outreach programmes for a regional venue in the UK (United Kingdom).
 - The Box: a museum, gallery and archive, which opened in 2020 and houses a collection of about 2 million items.
2. This paper sets out some background information on each of the sites Board members will visit and links for further details.

LGA Plan Theme: Stronger local economies, thriving local democracy

Recommendation(s)

That the Board note the venues we will be visiting and consider any questions they may wish to ask the host organisations. Each of the venues have received significant recent investment as part of Plymouth's strategy of cultural regeneration. Board members may be interested to consider:

- **How was the investment secured to bring forward these developments?**
- **What partners were involved?**

- How were local residents involved and kept on board in each of the developments?
- How does each of the venues ensure their offer is inclusive?
- What was the role of the council?
- What challenges were faced in bringing these developments to fruition and how were they overcome?
- What lessons have been learned?

Contact details

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Position: Advisor – Culture, Tourism and Sport

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LGA Culture, Tourism and Sport Board: Visit to Plymouth

Background

3. Following the Culture, Tourism and Sport Board meeting in Plymouth, Board members who can attend in person will be invited to visit several key cultural sites in Plymouth. These include:
 - Plymouth Market Hall: an immersive digital dome with extensive co-work facility and community spaces
 - The Theatre Royal production and learning centre (TR2): set, costume, prop-making and rehearsal facilities, supporting one of the biggest education and outreach programmes for a regional venue in the UK.
 - The Box: a museum, gallery and archive, which opened in 2020 and houses a collection of about 2 million items.

Proposal

4. This paper sets out some background information on each of the sites Board members will visit and links to further details.

Plymouth Market Hall

5. Based in one of Plymouth's most historic neighbourhoods, [Market Hall](#) was formerly the market for the whole of Devonport. Full of original features, the building has been given a £7.6 million upgrade, creating the first 'immersive video dome' of its kind in Europe alongside a creative and collaborative workspace for digital businesses and a social hub for people of all ages.
6. The project was inspired by the dome at [SAT in Montreal](#) and invites visitors to explore immersive technology. Two projectors cover the full surface of the dome creating a seamless shared virtual reality experience, without the need for a VR headset. The Market Hall is also home to an extensive co-work facility, events and meeting spaces for work events, community projects, and an accessible space for events, as well as a large café on site.
7. The development of the Market Hall has been led by [Real Ideas](#), working with Plymouth City Council and several key organisations and institutions in Plymouth and beyond. These include Plymouth University, City College Plymouth, Plymouth College of Art, Plymouth Culture, Creative England, Destination Plymouth, Digital Plymouth,

Oceansgate and Crowdfunder. The project has received support from Arts Council England, DCMS (Digital, Culture, Media and Sport) and ERDF (European Regional Development Fund) funding. It opened in 2021 and was awarded the Chair's Prize in the Planning Excellence 2022 awards.

Theatre Royal Production and Learning Centre (TR2)

8. Theatre Royal, Plymouth, is a theatre venue which includes a 1,300-seat main auditorium, The Lyric, which regularly hosts large-scale musicals, opera and ballet; a 200-seat studio, The Drum; and a 50-seat studio, The Lab. The theatre was opened on its current site in May 1982, but the original Theatre Royal first took that name following a visit from King George III in 1789.
9. The Lyric presents and produces an extensive range of work, including major touring drama and musical productions, as well as leading opera and dance companies (including the Birmingham Royal Ballet, the Rambert Dance Company, Glyndebourne on Tour and the Welsh National Opera). The Drum specialises in the production of new plays and has a reputation for its innovative programme.
10. A £7 million Regeneration Project was completed in September 2013 with a renovated front of house area and community performance space called [The Lab](#).
11. The theatre is a National Portfolio Organisation, receiving regular funding from Arts Council England.
12. On a separate site, Theatre Royal Plymouth also has a **production and learning centre, TR2**, which Board Members will be visiting. It features rehearsal studios and workshops for the production of set and costumes. It is set on the bank of the River Plym and was designed by [Ian Ritchie Architects](#). It contains set, costume, prop-making and rehearsal facilities. TR2 provides one of the biggest education and outreach programmes for a regional venue in the UK.

