



# **Culture, Tourism & Sport Board**

Agenda

Wednesday, 15 November 2023  
3.00 pm

Hybrid Meeting - Eaton-Cockell Room, 18  
Smith Square and Online

There will be a meeting of the Culture, Tourism & Sport Board at **3.00 pm on Wednesday, 15 November 2023** Hybrid Meeting - Eaton-Cockell Room, 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.

<b>Labour:</b>	Group Office: 020 7664 3263	email: <a href="mailto:labgp@lga.gov.uk">labgp@lga.gov.uk</a>
<b>Conservative:</b>	Group Office: 020 7664 3223	email: <a href="mailto:lgaconservatives@local.gov.uk">lgaconservatives@local.gov.uk</a>
<b>Independent:</b>	Group Office: 020 7664 3224	email: <a href="mailto:independent.grouplga@local.gov.uk">independent.grouplga@local.gov.uk</a>
<b>Liberal Democrat:</b>	Group Office: 020 7664 3235	email: <a href="mailto:libdem@local.gov.uk">libdem@local.gov.uk</a>

### **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](mailto: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 2023/24

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

Councillor	Authority
<b>Conservative ( 6 )</b>	
Cllr Joanne Laban (Deputy Chair)	Enfield Council
Cllr Peter Golds CBE	Tower Hamlets Council
Cllr Barry Lewis	Derbyshire County Council
Cllr Linda Robinson	Wychavon District Council
Cllr Neil Jory	West Devon Borough Council
Cllr Gary Ridley	Coventry City Council
<b>Substitutes</b>	
Cllr Phil Seeva	Cornwall Council
Cllr Henry Higgins	Hillingdon London Borough
Cllr Steve Allen	Peterborough City Council
<b>Labour ( 7 )</b>	
Cllr Tracey Dixon (Deputy Chair)	South Tyneside Council
Cllr Michael Graham	Wakefield City Council
Cllr Jane Ashworth OBE	Stoke on Trent City Council
Cllr Richard Henry	Stevenage Borough Council
Cllr Elly Cutkelvin	Leicester City Council
Cllr Jemima Laing	Plymouth City Council
Cllr Adam Hug	Westminster City Council
<b>Substitutes</b>	
Cllr Adele Barnett-Ward	Reading Council
Cllr James-J Walsh	Lewisham London Borough
Cllr Jonathan Simpson MBE	Camden London Borough Council
<b>Liberal Democrat ( 3 )</b>	
Cllr Liz Green (Chair)	Kingston upon Thames Royal Borough Council
Cllr Darryl Smalley	City of York Council
Cllr Chris White	City and District of St Albans
<b>Substitutes</b>	
Cllr Sean MacLeod	Lewes District Council
Cllr Amanda Hopgood	Durham County Council
<b>Independent ( 2 )</b>	
Cllr Julie Jones-Evans (Vice-Chair)	Isle of Wight Council
Cllr Ian Shipp	West Sussex Council
<b>Substitutes</b>	
Cllr James Hall	Swale Borough Council
Cllr Rebecca Aldam	Stroud District Council

## Agenda

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### Culture, Tourism & Sport Board

Wednesday, 15 November 2023

3.00 pm

Hybrid Meeting - Eaton-Cockell Room, 18 Smith Square and Online

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**Date of Next Meeting:** Wednesday, 17 January 2024, 3.00 pm, Hybrid Meeting - 18 Smith Square and Online

## World Heritage UK

### Purpose of Report

For direction.

**Is this report confidential? No**

### Summary

World Heritage UK wishes to re-open a dialogue with the Local Government Association concerning the UK's 33 World Heritage Sites and the seven Sites on the UK's Tentative List for World Heritage nomination over the next decade. Firstly, to develop closer ties and secondly, to gain LGA support to become a [National Amenity Society](#).

This paper will be presented by Paul Simons, Chair of World Heritage UK.

**LGA Plan Theme:** Supporting local people and places

### Recommendation(s)

#### That the Board:

- **Determines how the LGA should engage with World Heritage UK**
- **That the Board supports World Heritage UK to become a National Amenity Society**

### Contact details

Contact officer: Paul Simons / Lauren Lucas

Position: Chair, World Heritage UK / Adviser – Culture, tourism and sport

Phone no: N/A / 02076643323

Email: N/A / [lauren.lucas@local.gov.uk](mailto:lauren.lucas@local.gov.uk)

## World Heritage UK

### Background

1. World Heritage Sites are places from all around the world that are considered so important for the shared understanding and future of our planet that we should look after them forever. (See links below).
2. There are more than 1150 Sites globally; some are natural like the Great Barrier Reef or the Serengeti, and many are constructed like Stonehenge or the Taj Mahal. World Heritage Sites are identified by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO), but looked after locally.
3. In the UK, local authorities are inextricably linked to the World Heritage Sites through community and stakeholder engagement, planning, economic development, education, culture, leisure, tourism, social cohesion and well-being.
4. The current range of UK sites and tentative listed properties cover over 50 local authority areas in England, Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales. They include major city centres, relic industrial sites and vast natural landscapes.

### National Amenity Societies

5. Under the Arrangements for Handling Heritage Applications – notification to Historic England and National Amenity Societies and the Secretary of State (England) Direction 2021, [local planning authorities](#) are obliged to consult the 6 specialist [amenity societies](#) on all applications involving the partial or total demolition of a [listed building](#).
6. In addition consultations affecting a listed park must consult The Gardens Trust; and for theatres, The Theatres Trust.
7. Councils may consult many other voluntary associations about the impact of planning consultations, but only the above *must* be consulted.
8. The focus of all the above is either a specific building or park, while world heritage sites are often about a much larger place, up to and including whole towns. This wider perspective is not adequately represented by any statutory consultees, although other voluntary groups may take that broader approach.

### What is World Heritage UK?

9. World Heritage UK is a charitable incorporated organisation established in 2015. It is the only organisation exclusively focused on World Heritage in the UK, and the only one that is led by the Sites themselves, reflecting a bottom-up,

community-driven approach that has proven effective at many Sites, an approach favoured by UNESCO.

10. From the late 1990s, World Heritage Sites in the UK were represented by LAWHF (the Local Authority World Heritage Forum) and driven by local elected representatives supported by their planning, heritage and tourism officers. At that time World Heritage was recognised by the LGA as a special interest group which received an annual report. Complementary to this, informal steering groups and advisory boards were established at each site to engage with landowners, local businesses and voluntary bodies. Some of these groups have now become formalised structures as managing agencies with charitable status.
11. Changes in the nature of organisations bringing forward new nominations, and the creation of site specific NGOs and managing partnerships, at a time of diminishing resources within local government for non-statutory functions, has resulted in a reduction in the influence of local elected representatives.
12. In 2023 there are now twenty-nine WHS in the four home nations, with nine having a direct local authority involvement in their management. Other site managers now include heritage agencies, the Church, Universities, the National Trust and National Parks.
13. An unintended consequence of this has been a reduction in local government involvement and liaison with the UK's World Heritage Sites. However, there is now a need and an opportune moment to redress this imbalance.

### **Levelling Up and Regeneration Act (LURA) 2023**

14. The much-publicised Bill for Levelling Up and Regeneration from DLUH&C was granted the Royal Assent on the 26<sup>th</sup> of October. For the first time in UK legal history, World Heritage is written into primary legislation making the government's commitment to the UN's World Heritage Convention 1972 a statutory duty. Historic England is the heritage agency which advises government on world heritage and international matters through DCMS. The UK FCDO also manages the UK National Commission for UNESCO.

### **Proposal**

15. With the significant milestone of the LURA achieved, WHUK now intend to apply to government to become a statutory consultee on key planning issues concerning World Heritage Sites. This will entail being accepted by government as one of the national amenity societies, of which there are currently seven forming the Joint Committee of the National Amenity Societies, which receive annual funding to fulfil their role as statutory consultees.

16. WHUK is the most appropriate and best placed organisation to fulfil this role for World Heritage; it is independent of government, with its representation of all UK Sites and with grass-root networks with connections to those directly managing the Sites on a day-to-day basis.
17. WHUK wish to present its role and the need for greater direct liaison with the elected representatives of the communities and stakeholders in each World Heritage Site to the Local Government Association's policy board for Culture, Tourism and Sport. We wish to gain the board's support and endorsement for WHUK taking forward an application to government to become a statutory consultee.

### Questions to explore

18. The Board will wish to explore the following areas with the presenters:
- 18.1. What role does WHUK see for elected members and officers in its work?
  - 18.2. How will diverse communities be represented in this work?
  - 18.3. What support and offer will WHUK provide to councils?
  - 18.4. Is National Amenity Society status required for this work?

### Implications for Wales

19. Welsh World Heritage Sites are covered by WHUK.

### Financial Implications

20. There are no financial implications for the LGA. There will be a small increase in consultation work for planning officers, although this should be offset by the value of being able to access expert advice on world heritage site management.

### Equalities implications

21. The Board may wish to explore how WHUK will ensure diverse communities are represented and engaged in its work.

### Next steps

22. If the Board agrees to support WHUK's application to be a national amenity society, officers will draft a letter of support.



**Annex 1:****Supporting information**

WHUK published a ground breaking report [\*UK World Heritage Site Collection: Asset for the Future\*](#) in 2019 aiming to assisting the UK Government and others in planning and supporting the future sustainable management of the UK's World Heritage Sites. Together our Sites are a major resource and a central part of the UK's cultural inheritance and a major asset for the UK.

<https://worldheritageuk.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/01/90050100-main-r-f-2019-12-04-lr.pdf>

**Helpful links**

<https://worldheritageuk.org> the site of World Heritage UK

<https://whc.unesco.org/en/statesparties/gb> for the official list of UK World Heritage Sites.

<https://www.jcnas.org.uk/> National Amenity Societies

<https://whc.unesco.org/en/about/> What is World Heritage?

**UK & NI World Heritage Sites and their local authorities**

Cultural Sites (28)

- [Blaenavon Industrial Landscape](#) (2000) Torfaen County Borough.
- [Blenheim Palace](#) (1987) West Oxfordshire District Council.
- [Canterbury Cathedral, St Augustine's Abbey, and St Martin's Church](#) (1988) Canterbury City Council.
- [Castles and Town Walls of King Edward in Gwynedd](#) (1986) Gwynedd County Council, Conwy County Borough, Isle of Anglesey County Council.
- [City of Bath](#) (1987) Bath & North East Somerset Council.
- [Cornwall and West Devon Mining Landscape](#) (2006) Cornwall County Council, East Devon District Council.
- [Derwent Valley Mills](#) (2001) Derbyshire County Council, Derby City Council.
- [Durham Castle and Cathedral](#) (1986) Durham County Council.

- [Frontiers of the Roman Empire](#) (1987, 2005, 2008) 8 LA's in England & Scotland.
- [Gorham's Cave Complex](#) (2016) Government of Gibraltar.
- [Heart of Neolithic Orkney](#) (1999) Orkney Island Council.
- [Historic Town of St George and Related Fortifications, Bermuda](#) (2000) Corporation of St George (Bermuda).
- [Ironbridge Gorge](#) (1986) Telford & Wrekin Council.
- [Jodrell Bank Observatory](#) (2019) Cheshire East Council.
- [Maritime Greenwich](#) (1997) Greenwich Borough Council.
- [New Lanark](#) (2001) South Lanarkshire Council.
- [Old and New Towns of Edinburgh](#) (1995) Edinburgh City Council.
- [Palace of Westminster and Westminster Abbey including Saint Margaret's Church](#) (1987) Westminster City Council.
- [Pontcysyllte Aqueduct and Canal](#) (2009) Wrexham Borough Council.
- [Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew](#) (2003) London Borough of Richmond on Thames.
- [Saltaire](#) (2001) City of Bradford.
- [Stonehenge, Avebury and Associated Sites](#) (1986) Wiltshire Council.
- [Studley Royal Park including the Ruins of Fountains Abbey](#) (1986) North Yorkshire Council.
- [The English Lake District](#) (2017) Cumbria Council, Westmorland & Furness Council.
- [The Forth Bridge](#) (2015) Fife Council & Edinburgh City Council.
- [The Great Spa Towns of Europe](#) (2021) Bath & North East Somerset.
- [The Slate Landscape of Northwest Wales](#) (2021) Gwynedd County Council.
- [Tower of London](#) (1988) City of London.

#### Natural (4)

- [Dorset and East Devon Coast](#) (2001) Dorset Council, East Devon District Council.
- [Giant's Causeway and Causeway Coast](#) (1986) County Antrim.

- [Gough and Inaccessible Islands](#) (1995, 2004) British Overseas Territory.
- [Henderson Island](#) (1988) British Overseas Territory.

Mixed (1)

- [St Kilda](#) (1986, 2004, 2005) Outer Hebrides.

### UK Tentative List (2023)

1. [Flow Country 2012 Caithness & Sutherland.](#)
2. [Moravian Church Settlements 2022 County Antrim.](#)
3. [City of York: historic urban core 2023 City of York Council.](#)
4. [Birkenhead Park, the pioneering People's Park 2023 Wirral Council.](#)
5. [East Atlantic Flyway: England East Coast Wetlands 2023 TBC the Humber, the Wash, Norfolk, Suffolk, Essex and the Thames.](#)
6. [Little Cayman Marine Parks and Protected Areas 2023 British Overseas Territory.](#)
7. [Mousa, Old Scatness and Jarlshof: the Zenith of Iron Age Shetland 2023 Shetland Council.](#)



## Martyn's Law

### Purpose of Report

For direction.

**Is this report confidential? No**

### Summary

In May this year the Government published the Terrorism (Protection of Premises) Draft Bill, which is aimed at helping to protect the public from terrorist attacks. Known as Martyn's Law, the draft legislation looks to introduce a new duty for those responsible for certain publicly accessible premises and events to take measures to review and mitigate against terrorist activity. The Bill featured in the King's Speech on 7 November.

**LGA Plan Theme:** Putting people first

### Recommendation(s)

**That the Board discusses the outline legislative proposals and provide insight on the potential implications for local councils.**

### Contact details

Contact officer: Rachel Duke

Position: Adviser

Phone no: 07464 652612

Email: [rachel.duke@local.gov.uk](mailto:rachel.duke@local.gov.uk)

## Martyn's Law

### Background

1. Earlier this year the Government published [draft legislation, known as Martyn's Law](#), which proposes introducing a new duty for those responsible for certain publicly accessible premises and events to take measures to review and mitigate against terrorist activity.
2. The legislation follows a public campaign from Figen Murray, the mother of Manchester Arena attack victim Martyn Hett, and in recognition that the terrorist threats currently facing the UK include a long-term trend (irrespective of ideology) towards individuals or small groups planning or carry out terrorist attacks, with 'low-sophistication' attack methodologies.
3. The Government's draft legislation is intended to improve security and ensure robust, proportionate, and consistent measures are in place at public venues to better prepare and improve public security. Without legal compulsion, the Government argues that counter terrorism security efforts often fall behind legally required activities and as a result, the prioritisation, consideration and application of security processes and measures is often inconsistent.
4. The Government carried out a consultation in 2021 [on early proposals for the duty, to which the LGA responded](#). Following publication of the draft legislation earlier this year, Cllr Clive Woodbridge gave evidence to the Home Affairs Select Committee (HASC) on behalf of the LGA, and our written evidence submission to the Committee is attached at Annex A. The submission broadly supported the Government's approach to consider what more can be done to protect people and places from attacks, and agreed with the need for a proportionate approach. However, it also identified a number of concerns and seeks further clarity on several issues.
5. The Terrorism (Protection of Premises) Bill [featured in the King's Speech on 7 November](#), reaffirming Government's intention to introduce legislation to improve the safety and security of venues and keep the public safe.
6. The LGA's Safer and Stronger Communities Board is leading on the LGA's response; however given the likely impact of the legislation on a number of venues and events linked to culture, tourism and sport, CTS Board members are asked for their views to provide further insight on the potential implications for local councils.

## Overview of draft legislation

7. The draft legislation proposes placing a requirement on those responsible for qualifying premises and events to consider the threats from terrorism and implement appropriate and proportionate mitigation measures.
8. The proposals would apply to premises which are accessible to the public, are used primarily for a purpose listed in the Bill (which includes entertainment and leisure facilities, shops/premises providing a service, museums and galleries, sports grounds, visitor attractions/historic buildings, alongside others), and have a public capacity greater than 100 individuals.
9. The Government has been keen to stress that proportionality is a fundamental consideration for the legislation and therefore the draft legislation, as published in May, proposes a tiered model for fulfilling the duty's requirements, linked to the activity that takes place at a premise or event and its capacity:
  - 9.1. For 'enhanced tier' premises or events<sup>1</sup> with a capacity of 800 or more, those responsible must undertake a risk assessment and security plan, and implement 'reasonably practicable' measures to mitigate the risk of terrorist attacks occurring or physical harm being caused as a result of such an attack.
  - 9.2. For 'standard tier' premises, with a maximum capacity of between 100<sup>2</sup> and 799, the draft legislation suggests that responsible persons will be required to undertake activities to improve protective security and preparedness, such as training, and undertake and maintain a standard terrorism evaluation (note however para 10, below).
10. The King's Speech reiterated the Government's intention not to over-burden smaller venues, and commits to launching a new consultation on the requirements for standard tier premises to ensure an appropriate balance is struck between public protection and ensuring requirements are accessible, proportionate and deliverable.
11. An inspection capability will also be established to seek to educate, advise, and ensure compliance with the requirements. It has not yet been confirmed who will carry out the regulatory role.
12. Government has stated that dedicated guidance and support will be provided for Martyn's Law, to ensure that those in scope have the required information on what to do and how best to do it. A new online platform, [ProtectUK](#), has already

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<sup>1</sup> Events in scope are also required in the draft legislation to have a defined boundary and express permission to enter

<sup>2</sup> Places of worship and schools are regarded under the draft Bill as standard tier premises, irrespective of capacity

been developed to provide a central hub for guidance, advice, learning and engagement with experts in security and counter terrorism.

13. The draft Bill's accompanying documents suggested an indicative timescale for implementation of the legislation in 2025.

### Implications for councils

14. We anticipate that councils will be impacted in several ways by the new legislation:
- 14.1. as responsible for a broad range of premises and events which are likely to fall within scope of the new duty
  - 14.2. as leaders of place, in convening other local partners subject to the Duty and/or fielding questions from local businesses and community groups
  - 14.3. it is possible that the regulatory and enforcement functions outlined in the Bill could also fall to local authorities (either wholly or in part).
15. There are a number of specific issues that we have identified as requiring further clarity, which we set out in detail in our [evidence](#) to the Home Affairs Select Committee (see Annex below).
16. In our evidence submissions we broadly supported the Government's approach to consider what more can be done to protect people and places from attacks, and agreed with the need for a proportionate approach, but identified a number of concerns and sought clarity on several issues. This included:
- 16.1. the large number of council premises within scope, and the significant resourcing, capacity and expertise requirements needed for implementation;
  - 16.2. the need to ensure the legislation is proportionate and does not threaten the viability of valued community facilities and events (including whether the proposals are an effective and proportionate way to manage risk);
  - 16.3. ambiguity on a number of issues about how the duty will operate, meaning it is currently difficult to assess the true likely impact for councils;
  - 16.4. the need for sufficient lead in time for implementation, and a comprehensive programme of awareness-raising, advice and guidance to support this.
17. In July [The HASC published its report on the draft legislation](#), which reflected our concerns. The Committee concluded there was insufficient clarity about the overall objectives of the Bill – in particular, whether it is aimed more at Protect (ie



strengthening protective measures against a terrorist attack by reducing the vulnerability of venues) or Prepare (minimising the impact of an attack should one take place, eg effective evacuation procedures) - and questioned whether the draft would make a difference to the nature of the terrorist threat.