The Box

13. [The Box](#) is a museum, gallery and archive, which opened in 2020 and houses a collection of about 2 million items. The core of the building was previously **Plymouth City Museum and Art Gallery** which closed in 2016. The building was created in 1907–1910 and was combined with the former Central Library building and St Luke's Church on Tavistock Place into The Box.

14. The Museum and Art Gallery was owned and operated by Plymouth City Council. It also received operational funding from Arts Council England through its Major Partner Museums scheme.
15. The Box brought together collections from the museum, Plymouth and West Devon Record Office, Southwest Film and Television Archive, Southwest Image Bank and the Local Studies and Reference collection from the Central Library onto one site. There are permanent galleries, research facilities and a series of spaces for changing exhibitions and artistic commissions.
16. Additional grants for specific projects, acquisitions and conservation duties have come from funding bodies including the Heritage Lottery Fund, The Art Fund, the Wolfson Foundation and the V&A Purchase Grant Fund.

Implications for Wales

17. Culture is a devolved matter and there are no specific implications for Wales in this visit. However, the lessons learned from the cultural developments in Plymouth may be relevant to Welsh authorities pursuing a programme of cultural regeneration.

Financial Implications

18. None

Equalities implications

19. Board members may wish to ask about the approach to equalities, diversity and inclusion undertaken in the design and programming of these venues.

Next steps

20. Board members are invited to consider how Plymouth's experience of cultural regeneration can support their work, and take any lessons learned back to their own authorities.

The Box

The story so far



2. Avenida Item 8

'A real triumph for cultural place-making' (ACE)

The Box opened to critical and popular acclaim in September 2020, following a £47m capital project proudly led by Plymouth City council. It has already welcomed more than 500,000 visits, in a city with low levels of cultural engagement.

It brings together four separate organisations under one roof – the former Plymouth City Museum and Art Gallery, Southwest Film and TV Archive, Southwest Image Bank and Plymouth and West Devon Record Office.

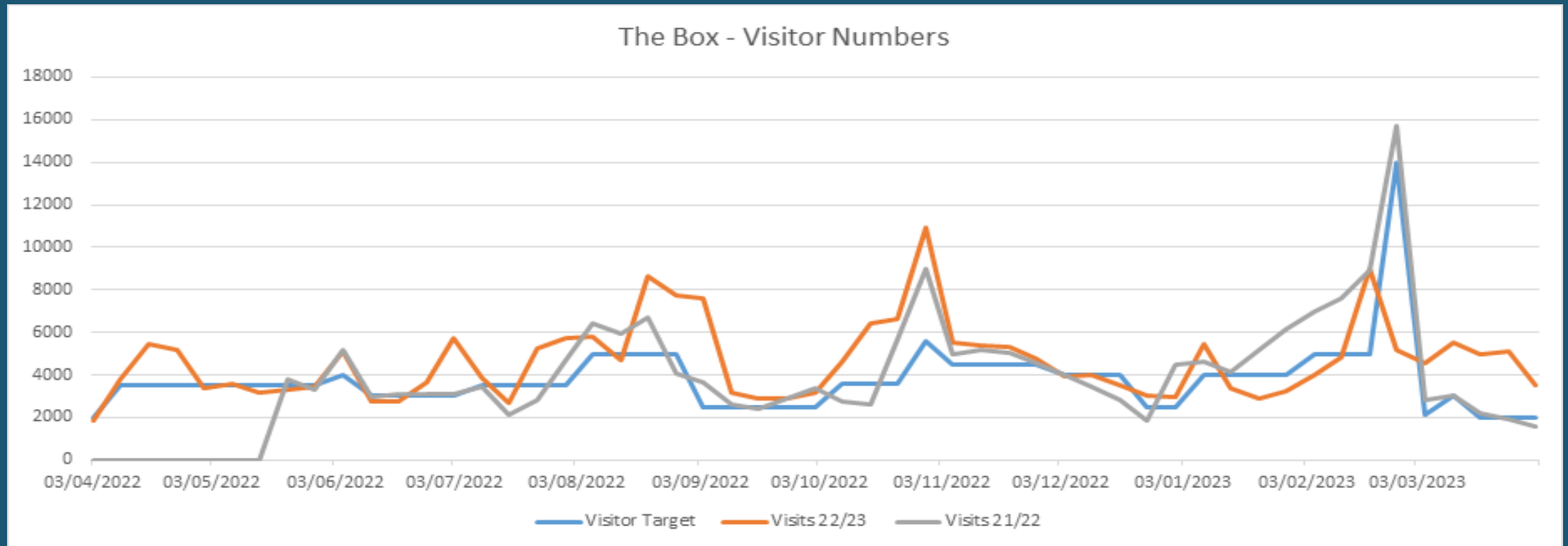
The Box is a hybrid organisation – part museum, gallery and archive, a social space for art, people and objects. It is a centre for knowledge and cultural participation, with artistic excellence at its heart.