18. The Committee agreed with the LGA's suggestion that the Bill should be implemented in stages, starting with enhanced tier premises.
19. Its recommendations also called for the Government to consider expanding the scope of the Draft Bill to include those outdoor events with a capacity of over 800 and where express permission and payment is not required to enter.
20. The King's Speech confirmed that the Bill is aimed at ensuring premises are better prepared and ready to respond in the event of an attack. It acknowledged the concerns raised during the pre-legislative scrutiny process regarding standard tier premises and, as noted above, committed to a consultation for requirements on standard tier premises. However we await further details on several other aspects of the Bill, including the queries set out in the Annex below.
21. The SSC Board's work programme includes plans to continue to lobby on the Bill as it continues its passage through the parliamentary process over the coming months. We will also look to respond to the consultation on requirements for standard tier premises, once this is launched.

### Implications for Wales

22. The legislation will also apply to Wales.

### Financial Implications

23. Given some of the uncertainties identified above, it has been difficult to anticipate the impact on councils in full. However, we expect that implementing the Duty will require significant demands on resources, capacity and expertise.
24. The Government's impact assessment that accompanied the draft legislation suggests that there will be costs borne by local authorities in bringing the sites they own and operate into compliance, estimating economic costs for sites in the standard tier at £2,000 per site; and for enhanced tier sites, a cost of £82,000 per site (both central estimates, over 10 years). There are additional costs to local authorities identified due to a specific clause in the legislation for removing premise plans from the public domain in response to terrorism protection statements under the Licensing Act 2003. This could be particularly impactful for councils with a number of premises falling within scope.
25. We understand that a new burdens assessment for local government is underway, but has not yet been published.

26. The set up and running costs of the regulator will also involve considerable further expense.

### **Equalities implications**

27. A Public Sector Equality Duty assessment was undertaken as part of the Bill's development, which concludes that the proposals are not considered to directly impact any protective characteristics. However, as the LGA has previously identified, there is the potential for indirect impacts if there is incorrect interpretation and application of Martyn's Law's requirements and the application of resulting systems, processes, training and/or activities to deliver these.

### **Next steps**

28. Members are asked to give views on the potential implications of the legislation for local councils and their cultural, tourism, or sporting venues, and raise any further concerns about the legislative proposals.
29. There will be further opportunities to feed in members' views as the legislation continues its passage through the parliamentary process.

## Annex

### **Written evidence submission to Home Affairs Select Committee Pre-legislative scrutiny of the Terrorism (Protection of Premises) Draft Bill, June 2023**

#### **1. About the Local Government Association**

- 1.1 The Local Government Association (LGA) is the national voice of local government. We work with councils to support, promote and improve local government.
- 1.2 We are a politically-led, cross party organisation which works on behalf of councils to ensure local government has a strong, credible voice with national government. We aim to influence and set the political agenda on the issues that matter to councils so they are able to deliver local solutions to national problems.

#### **2. Key messages**

- 2.1 Acts of terrorism have a devastating and far-reaching impact on victims, their families and friends, and on communities more widely. Councils take the threats from terrorism very seriously and, work alongside wider partners to keep their communities safe.
- 2.2 We anticipate a number of implications for councils from the proposed legislation; as owners of premises covered by the duty; as leaders of place; and potentially in enforcing compliance. We raise a number of issues below, including the need for greater clarity on a number of issues, and the significant resource and capacity that are needed for successful implementation.
- 2.3 We broadly support, in principle, Government's approach to consider what more can be done to help protect local people and places from attacks and introduce new legislative measures that require those responsible for certain public premises and events to take proportionate steps in mitigation.
- 2.4 We agree with the core principle set out in the draft legislation and surrounding documents about the need to take a proportionate approach to a new duty. Any new requirements must not be unduly burdensome and must not inhibit our freedoms to enjoy the places that are a critical and much-loved part of local life, nor undermine efforts to open up access to facilities and encourage more people to participate in community events and sports.
- 2.5 Preparing for implementation will require substantial resources across sectors, a dedicated communications campaign to raise awareness of the new duty and a programme of support and guidance, with sufficient lead in time for those within scope to prepare.

- 2.6 Government should confirm as soon as possible where the regulatory functions outlined in the Draft Bill will sit. Any option that requires local authority enforcement would need to consider the significant existing pressures on resources, enforcement capacity and expertise that councils are already facing in delivering their existing regulatory duties.
- 2.7 The new duty should be one aspect of a number of measures to keep our communities safe from terrorism and other harms, complementing the many existing measures already in place. It is also vital that measures to increase security continue to sit alongside investment in prevention programmes, that aim to stop people being drawn into terrorism, tackle extremism and build cohesion and resilience.

### **3. Councils and Martyn's Law**

- 3.1 We agree that it is important to look at what more can be done to improve security at premises and events, and welcome the work to develop new and proportionate legislation in this space.
- 3.2 Councils already undertake considerable work with wider partners to assess and mitigate against the risks of terrorism at and around public premises and for particular events, alongside responding to a range of broader risks and threats to help keep communities safe.
- 3.3 We anticipate that councils will be impacted in several ways by the new legislation. Councils are responsible for a number of premises which are likely to fall within scope of the new duty; from local community centres, schools, recreational and sports facilities, museums, theatres, libraries and historic buildings to amusement parks – as well as a range of cultural and community events. As leaders of place, we expect that councils will also likely have a role in convening local partners subject to the duty to consider security measures across the wider landscape, and possibly also in a regulatory or enforcement capacity.
- 3.4 We set out below some examples of what councils are already doing in anticipation of the new duty, however there are a number of questions about how the legislation might operate in practice, the resource and capacity implications for councils, and preparation for implementation of the new duty, which we explore further below.

### **4. A proportional approach**

- 4.1 We support the Government's proposal that the new duty must be proportional and not unduly burdensome for those within scope.
- 4.2 Councils are keen to encourage communities to come together as a key part of community cohesion, to use local recreational and sports facilities that boost residents' health and wellbeing, and support local businesses and the voluntary sector. Similarly, local authorities are keen, and have been encouraged, to do what they can to support community events through light touch approaches to licensing. It

must be ensured that the new duty does not put the viability of these spaces, events and groups at risk.

- 4.3 It must be accepted that it is impossible to eliminate all risks and threats entirely. An appropriate balance must be sought that enables community facilities and groups to remain financially viable and continue to operate, whilst keeping people safe and without undue limitations on access and enjoyment of public places.
- 4.4 We are pleased to note that the thresholds included in the draft Bill for the duty to apply have changed from those proposed in the original consultation, thereby reducing the number of premises/spaces within scope. Nonetheless, we remain mindful of the need to support local businesses and recreational facilities as many continue to feel the [effects from post-pandemic recovery](#), high energy bills and reduced spending as users focus on buying essentials, and that the resource implications from the introduction new measures should be kept to the necessary minimum.

## 5. Specific issues requiring further clarity or consideration

- 5.1 We note that draft guidance on the duty is yet to be published. However, there is a need for urgent clarity on a number of issues, to enable those who may be subject to the duty to understand its implications and prepare for implementation. This is particularly important as many of those who will be captured by the legislation will be unfamiliar with the security space and their future obligations (there is also a risk that in the absence of official guidance, guidance will be sought from other sources, which may be misleading and expensive).
- 5.2 A number of provisions in the Draft Bill require further clarification, including:
- 5.2.1 The types of premises and events that will be in scope, where there may be ambiguity. For instance, “Shops etc” in schedule 1 of the Draft Bill broadly describes premises used “for the provision of a service”, which could be extended to additional local authority premises.
- 5.2.2 “Persons responsible” for qualifying premises or events, who will be required to take certain measures under the duty. The proposals raise questions about who would fulfil this role, how to ensure their competence and how to achieve a consistent approach across the board. A further important question is whether those undertaking risk assessments could be personally liable for their advice.
- 5.2.3 It must be clarified where this responsibility will fall when the owner of the premises and those operating from it are discrete (and how “cooperation notices” referenced in the Bill will apply), for instance in cases where a premises (or part of) is rented out or hired for a specific qualifying purpose (in some cases with multiple hirers). This should also consider how to avoid any inconsistencies in approach that might arise between several hirers/occupiers of the same premises.
- 5.2.4 Who will be classified as “relevant workers” (required to undertake training etc); in particular whether this will also encompass volunteers. Much of the effectiveness

- of mitigation measures will be reliant on “relevant workers” implementing these competently and reliably. This raises issues about training and vetting staff (and potentially volunteers); some events for example might need additional staff/stewards and it may be difficult to verify qualifications/competence and the extent to which those personnel have been briefed or trained.
- 5.2.5 How “express permission” should be construed under the Bill (in determining whether spaces being used for a specific qualifying event, or premises primarily comprising land in the open air, should fall within scope - and therefore the extent to which for example parks and open spaces will or will not be covered by the duty). We support the Government’s proposal that the duty should not be broadly applied to all public spaces as a matter of course; to do so could have, for instance, a negative impact on biodiversity, and may deter people from using these spaces, including groups who are already deemed less likely to do so.
- 5.2.6 How the capacity of events will be assessed.
- 5.2.7 “Reasonably practicable” security measures to mitigate against risks; although this term is relatively well established and understood, care needs to be taken in written guidance to ensure those subject to the duty are confident in meeting this test, but which avoids measures that are too prescriptive, disproportionate to risk, or unnecessarily burdensome.
- 5.2.8 Whether the duty will apply to planning requirements for new premises.
- 5.3 Managing risks in the spaces outside specific venues also needs some consideration. These are not necessarily captured by the Draft Bill where those spaces do not fall within the definition of a premises or event, but nonetheless it is possible that mitigation measures introduced for one premises (for instance bag searches) effectively introduces new, or displaced, risks elsewhere (for instance queues in public space outside of venues or muster points).
- 5.4 Assessing and mitigating against terrorism risks sits alongside a range of other health and safety and safeguarding issues that local authorities and others must consider. Further clarity is needed about how Martyn’s Law will fit in a way that would ensure that specific terrorism risks are viewed in the context of the full range of risks being considered and ensure there are no unintended overlaps or contradictions.
- 5.5 This includes existing duties and delivery of work in the counter-terrorism space, such as the work undertaken by Community Safety Partnerships, Local Resilience Forums (in particular, how the new duty will be aligned to the requirements in the Civil Contingencies Act 2004), CONTEST boards, Safety Advisory Groups (SAGs), licensing teams, and under the Health and Safety at Work Act. One specific example is fire risk assessments; although the two risks differ in some respects, thought must be given as to whether the evacuation implications are different and how to ensure that separate risk assessments for evacuation in the event of a fire and of a terrorist attack avoids duplication and/or confusion.

- 5.6 It is important that local authorities have sufficient flexibility to meet their responsibilities under the duty in a way which best fits local circumstances, including across two tier areas.
- 5.7 The Manchester Arena Inquiry highlighted the important role the Licensing Act 2003 can play in improving the provision of event healthcare services through adding conditions to licences, to ensure staff can provide some level of care until emergency services arrive in the unlikely event of a terrorist attack. The inquiry recommended that the Government consider updating the section 182 guidance, which accompanies the Licensing Act, to set out what level of event healthcare should be required from licensees and what appropriate licensing conditions should be imposed. The LGA supports this recommendation.
- 5.8 It is also important that measures to increase security continue to sit alongside prevention programmes, that aim to stop people being drawn into terrorism, tackle extremism and build cohesion and resilience.
- 5.9 Another issue which requires further clarity is the potential for different actors to become liable should an attack occur - even where a risk assessment was undertaken, and mitigation measures introduced. We highlight above the need for clarity about who will be the “responsible person” in law; which raises further queries, for instance, about whether an event organiser could potentially be responsible/liable for a venue it does not own; or a building owner be held responsible for the actions of those who use it, where risks are displaced from elsewhere.
- 5.10 There is an additional risk of unintended consequences from the duty that might arise because of the possibility of liability – for instance, recommending/introducing disproportionately high-level, disruptive or expensive mitigation measures to avoid future litigation.
- 5.11 Given the difficulties that have arisen in the housing sector from the unwillingness of insurers to provide Professional Indemnity Insurance to those conducting surveys of cladding systems or fire risk assessments in high rise residential buildings, the Government needs to make an assessment of the willingness of insurers to cover those giving advice on assessments under the duty to ensure that demand for such assessments will be met without imposing excessive costs through a ramping up of premiums. We are pleased that Government has committed to continuing with its policy to engage with the insurance industry to promote and incentivise compliance.

## **6. Regulation and compliance**

- 6.1 We agree that effective implementation the duty will need some form of regulatory and enforcement function. The function must place sufficient emphasis on guidance and support to assist those subject to the duty to meet their requirements.

- 6.2 It is clear the regulator will have a significant role across a number of sectors, which includes providing early advice ahead of implementation. While the regulator has not yet been named, we understand that Government has previously explored whether councils should be responsible for this role (or part of it).
- 6.3 Councils' regulatory services functions have faced substantial resource and capacity concerns for some time. Significant reductions in local government funding, alongside the need to protect services such as adult social care and children's services, have led to regulatory services shrinking and a reduction in officer capacity. At the same time the number of statutory responsibilities being placed on these services has increased, adding to the pressure on already stretched services.
- 6.4 Enforcement would be an unwelcome burden for councils which would require significant resource and capacity; local authorities would need dedicated resources to fulfil this role if this was imposed. Given the large number of venues covered by the scope of the duty as it currently stands, any additional inspection burden over and above existing activities would need considerable resource. A new duty on councils for the inspection element of the proposals would need to be resourced as part of the New Burdens doctrine.
- 6.5 If councils were to be responsible for this element of the duty, there is a question as to where it should sit. Councils' environmental health, licensing and health and safety teams may provide some possibilities. However, this poses a number of challenges for councils which would need to be fully understood. These include councils having to develop specific expertise in counter-terrorism and currently having small health and safety functions which are working at capacity and facing recruitment challenges. Additionally, while terrorism risks might be considered as part of the licensing process, not all venues to which the duty would apply are licenced.
- 6.7 If councils are given an enforcement role, this would raise a further question as to how the duty is enforced in local authority premises.
- 6.8 If local authorities were to take on the regulatory function, it should be clarified whether the council should recoup some costs through, for instance, licensing fees.

## **7. Resourcing implications**

- 7.1 The Draft Bill documents are clear that the expectation is that costs will be borne by local authorities and central government to bring sites they own and operate into compliance.
- 7.2 Councils continue to face significant budgetary pressures across the board. We are very concerned about the financial implications of the new duty for councils, given the large number and range of premises and events councils are responsible for.
- 7.3 This extends to capacity pressures. Councils are already incredibly stretched when conducting their current roles and may have extremely limited capacity to take on a new initiative.



- 7.4 Inevitably, the new duty will impact on some areas to a greater extent than others. For some councils with multiple (particularly enhanced) sites within scope, such as areas with significant proportions of the local economy related to tourism and entertainment, this could mean a substantial burden. Furthermore, preparing for the implementation of the duty is likely to require significant investment in mitigation measures in a short period of time.
- 7.5 We are concerned about the implications for recreational venues, businesses and community groups, which are often reliant on income generation in order to survive. Any additional burdens could put them at risk or deter hirers/visitors if costs are passed on.
- 7.6 The impact assessment considers the cost implications for the introduction and ongoing maintenance of some physical mitigation measures, particularly for enhanced tier premises/events. It should be noted that some of the risks associated with certain premises/events will change over time in response to evolving threats, which could mean further measures are necessary.
- 7.7 Whatever guidance and support may be available at national level, this assessment should also consider the likely role of councils in fielding questions from local businesses and community groups, particularly in the preparatory stages of the new duty coming into force (local authorities have already received a significant number of calls from local businesses seeking advice on the duty), and their anticipated wider role as leaders of place in convening others subject to the duty to assess the risk picture across the wider locality, with inevitable resource implications. Effective risk assessment requires a holistic and overarching approach across a whole place, rather than considering risk simply on a premises-by-premises basis.
- 7.8 We note that a separate exercise is underway to determine the financial impact on local authorities, as part of a New Burdens assessment. This exercise must be completed as soon as possible and should inform the wider impact assessment as already published.

## **8. Preparing for implementation**

- 8.1 While it is important that new measures to protect the public are introduced promptly, the timescales for introducing the new duty should be carefully considered. Sufficient time must be available for preparation, training, recruitment of specialist advisors and assessors etc to be sourced before implementation can begin. For councils, the duty will impact a number of service areas and therefore processes and procedures will need to be adapted accordingly.
- 8.2 A significant national communications exercise is needed to ensure that those who will be captured by the duty are aware of their pending responsibilities. There is currently very little awareness in many sectors.

- 8.3 A substantial training and guidance programme will also need to be developed as part of implementation and should be made available before the new duty comes into force. Guidance/training on undertaking risk assessments, and appropriate and proportionate mitigation measures that meet the legislative requirements will be particularly important. Sample templates for risk assessments and evaluations, and good practice examples will also be welcome. It is also important that guidance and training is reviewed and refreshed regularly to reflect changes to risks and threats over time.
- 8.4 A particular concern is that many organisations potentially within scope of the duty would have little experience or expertise in the counter-terrorism field, including few local authority officers.
- 8.5 These issues require the urgent appointment of the regulator and central guidance to be made available. This would help to alleviate the additional resources burdens on councils in responding to local queries.
- 8.6 Prior to implementation of the duty, Government should look to learn from any relevant schemes or pilot programmes. This would help to inform the implementation of the duty and to determine what guidance and support will be necessary for the bodies, organisations and individuals to which the new duty applies. An important consideration in preparing any guidance will be the different circumstances faced by different types of local authority, as well as the different local contexts in different parts of the country.

## LGA Annual Culture, Tourism and Sport Conference: update

### Purpose of Report

For information.

**Is this report confidential? No**

### Summary

This paper provides an update on the LGA Annual Culture, Tourism and Sport conference. The Board is asked to note the paper and to share their views on the conference.