Our new vision – reimagining the future through the past – and our values – connected, progressive, relevant and curious – drive all aspects of our work and in particular our commitment to tackling climate emergency and becoming an anti-racist organisation through a programme of decolonisation.



Visits to date (4/6/23): 522,313

- We attract a broad audience, with around 50% drawn from Plymouth
- Attendances:
 - 20/21 - 33,153 (9 weeks)
 - 21/22 - 203,010
 - 22/23 - 245,987 (20% above target)



Some programme highlights

Mayflower 400: Legend and Legacy (09/20 – 12/21)

Significant commemorative exhibition in collaboration with Wampanoag tribe of North America. British Guild of Travel Writers *Best UK and Ireland Tourism Project 2020*

Songlines: Tracking the Seven Sisters (10/21 – 2/22)

European premiere of major international touring show from National Museum of Australia, taking visitors on an epic journey across three states, three deserts and 500,000 square kilometres.



Some programme highlights

Because the night belongs to us (6/22-9/22)

Large scale retrospective exhibition examining Plymouth's nightlife and culture through the voices of those who experienced it.



British Art Show (10/22-1/23)

Landmark touring exhibition celebrating the vitality of recent art made in Britain, welcoming more than 80,000 visits across the city.



Some programme highlights

Sue Williamson: Between Memory and Forgetting

(/22-9/22)

An extended overview of this British-born South African artist and activist's work, including a major new sculptural commission.

The Armada Portrait (From 2/23)

Iconic portrait of Queen Elizabeth 1, on loan from Woburn Abbey, presented in context of colonial impact of Tudor period.



Coming soon

Reframing Reynolds: A Celebration (6-10/23)

Major exhibition celebrating 300th anniversary of Sir Joshua Reynolds birth in Plympton, Plymouth.

Rana Begum: Dappled Light (6-9/23)

New and existing works, responding to Reynolds' drawings and paintings.

Solomon Hart: Conservation in Action (9/23)

Significant work by Solomon Hart RA, to be unrolled and conserved in full view of the visitors.

Dutch Flowers (10/23-1/24)

On loan from the National Gallery in their 200th anniversary year.

John Akomfrah: Arcadia (11/23-6/24)

A major new film commission from the artist representing the UK at the next Venice Biennale.