**LGA Plan Theme:** Communications and events

#### Recommendation(s)

That the Board Members note the contents of the report and share their views on the conference, including:

1. Confirmation of South Tyneside as the selected location
2. An in-person event as opposed to hybrid
3. The key theme of 'change' for the event
4. The funding of four places from the Department for Culture, Media and Sport

#### Contact details

Contact officer: Megan Kidd

Position: NGDP Graduate

Phone no: 07766 251752

Email: [megan.kidd@local.gov.uk](mailto:megan.kidd@local.gov.uk)

## LGA Annual Culture, Tourism and Sport Conference

### Background

1. The LGA Annual Culture, Tourism and Sport (CTS) conference is the CTS Board's flagship event. It is an opportunity for elected members and officers with responsibility for and an interest in culture, tourism, and sport to come together and hear the latest policy thinking, share learning and network.
2. The theme of the CTS 2023 conference was levelling up and tackling inequalities. The conference discussed how culture, tourism and sport services are responding to the cost-of-living crisis, their own financial issues, and their role in levelling up. The conference was held as a hybrid event at 18 Smith Square. This allowed delegates to attend either in person or online, while minimising the LGA's costs for this experimental format. While the event was delivered successfully from a technical perspective, a number of delegates commented unfavourably on the hybrid approach, particularly where speakers were online.
3. Speakers for the event included keynotes from LGA President and Paralympian Baroness Tanni Grey-Thompson and Baroness Lola Young, Chair of the LGA's Commission on Culture and Local Government. 66 delegates attended in person and 39 attended online.
4. The conference is part of the core LGA conference programme and events offer, which means it is a chargeable event, expected to generate income for the LGA. It is supplemented by a wide range of free webinars that the policy team deliver over the year.
5. The event is designed to tour the country, which allows us to showcase innovative or interesting practice in the host location. This makes an effective partnership with the council host a critical part of the decision making when choosing the location of the conference. Previous locations have included City of London, Portsmouth, Hull, Bristol, and Leicester.
6. Feedback from previous events has stressed the importance of network opportunities and the ability to discuss issues, rather than simply listen to presentations.

### Proposal

7. The proposed theme for the conference this year is 'change' and will be exploring what devolution within cultural services looks like, sustainability within cultural, leisure and sports services, and how equality, diversity and inclusion can promote positive change in participation within culture, tourism, and sport.
8. The proposed location for the conference is [South Shields Town Hall](#) in South Tyneside. South Tyneside is rich with arts and cultural venues, and the area boasts impressive coastlines, parks, and green open spaces as well as hosting a variety of sports and leisure activities ranging from wall-climbing to canoeing. A hybrid event was considered but has not been recommended because of the high complexity and IT costs involved in running a hybrid event outside of Smith Square.
9. The proposed date for the board is Tuesday 5 March 2024

10. We have examined the transport links to South Tyneside and while there is not a direct rail link to the rest of the country, it is a 26 minute metro connection direct from Newcastle, which is a mainline station. The venue is then a short distance from the station. We believe this will be acceptable to delegates.
11. Previous exploratory work with Knowsley Council to take the conference to Shakespeare North was unsuccessful as the venue was booked during the key dates, and the alternative venue would have required delegates to take taxis to the venue. There was also no facility for suitable walking tours at the alternative venue.
12. Below is a draft agenda for the session – timings are subject to confirmation from the LGA's events team.

<b>Session</b>	<b>Time</b>
Registration and refreshments	09.15
Walking tours: 1. Culture and heritage (or) 2. Tourism (or) 3. Sport	10.00-11.00
Keynote speech: Welcome to South Tyneside – Speaker TBC	11.00-11.05
Ministerial speech – Speaker TBC	11.05-11.20
Facilitated discussion session: what changes can be made within national systems to support the delivery of culture, tourism and sport within local authorities?	11.20-12.20
Lunch, networking and exhibition	12.20-13.05
Group session: sustainability within culture, tourism and sport	13.05-13.55
Panel session: Equality, diversity and inclusion within culture, tourism and sport – Panel TBC	13.55-14.40
Coffee & networking	14.40-15.15
Workshops 1. Routemaps for sustainability within cultural and leisure services (or) 2. Inclusion within cultural and services (or) 3. Co-design and digital approaches within cultural services	15.15-15.50
Closing remarks and close	15.50-16.00

4. The event will be used to launch and promote discussion of the following pieces of work:
- 4.1. Devolution think pieces on culture – an exploration of what devolution means in the context of a service that is already locally led.
- 4.2. Routemaps for sustainability in culture and leisure – new guides to support councils to deliver and commission adaptation for their culture and leisure services.

5. Members are also asked to agree the addition of an exhibition space within the conference venue. This would include the opportunity for external bodies including charities and arms-length organisations to set up a stand for delegates. This exhibition space could also include the opportunity for delegate authorities to bring their own poster exploring the theme of 'change' within their local authority and would be open throughout the day and as an alternative option to the walking tours.

### Implications for Wales

6. Welsh authorities are eligible to register for the conference at the same rate as English member councils.

### Financial Implications

7. Costs for the event will need to be covered by delegate fees.
8. We are also proposing to fund the places of four attendees from the Department for Culture, Media and Sport from the heritage, tourism, sport and libraries team. This would be to encourage national government to engage with the event and to support the LGA's lobbying efforts. This would use £1000 from the Board budget and would remain within planned expenditure. Members are invited to share their views on this proposal.

### Equalities implications

9. A diverse range of speakers will be identified, ensuring a variety of perspectives and experiences are heard, and demonstrating a range of leadership roles, from different geographies and political backgrounds.

### Next steps

10. Board members are invited to suggest suitable speakers or areas of good practice in change including sustainability and inclusion within culture, tourism, or sport services.
11. Officers will develop the programme in line with Board members comments and present a proposed final programme at the next Board meeting.
12. Officers will implement any actions arising from the Board meeting and will begin to promote the event.

## Improvement Programmes

### Purpose of Report

For information.

**Is this report confidential? No**

### Summary

This paper updates the Board on the improvement programmes, including those delivered under contract for Arts Council England and Sport England.

**LGA Plan Theme:** Supporting local people and places

### Recommendation(s)

#### That the Board:

- Promote these improvement offers to their councils and colleagues
- Consider volunteering to act as a peer member in support of the programmes
- Identify any future improvement support that could be incorporated into existing programmes, or developed as a new programme in the new financial year.

### Contact details

Contact officer: Helen Hull

Position: Adviser - Productivity

Phone no: 07825 531558

Email: [Helen.Hull@local.gov.uk](mailto:Helen.Hull@local.gov.uk)

## Improvement Programmes

### Background

1. The LGA provides a range of improvement support for councils for physical activity and cultural services.
2. Much of this work is delivered as a result of contracts established with Arts Council England and Sport England. These contracts are reviewed on a regular basis and have grown from around £25 000 in 2016 to their current level, reflecting the positive impact of these programmes on delegates.
3. The LGA also undertakes a small number of improvement activities using core budgets. These are typically pilots activities, exploring the level of demand in the sector, or experimenting with new delivery models.
4. A sample programme for a councillor event is annex A as an illustration of activity.

### Sport and physical activity improvement programmes

5. The LGA's sport and physical activity programmes are funded by Sport England via a lottery grant. These programmes provide leadership skills support to senior local authority officers and councillors. The programmes help attendees to develop skills, such as systems thinking, to lead their organisations to develop sustainable, place-based approaches with local communities to help tackle issues, such as health inequalities, cost of living financial pressures and climate change.
6. In 2022/23:
  - 6.1. 47 councils were supported through sport and physical programmes, including 56 officers supported through 3 themed officer alumni sessions
  - 6.2. 54 officers were supported through 3 senior officer leadership programmes
  - 6.3. 100 per cent of respondents said they felt more confident in performing their role after attending the programme.
7. The current LGA contract with Sport England (contract value £868,978) has been extended for several years, largely due to changes in programme format during COVID-19. The contract will end in February 2024.
8. The LGA has submitted a bid to Sport England to provide a 3 year programme of improvement support to councillors. This bid is designed to offer a range of support for both new portfolio holders and more experienced councillors. New programme content will be co-created with the Culture, Tourism and Sport Board, to ensure the councillor voice runs throughout the programmes.
9. The LGA is in discussion with Sport England regarding future officer programmes, with a view to developing a proposal aligned to Sport England's strategy for local place-based leadership. An update will be provided to the Culture, Tourism and Sport Board when further information is available.



### **Scheduled programmes 2023-24**

10. These programmes are funded from the current contract.

- 10.1. 1 November 2023 – Officer alumni session: Capturing value (online)
- 10.2. 1 December 2023 – Officer alumni session: Integrated Care Systems (online)
- 10.3. 6 – 8 December 2023 – Train the trainer: a programme to train new facilitators to support local leadership programmes
- 10.4. 8– 10 January 2024 – Officer leadership programme
- 10.5. February 2024 (date to be confirmed) – Councillor leadership programme

### **Cultural services improvement programmes**

11. The LGA's cultural services improvement programmes are funded by Arts Council England via a lottery grant (contract value £165,699). These programmes provide leadership skills support to senior local authority officers and councillors and provide culture and library peer challenges to councils.

12. In 2022/23:

- 12.1. 45 councils were supported through programmes, including through eight culture and library peer challenges
- 12.2. 20 councillors were supported through 'Leadership Essentials' culture programme
- 12.3. 21 officers were supported through senior officer leadership programme (50 per cent of attendees were from Arts Council England priority places and levelling up for culture places)
- 12.4. 98 per cent of respondents rated the overall programme as excellent or good.

### **Officer programmes**

13. In 2023/24, the LGA offers two officer improvement programmes:

- 13.1. 24 & 25 January 2024 - New and emerging senior library officers programme, supporting new post holders and officers on the career pathway to senior management roles.
- 13.2. (January to May 2024) Senior officer leadership programme - a six session online programme, for experienced lead officers for culture and library services. The programme features peer case studies and wider speakers (for example the University of Leeds). Each session features a topical theme. THE 2023 programme included: health and wellbeing, community engagement, collaborative working with councillors and climate change.

## **Councillor programmes**

14. In 2023/24, the LGA offers two councillor improvement programmes

- 14.1. 15 & 16 November 2023 - Leadership Essentials: Culture. This year's programme was fully booked within 24 hours. The programme features presentations on a range of cross-cutting topics and includes speakers from DCMS, St. Helens Council, Bath and North East Somerset Council and Hackney Council. This programme will be co-hosted by Culture Tourism and Sport Board member, Cllr Darryl Smalley, City of York Councillor. Please see attached (Annex) the agenda for the Leadership Essentials: Culture programme.
- 14.2. 27 November 2023 - The value of culture for economic growth. This online session takes place in November and is fully booked. The session is aimed at economic growth portfolio holders and focuses on how culture can be an enabler for economic growth. The speakers include: Creative Industries, British Libraries Commercial and IP Centre and Luton Borough Council. This session will be co-hosted by Culture Tourism and Sport Board member, Cllr Michael Graham, Wakefield Councillor.

## **Culture and library peer challenges**

15. In the 2023/24 programme, there are 14 peer challenge opportunities for councils. These are mainly online, but this year there are also a few opportunities for face to face peer challenges.

16. The peer challenges take place across two days and can cover a range of themes, including:

- Heritage initiatives
- Tackling health inequalities
- Community engagement
- Wellbeing
- Reducing loneliness and isolation
- Income generation
- Alternative delivery models
- Co-location
- Working with partners
- Climate change
- Contribution to wider strategic outcome

17. These peer challenges involve a peer team working to a focused brief that has been developed with the council. The process is designed to be supportive and transparent and to provide insights and good practice that can be included in the council's strategic activity. The peer team comprises an externally appointed peer challenge manager, officer peer, member peer and a representative from Arts Council England.

18. In the last year the LGA has delivered the following peer challenges:

- 18.1. London Borough of Camden Council – library

- 18.2. Bath and North East Somerset Council – culture
- 18.3. Wiltshire County Council – library
- 18.4. London Borough of Brent Council – culture
- 18.5. Luton Borough Council – library
- 18.6. Braintree District Council - culture

19. Scheduled and available peer challenges for 2023/24:

19.1. **Culture (3 peer challenge opportunities)**

19.1.1. Scheduled: 22-23 November, Telford and Wrekin Council, culture peer challenge (face to face)

19.1.2. Available: 2 online peer challenges

19.2. **Libraries (14 opportunities available)**

19.2.1. Successful applications from Salford City Council and Brighton and Hove Council (awaiting dates)

19.2.2. Available: 3 face to face peer challenges and 4 online peer challenges

## Visitor economy training

20. The LGA is offering a pilot leadership development course on the visitor economy for officers. This is the first time this training has been offered and it is being funded from the CTS Board's policy budget. Almost 90 applications were received for the 20 places available, indicating there is strong demand for future training opportunities.

21. The course comprises three online webinars. Two have taken place with the final session on 23 November. Feedback so far has been positive, with delegates providing practical suggestions to improve future iterations, some of which have already been built into sessions.

22. Although originally open to English councils only, as the WLGA provides improvement support to Welsh councils, there was strong interest in attending from Welsh officers. A place was subsequently made available to Welsh authorities to reflect this.

23. There is no obvious external funder for this work, so consideration will need to be given at the Board's budget process in March as to whether further training is commissioned.

## Implications for Wales

24. Most of this work is England only, as the funders are responsible only for English councils, and the WLGA provides improvement support to Welsh councils. However, one place for a Welsh authority was established for the visitor economy training.

## Financial Implications

25. All work is being delivered within planned budgets. Negotiations are underway for future contracts with the Government funders.

## Equalities implications

26. Each course selects speakers and case studies with diversity in mind. Delegates are given the opportunity in advance of all sessions to communicate any adaptations that would maximise their learning experience.

## Next steps

27. Please can the Culture Tourism and Sport Board:

- 27.1. Be advocates for the programmes and help us to promote the programmes across wider LGA and council boards, to all councils and within their own organisations.
- 27.2. Cultural services programmes are under-represented in the North of England, particularly in the North East and North West, and we would value board members' help to advocate in these areas (alongside the work we are doing with regional teams and networks).
- 27.3. Express an interest to the political group offices to be a member peer for future culture or library peer challenges. There are only a small number of member peers with culture or library experience, which can limit peer team availability for peer challenges.

## Annex A

**Leadership Essentials: Culture Services**

**Date:** Wednesday 15 November – Thursday 16 November 2023

**Venue:** [Radcliffe House, Warwick Conferences, Warwick University, Coventry CV2 7SH](#)

**Facilitator:** Heidi Bellamy, LGA Associate

**Co-host:** [Cllr Darryl Smalley](#), LGA Culture Tourism and Sport Board member (and City of York councillor (LibDem))

**AGENDA****Wednesday 15 November 2023**

Time	Session
7pm	<p><b>Dinner, including after-dinner speaker</b></p> <p>Speaker: Cllr Darryl Smalley, LGA Culture Tourism and Sport Board member (and City of York councillor (LibDem))</p>

Accommodation provided for overnight stay and breakfast.

**Thursday 16 November 2023**

Time	Session
8.45am	<b>Arrival and networking with coffee for a prompt event start of 9am</b>
9am	Welcome and housekeeping
9.05am	Introductions
9.25am	The current context: an update from the LGA Lauren Lucas, Adviser, LGA
9.50am	An update from Arts Council England Laura Dyer MBE, Deputy Chief Executive
10.15am	Table discussions
10.35am	<p>Bath and North East Somerset Council: Variable pricing at Bath and North East Somerset cultural venues</p> <p>Speaker:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">Councillor Paul Roper</a>, Cabinet Member for Economic and Cultural Sustainable Development (LibDem)</li> <li>• Rob Campbell, Head of Heritage Services</li> </ul>
11.05am	Break
11.20am	<p>St Helens Council: Using culture and library services to raise awareness of cross-cutting themes</p> <p>Speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">Councillor Anthony Burns</a>, Cabinet Member for Wellbeing, Culture and Heritage (Labour)</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cath Shea, Arts Development Manager</li> </ul>
11.50am	<p>Hackney Council: Co-creating cultural places with Hackney's local communities</p> <p>Speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">Cllr Chris Kennedy</a>, Cabinet member for health, adult social care, voluntary sector and culture (Labour)</li> <li>• Petra Roberts, Strategic Service Head for Culture, Libraries and Heritage Engagement, Culture and Organisational Development</li> </ul>
12.20pm	Panel discussion
12.40pm	<b>Lunch – please be back for a prompt 1.30pm start</b>
1.30pm	<p>The Department for Digital, Media, Culture and Sport: The Valuing Culture and Heritage Capital Framework</p> <p>Speaker:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">Harman Sagger</a>, Head Economist for Arts, Heritage and Tourism</li> </ul>
2pm	<p>Arts Council England: Cultural compacts</p> <p>Paul Bristow, Director for Strategic Partnerships</p>
2.30pm	Table discussions
2.55pm	Summary
3pm	Close

## Workplan update

### Purpose of Report

For information.

**Is this report confidential? No**

### Summary

This paper updates the Board on progress against the workplan, and on any major pieces of work since the last meeting.

**LGA Plan Theme:** Governance and finance

### Recommendation(s)

#### That the Board

- Note the progress to date.

### Contact details

Contact officer: Ian Leete

Position: Senior Adviser

Phone no: 020 7664 3143

Email: [ian.leete@local.gov.uk](mailto:ian.leete@local.gov.uk)

## Workplan

### Background

1. The Board agreed the workplan at its first meeting in September. Amendments requested at that board meeting, such as Board dates and future equalities work, have been included in the final workplan in Annex A.
2. Lead members thanked members for their offers to host a Board meeting and visit. They confirmed their preference being to visit Leicester in June, subject to final confirmation. Lead members suggested the Board earmark the June meeting as the preferred option for a council-hosted meeting each cycle.
3. This report updates the Board on progress to date, and highlights any risks to delivery. The report also updates on key activity not built into the workplan.

### Progress

4.

Month	Action	<a href="#">LGA business plan heading</a>	Progress
September 23	Board meeting	Efficient business management	<a href="#">Delivered</a>
October 23	'Promoting health and wellbeing' briefing	Supporting local people and places	<a href="#">Delivered</a>
	'Introduction to archives' webpages	Support for councillors and officers	<a href="#">Delivered</a>
	Tourism levy magazine article	Communications and events	Delayed
	<a href="#">'Moving Communities'</a> webinar	Data and digital	<a href="#">Delivered</a>

5. Other activity that has taken place since the last board meeting includes:

- 5.1. Cllr Chris White spoke at the Tourism Alliance annual conference on the need for a tourism levy, alongside Cllr Adam Hug.
- 5.2. Cllr Liz Green represented the LGA on the new [National Physical Activity Taskforce](#), launched as part of the Government's new sport strategy.
- 5.3. Cllr Peter Golds attended a UKactive Health Summit on the role of sport and leisure services in tackling health issues.



- 5.4. Cllr Liz Green met Emma Squire, Director for Arts, Heritage, and Tourism at the Department for Culture, Media and Sport; and separately Dame Caroline Dinanage, Chair of the Culture, media and sport select committee.
- 5.5. Cllr Liz Green gave evidence to the Culture, media and sport select committee on [women's sport](#).
- 5.6. Cllr Liz Green delivered the keynote speech at a [Why Sports conference on unlocking the potential of physical activity](#).
- 5.7. Ian Leete attended a session of the [Tourism Industry Council](#), focusing on the role of the creative industries in supporting the visitor economy.
- 5.8. Ian Leete attended a [Creative Industries Council](#) growth sub-group meeting on growing the creative industries.