Yinka Shonibare: End of Empire (Autumn 23)

Sculpture, continuing to support our work on decolonisation

Learning and education

- Over 300 formal learning sessions and 14k participants (including self-guided visits) since opening
- Ongoing formal learning projects include
 - **DesignLab Nation – Partnership with The V&A** Since 2021, The Box has been taking part in the Victoria and Albert Museum’s (V&A) National Schools Programme, DesignLab Nation, which aims to inspire the next generation of designers, makers and innovators.
 - **ARTiculation – partnership with The National Gallery** A nationally acclaimed annual event designed to promote the appreciation and discussion of art.
- Over 30k participants to our free creative sessions during weekends and holidays since opening
- More than 1.5k pre-school children have enjoyed our Iwonder sessions
- Around 5k children a year engage with our Explore More tables



Archive, collections and volunteers

- **Over 3.5k** collection enquiries
- **Nearly 9k** objects/archives retrieved for research
- **1800** onsite researchers
- **Over 800** collections volunteer hours
- **33** objects acquired and accessioned
- More than **50,000** total volunteer hours, with regular cohort of **160**



Sister venues: Smeaton's Tower and Elizabethan House



PLYMOUTH
heritage
— P A S S —
VISIT THREE HISTORIC VENUES
FOR ONE PRICE!
ELIZABETHAN HOUSE · SMEATON'S TOWER · THE MAYFLOWER MUSEUM

A promotional image for the Plymouth Heritage Pass. It shows a group of children playing in a courtyard. In the background, there is a red and white striped lighthouse (Smeaton's Tower) and a large wooden building (Elizabethan House). A large wooden sailing ship is also visible. The sky is blue with seagulls flying. The text at the top of the image reads "PLYMOUTH heritage PASS VISIT THREE HISTORIC VENUES FOR ONE PRICE! ELIZABETHAN HOUSE · SMEATON'S TOWER · THE MAYFLOWER MUSEUM".

Historic England | The Pilgrim Trust | PLYMOUTH | HERITAGE FUND | THE BRITISH COAST | The Box

James Mackenzie-Blackman
Biographies
Updated: June 2022

151 words

James grew up in Plymouth and South Devon. After concluding his education, he spent two years working overseas in Nepal, Europe and North America.

After University in Liverpool James spent fourteen years working in London at Greenwich Theatre; the Lyric Hammersmith; as Executive Director of the National Youth Theatre of Great Britain and then as Executive Director of Sir Matthew Bourne's award-winning dance company New Adventures. During his time at the company James oversaw substantial growth in participation, audiences and turnover.

James was appointed Chief Executive of Eden Court, Scotland's largest single-site arts venue, in 2017 and during his tenure steered the company through a period of significant growth and change.

James is regularly invited to speak at conferences and events in the UK and overseas, he is a trustee of the Compass Partnership of Schools.

James took up post as Chief Executive of the Theatre Royal Plymouth in January 2022.

336 words

James Mackenzie-Blackman is an award-winning theatre producer, arts advocate and venue manager.

James grew up in Plymouth and South Devon and was a proud member of the Theatre Royal Plymouth Young Company.

After concluding his formal education James spent two years working overseas in Nepal and then in Europe and North America.

After University in Liverpool James started his career at Greenwich Theatre. In 2004 James commenced six years at the Lyric Theatre Hammersmith culminating in raising £20m for a major capital project at the Lyric to build the world's first teaching theatre so that young people could train for careers on; off and backstage in a professional performing arts venue. During his time at the Lyric James bought the Broadway production of *Spring Awakening* to London that went on to win four Olivier Awards.

Following his time at the Lyric James was Executive Director of the National Theatre of Great Britain during a time when the company were heavily involved in the 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games.

After his time at NYT James was Executive Director of Sir Matthew Bourne's award-winning dance company New Adventures. Matthew is one of the world's most well-known choreographers and theatre makers who has changed the landscape of dance forever. James regularly toured the UK; North America, Asia and Australia and during his time at the company James oversaw substantial growth in participation, audiences and turnover.

In 2017 James was appointed Chief Executive of Eden Court, Scotland's largest single-site arts venue. During his tenure James steered the company through a period of significant change and growth.

James is regularly invited to speak at conferences and events in the UK and overseas, he is a trustee of the Compass Partnership of Schools in South East London.

James took up post as Chief Executive of the UK's largest and best attended regional theatres, the Theatre Royal Plymouth in January 2022.

He is married with two sons and lives on The Hoe in Plymouth city centre a few hundred yards from Stage Door.