### Risks to delivery

- 6. The initial tender process to deliver on the routemaps to sustainability attracted a lot of interest but no final bidders. We are undertaking an engagement exercise with key potential bidders to understand why this was the case, and will re-tender once this has been clarified. We believe it will still be possible to deliver in time for March 2024.
- 7. It has proven difficult to move forward on the Tourism levy article for *first* magazine. Manchester City Council are partners in the levy but do not own the activity. We were able to ensure CTS issues were covered through featuring the [article on the value of twinning](#) by Cllr Liam Robinson, Leader of Liverpool City Council, which was brought forward and featured in the October edition of *first*.
- 8. All other activities are on track to be delivered as planned and within budget.

### Implications for Wales

- 9. There are no implications for Wales.

### Financial Implications

- 10. All work is on track to be delivered within planned budgets.

### Equalities implications

- 11. The evidence given to the CMS select committee on women's sport, alongside several recent research articles showing women are not being effectively served by activity provision in parks and leisure centres, has highlighted the importance of the planned call for evidence into effective practice on boosting participation among women and girls.
- 12. In response, we propose focusing the afternoon sessions of the CTS conference in March on participation and inclusion issues, and bringing forward the launch of the call for evidence to this event. It is currently planned for June.

### Next steps

13. Officers will address the issues identified in paragraphs 6 and 7, and move forward on the next items in the workplan.

## ANNEX A

## Workplan

Month	Action	<a href="#">LGA business plan heading</a>
September 23	Board meeting	Efficient business management
October 23	'Promoting health and wellbeing' briefing	Supporting local people and places
	'Introduction to archives' webpages	Support for councillors and officers
	Tourism levy magazine article	Communications and events
	' <a href="#">Moving Communities</a> ' webinar	Data and digital
November 23	Briefing paper on the <a href="#">Chiles, Webster, Batson commission</a>	Reducing inequalities
	Board meeting	Efficient business management
December 23	Visitor economy leadership training, with 'State of the Sector' report	Support for councillors and officers
	Twinning and international relations magazine article (provisional date)	Communications and events
	Show and tell on data and evidence for culture	Data and digital
January 24	'Reaching the less active' briefing	Supporting local people and places
	Board meeting DCMS Secretary of State to attend	Efficient business management
	UK Music webinar on music venues and the visitor economy	Supporting local people and places
February 24		
March 24	Board meeting	Efficient business management
	Culture, Tourism and Sport Conference	Communications and events

	Devolution ‘thinkpieces’	Supporting local people and places
	Arts Council England (ACE) leadership training contract	Support for councillors and officers
	10 culture and library peer challenges	Support for councillors and officers
	Sport England leadership training	Support for councillors and officers
	Routemaps for culture and leisure services	Championing climate change and local sustainability
April 24	Roundtable on supporting young people to be active	Reducing inequalities
May 24	Roundtable on twinning	Supporting local people and places
June 24	Board meeting – Leicester	Efficient business management
	Public and private sector collaboration on sport and activity services	Supporting local people and places
	Call for evidence on supporting women to be active	Reducing inequalities
July 24	LGA annual conference	Communications and events
August 24		
TBC items	Roundtable for local government specialist groups	Supporting LG Workforce
	Short term lets response	Supporting local people and places
<b>2024/25</b>		
September 24	Publish results of call for evidence on supporting women to be active	Reducing inequalities
	Launch call for evidence on supporting people with disabilities to be active (drawing on We are Undefeatable campaign)	Reducing inequalities
January 25	Publish results of call for evidence on supporting people with disabilities to be active	Reducing inequalities

March 25	Roundtable on supporting older people to be active	Reducing inequalities
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## Culture, Tourism and Sport Board – Report from Cllr Liz Green (Chair)

### Culture, Tourism and Sport Board visit to Plymouth

1. The LGA's Culture, Tourism and Sport Board held their final meeting of 2022/23 in Plymouth, where they were hosted by Board member Cllr Jemima Laing and Leader of Plymouth Council, Cllr Tudor Evans.
2. The Board agenda included a presentation from Tracey Crouch MP, updating the Board on progress following the publication of her Fan-led Review of Football Governance. It also included presentations from Lindsey Hall, Chair of Plymouth Culture and James Mackenzie-Blackman, CEO of Plymouth's Theatre Royal.
3. Following the formal meeting, the Board had the opportunity to visit some of Plymouth's rich cultural sites including tours of:
  - 3.1 The Market Hall: 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.
  - 3.2 The TR2 Production and Learning Centre: A sister site to the Theatre Royal, Plymouth, TR2 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.
  - 3.3 The Box: [The Box](#) is a museum, gallery and archive, which opened in 2020, following major investment and refurbishment by Plymouth Council. It 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.
4. The new Board for 23/24 met on 13 September and agreed a work programme and lobbying lines for the year, which includes calling for a Royal Commission on

the future of public leisure and culture facilities. During this year, we will work closely with other boards across the LGA to deliver a joined-up programme of support and lobbying work for and on behalf of our communities. Key areas of focus include:

- 4.1 Supporting better use of evidence across the sector, and coordinating national partners investing in data collection
- 4.2 Helping councils to become intelligent commissioners of projects to improve sustainability and reduce energy usage in culture and sport venues
- 4.3 Setting the agenda on devolution of culture and thinking about practical ways to deliver place-based investment
- 4.4 Advocating for investment tools and place-based management tools to manage the visitor economy, including a tourism levy and regulation of short-term lets.

## The Government's Creative Industries Sector Vision

5. The LGA has welcomed the Government's new Creative Industries Sector Vision, developed in partnership with the Creative Industries Council. It sets out how the government and industry will work together to unlock the growth potential of the creative industries to 2030 and beyond.
6. The Culture, Tourism and Sport Board is represented by Cllr Phil Seeva, and Cllr Peter Golds from September 2023, on the Regions and Clusters group of the Creative Industries Council, where they advocate on behalf of councils and promotes evidence of their contribution to the creative economy. This Group is being reformed but local government representation on replacement bodies is confirmed.
7. The Vision commits to strengthening the Government's collaboration with the Local Government Association, local authorities and leaders to support them in the development of local creative industries strategies.
8. The accompanying press release also outlines a series of new funding commitments from government. This includes further investment in the Creative Industries Clusters programme, which was a key recommendation of the LGA's Commission on Culture and Local Government.

## LGA Culture Commission

9. The LGA continues the Board's work on the Culture Commission with the Chief Cultural and Leisure Officers Association (CLOA), Arts Council England and other partners.



10. In the first half of 2023, the team took the findings and recommendations out around the country, running a series of regional roundtables and presenting the report at key sector events, including: a high-level cultural roundtable in the north-east; a conference on cultural education in the north-west; a cultural summit in Birmingham; Libraries Connected's annual conference; Arts Council England's Cultural Compacts conference; the Museum Organisations sector group; and the What Next meeting.
11. We are now establishing a Local Government Cultural Action Partnership with CLOA to collaborate on securing the delivery of the Commission's recommendations and advocate for the role of local publicly funded culture and a local, regional and national level.

### **LGA/Arts Council England Councillor Sounding Board for Libraries**

12. The LGA and Arts Council England work together on the bi-annual Councillor Sounding Board for Libraries. This is co-chaired by Cllr Julie Jones-Evans in her role as the LGA's Libraries Champion, alongside Arts Council England Library Director Luke Burton.
13. The latest meeting took place on the 27<sup>th</sup> September and provided an opportunity for members of the group to discuss resilience in the library sector and receive updates on projects including: library data; Green Libraries; Baroness Sanderson's Library Strategy; and the Library On programme to improve the digital visibility of library websites.

### **Swimming Pool Support Fund**

14. Members and officers have continued to work with DCMS and Sport England on the design and launch of the [£63 million swimming pool support fund](#), which will now also be matched by a further £20 million capital funding from Sport England's own funds. The £20 million revenue element of the fund was announced in September with 103 councils successful in their bids. This equates to just under 50 per cent of the applicants who applied for funding and will impact 23.5 million swimmers who currently use those facilities. The capital element of the Fund is open for bidding, and is expected to be equally over-subscribed.

### **Government Sport Strategy**

15. Government has launched their new 'Get Active' sport strategy, aiming to boost

activity levels by reaching those who are currently least active. The strategy recognises the LGA's leadership programmes for councillors and officers, and commits to develop a new national vision for facilities. The strategy also launched a new National Physical Activity Taskforce, which met in No 10 Downing Street on 27 September, and was attended by Cllr Liz Green.

## Visitor economy leadership training

16. The Board has developed some leadership training to support officers working on the visitor economy, complementing the work already provided on culture and sport. The visitor economy has emerged as a growth area for many councils, a number of whom are developing visitor strategies for the first time. Almost 90 applications were received for the 20 places available. Cllr Liz Green is facilitating the three sessions.

### Contact details

Contact officer: Ian Leete

Position: Senior Advisor

Phone no: 07931 374 876

Email: [ian.leete@local.gov.uk](mailto:ian.leete@local.gov.uk)

## Minutes of last Culture, Tourism & Sport Board meeting

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### Culture, Tourism & Sport Board

Wednesday, 13 September 2023

Hybrid Meeting - 18 Smith Square and Online

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#### Attendance

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

Item	Decisions and actions
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#### 1 Chair's Welcome, Apologies and Substitutes, Declarations of Interest

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

The Chair thanked the previous Chair, Cllr Gerald Vernon-Jackson, and the Board Members for their work over the past year.

Apologies were received by Cllr Lewis, Cllr Henry, Cllr Ashworth and Cllr Ridley. Cllr Higgins, Cllr Barnett-Ward and Cllr Simpson attended as substitutes.

The following declarations of interest were made:

- Cllr Jones-Evans declared an interest as an Arts Council Member (South West).
- Cllr Laing declared a standing interest as an Arts Council Member (South West).
- Cllr Hug declared an interest as a Member of the Board of Trustees of the Royal Parks.
- Cllr White declared an interest as a Member of Visit Hertfordshire.

#### 2 Introductions - Board Members

The Chair invited all of the Board Members present to introduce themselves and state which Council they were from.

The Chair asked Members to refer to the table within the agenda pack and report any incorrect or missing information to Emma West, Member Services Officer.

The information contained within the agenda pack was noted without discussion.

#### 3 Introductions - LGA Officers

The Chair invited all of the officers present to introduce themselves and state which team they worked in.

The information contained within the agenda pack was noted without discussion.

#### **4 Board Responsibilities and Roles**

**Ian Leete, Senior Policy Adviser**, presented a series of slides to the Board which set out information related to the Board's responsibilities, roles and remit.

In response to questions from Members, Ian confirmed that:

- Pubs and restaurants were covered within the Safer and Stronger Community Board's remit in terms of licensing side, although the Culture, Tourism and Sport Board focused on the impact that pubs and restaurants had from a hospitality and tourism aspect.
- The British Film Institute is part of the creative industries, although recent work has been with Filming in England.

The Chair suggested that one meeting a year be hosted outside of London, the location would be agreed at a future Lead Member meeting. The Chair encouraged all Board Members to submit their location suggestions to Ian or to Member Services. Board Members supported this.

#### **5 Minutes of the last meeting**

The minutes of the meeting held on 21 June 2023 were agreed as an accurate record, subject to the meeting's location being amended from *'Hybrid Meeting'* to *'Microsoft Teams & Market Hall, Duke St, Devonport, Plymouth, PL1 4PS'*.

Board Members thanked Cllr Tudor Evans, OBE, and Cllr Jemima Laing for hosting such an informative day at Plymouth.

#### **6 Culture, Tourism and Sport Board Terms of Reference and Outside Body Appointments**

Cllr Laban nominated, and Cllr Jory seconded, Cllr Golds to be appointed as the Board's Creative Industries Council (CIC) representative. Board Members supported this.

As Cllr Higgins was an LGA peer for libraries, Ian and the Chair suggested that he work alongside Cllr Jones-Evans in her role as Library Champion for the Board, and that he join the Library Sounding Board.

#### **Decision:**

- Board Members noted the report and Cllr Golds' appointment as the Board's CIC representative.

#### **7 Lobbying Priorities**

**Ian Leete, Senior Policy Adviser**, introduced the paper which outlined some key lobbying priorities for culture, tourism and sport services which would inform the LGA's programme of advocacy and engagement with political parties and stakeholders ahead of the general election.

Members discussed the following topics as possible lobbying priorities for the Board:

- Reinforced autoclaved aerated concrete (RAAC)
- Short-term lets
- Overnight stays – Air BnB
- Tax-free shopping
- VAT reductions for the tourism and hospitality industries
- Support for those unable to spend money on leisure, sport, and entertainment facilities as a result of the cost-of-living crisis.
- Long-term future of leisure facilities
- A licensing review to better support the hospitality sector and licensing venues to thrive.
- Support to address highstreet decline

Members asked questions and made additional comments, which included the following:

- A question was asked which related to the impact of councils issuing S114 notices and their spend on non-statutory services.
- It was suggested that a report on Martyn's Law be brought to a future meeting of the Board.
- More information related to the DCMS participation survey, and its results were requested.
- More information related to productivity and employment and skills data was requested.

Ian responded to Members' comments and questions:

- With regards to short-term lets, the legislation was included within the Levelling Up and Regeneration Bill. The LGA were currently debating what to put forward for the King's Speech and felt concerned that the Bill may not be included.
- A briefing note could be submitted to Board Members to agree an LGA position on tax-free shopping. The LGA had previously supported industry positions on VAT reduction.
- In relation to the cost-of-living crisis and the impact that it had had on councils, arms-length bodies continued to look at perception surveys and what people were spending their money on. The survey had proven that people were spending less on sports and leisure facilities as their incomes had reduced, meaning that services had been affected as a result. The LGA had a cost-of-living hub on its website which had been designed to share best practice and help councils to support their residents with the rise in the cost of living.
- A sense-checking exercise could be carried out in relation to S114 notices and the impact on spending.
- Regarding Martyn's Law, an LGA colleague could be invited to the next meeting of the Board to provide an update. More information

would be circulated to the Board via a briefing note outside of the meeting.

- A future board meeting will be dedicated to exploring the data and evidence available to the sector, and will include a presentation from DCMS.

**Decision:**

- Board Members agreed that the following priorities would be added to the lobbying lines:
- Calling for a Royal Commission on the long-term future of leisure and culture facilities

**Action:**

- Officers to note and act upon Members' suggestions (where appropriate).
- Officers to invite political spokespeople to each board meeting.
- Officers to circulate a briefing note to Members re tax-free shopping and introducing a tourism levy; and previous work on supporting high streets.
- Officers to carry out a sense-checking exercise re s114 notices and the impact on spending.
- Officers to circulate a briefing note to Members re Martyn's Law.
- Officers to explore the possibility of inviting DCMS colleagues to a future meeting of the Board to present their participation survey data.

## 8 Culture, Tourism and Sport Board Workplan

**Ian Leete, Senior Policy Adviser**, introduced the paper which outlined the planned deliverable outputs for the Board during the coming year.

Members suggested that the following topics be included in the Board Workplan:

- Creative Industries
- Sports and physical activity for older people and those with disabilities
- Underrepresentation of different cultures and faiths in sporting events

Members asked questions and made comments, which included the following:

- The importance of including communities of identity as well as groups of people with protected characteristics and creating a joined-up approach whilst still devolving to communities, was emphasised.
- A question was asked which related to think tank experts.
- A question was asked which related to the rapid decline in library use.
- It was suggested that the workplan include all the Board's

meetings within the cycle and a schedule of upcoming work for each of the meetings.

- The Chair asked officers to provide a link to Board Members to the monthly bulletin, as well as other key dates.

Ian responded to Members' comments and questions:

- Whilst there were concerns around library participation levels, analysis work continued to be undertaken.
- A significant amount of work had already been undertaken on creative industries; this would be circulated to Board Members.
- Further work related to protected characteristics would be undertaken in the following Board cycle.

**Decision:**

- Board Members noted the report.

**Action:**

- Officers to provide a link to Board Members to the monthly bulletin, as well as other key dates.
- Officers to schedule work related to protected characteristics.
- Lead members will raise the issue of the decline in pub numbers with the safer & stronger communities board; and supporting the high street with the Local Infrastructure and Net-Zero Board.

## 9 **Get Active: a strategy for the future of sport and physical**

**Samantha Ramanah, Adviser**, introduced the report which summarised the key points from the Government's new sports strategy which was published on 30 August 2023. It offers the LGA's view on the strategy based on established policy lines.

Members asked questions and made comments, which included the following:

- Concerns were raised which related to the strategy's funding stream and how Government would be held accountable for delivery.
- Members agreed that local government must be represented on the National Physical Activity Taskforce
- The importance of focusing more on physical activity rather than sport was emphasised, as physical activity was a stepping stone to then participating in sport for some.
- With regards to active travel infrastructure, the importance of encouraging and supporting people to make journeys in physically active ways was emphasised.
- A question was asked which related to collaboration with the NHS.
- Working closely with other LGA Boards such as the Children and Young People Board and Community Wellbeing Board was welcomed.
- A view was expressed which related to health and wellbeing and

the need for there to be a link to education and young people.

- The importance of future-proofing leisure centres was emphasised.
- A question was asked which related to the recovery of leisure and sport centres post Covid-19 pandemic, as well as the network of organisations supporting physical activity.

Sam noted the Members' comments and confirmed that further information would be provided to Members regarding the funding for the strategy.

**Decision:**

- Board Members noted the report.

**Action:**

- Officers to provide further information to Members regarding the funding for the strategy.
- Officers to write to Ministers seeking a place for local government on the National Physical Activity Taskforce.

**10 Any Other Business**

- a) Reinforced Autoclaved Aerated Concrete (RAAC) update

**Ian Leete, Senior Adviser**, provided a brief verbal update on RAAC. The update was noted without discussion.



**Appendix A -Attendance**

Position/Role	Councillor	Authority
Chairman	Cllr Liz Green	Kingston upon Thames Royal Borough Council
Vice-Chairman	Cllr Julie Jones-Evans	Isle of Wight Council
Deputy-chairman	Cllr Tracey Dixon	South Tyneside Council
	Cllr Joanne Laban	Enfield Council
Members	Cllr Michael Graham	Wakefield City Council
	Cllr Elly Cutkelvin	Leicester City Council
	Cllr Jemima Laing	Plymouth City Council
	Cllr Adam Hug	Westminster City Council
	Cllr Peter Golds CBE	Tower Hamlets Council
	Cllr Linda Robinson	Wychavon District Council
	Cllr Neil Jory	West Devon Borough Council
	Cllr Darryl Smalley	City of York Council
	Cllr Chris White	City and District of St Albans
	Cllr Ian Shipp	West Sussex Council
Apologies	Cllr Jane Ashworth OBE	Stoke on Trent City Council
	Cllr Richard Henry	Stevenage Borough Council
	Cllr Barry Lewis	Derbyshire County Council
	Cllr Gary Ridley	Coventry City Council
In Attendance	Cllr Adele Barnett-Ward	Reading Council
	Cllr James-J Walsh	Lewisham London Borough
	Cllr Jonathan Simpson	Camden London Borough Council
	MBE	
	Cllr Henry Higgins	Hillingdon London Borough

