

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

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**Title:** Culture, Tourism & Sport Board  
**Date:** Wednesday 7 September 2016  
**Venue:** Smith Square 1&2, Ground Floor, Local Government House, Smith Square, London, SW1P 3HZ

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### Attendance

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

Item	Decisions and actions	Action
<b>1</b>	<b>Welcome, Apologies and Declarations of Interest</b>  The Chair opened the meeting.  Congratulations were sent to Laura Caton, Senior Adviser, who was now on maternity leave. Members were informed that an interim officer would be appointed to cover Laura's maternity leave.  The Chair welcomed new members to the meeting and thanked continuing members.  He requested that a seating plan for meetings be produced.  Apologies were listed and substitute members attending were noted.  There were no declarations of interest.  <b>Actions:</b>  1. MSO to produce a seating plan for board meetings.	
<b>2</b>	<b>Culture, Tourism and Sport Work Programme 2016/2017</b>  Rebecca Cox, Principal Policy Adviser, introduced the paper, advising the board that key work priorities for 2016/2017 would be:  1. The Libraries Taskforce (with the Department for Culture, Media and Sport). 2. The LGA Tourism and Sport Improvement Programme. 3. The Government's Culture White Paper. 4. Sport England's new strategy. 5. Work with Visit England and Visit Britain (particularly following the integration of Visit England with Visit Britain). 6. Work on devolution. 7. The consequences of Brexit and the effect this would have on	

issues within the Board's remit.

The board was advised that the LGA Leadership Board would be looking at the consequences of Brexit when it met on the 14<sup>th</sup> September. Members were asked if there were any points they would like to feed into this discussion.

The Chair introduced the new Deputy-Chairman of the board, Cllr Paul Bettison OBE, who had attended the maiden speech of the new Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport in Liverpool on Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> August.

Cllr Bettison feedback the following points to the board:

1. It was significant a city of culture had been chosen for the speech's location.
2. Then Minister had emphasised the need to balance cultural funding in England as many places could be regenerated by culture.
3. Kingston-upon-Hull would be next year's city of culture.

The Chair thanked Cllr Bettison for attending the speech.

In the discussion which followed, members made the following points:

- The board had previously written to Visit England and Visit Britain to express concern about the merge and the need to maintain a distinct voice for tourism in England. Members asked what response had been received.
- Members asked what could be done to ensure Visit England had its own programme and profile. The Chair informed members that he had a meeting with Rob Wilson MP, the Minister for Civil Society, on the 12<sup>th</sup> September and would ensure that he raised this point with him.
- It was suggested that the effect of Brexit on culture and the arts was considered by a sub-committee of the board to ensure that it was clear what the implications of the withdrawal of grant money and funding would be. Members emphasised it would also be important to look at the opportunities Brexit would present and the wider funding issues for culture, tourism and sport. The Chair suggested that lead members discuss this issue at the next lead member meeting and feedback to the board in October.
- It was suggested that the LGA take soundings from councils and ask them what they thought the impact of leaving the EU would be. Members suggested that individual political groups should discuss this issue and feedback at the October board meeting.
- Members were advised that a Brexit bulletin would be issued shortly and that this would be circulated to the board.

**Decision:**

1. The board **agreed** the draft work programme.

**Actions:**

1. Officers to take forward actions in line with members' steer.
2. Officers to circulate the Brexit bulletin.
3. Lead members to discuss the impact of Brexit at the next lead member meeting.

**3 Arts Council England: Shared Statement of Purpose - Laura Dyer, Deputy Chief Executive, Arts Council England**

Paul Bristow, Director of Strategic Partnerships at Arts Council England, introduced the item. It was noted that Laura Dyer, Executive Director for Arts Council England, was unable to attend and sent her apologies.

Members were asked for views on the refreshed statement of purpose between the LGA and the Arts Council. In light of local government's ability to help with policy developments and as local leaders on culture, local authorities were the Arts Council's most important strategic partners.

The potential impact of business rates retention and devolution on both organisations was discussed and how to adapt approaches in view of this. It was emphasised that the Arts Council would be keen to engage with combined authorities as devolution deals developed and it became clear which aspects of devolution would support the arts and culture.

Grants for the arts were discussed. Members were advised that the 2015-2018 funding cycle was currently ongoing and preparations for the 2018-2022 cycle were beginning (the cycle was being extended from 3 years to 4). Libraries would soon have the opportunity to apply for a wider range of grants (the scheme would be renamed grants for the arts and culture). The Arts Council were considering how they could encourage applicant to support the creative industries and how funding streams could relate to place-based opportunities.

Arts Council funded projects were discussed - both the 'Great Place Scheme' and the 'Cultural Citizens Programme', would give individuals and places the opportunity to engage in arts and culture. Members were also notified about the ongoing Arts Council Tailored Review which would examine the Arts Council's efficiency. The organisation's partners would be encouraged to respond to this.

The board was also informed that a paper on the issues and opportunities Brexit presented had been taken to the Arts Council's National Council. The effects on the economy, freedom of movement, copyright and intellectual property and the impact on organisations touring abroad had been discussed. The Council's Chief Executive would speak on Brexit and key policy areas affected in due course.

In the discussion which followed, members made the following points:

- Members emphasised that the partnership between the Arts Council and Local Government Association was valued.
- Members asked if libraries would be able to apply for project grants before the 2018 funding cycle began. They were assured that libraries could currently apply for grants - there would simply be a separate funding section for libraries post 2017.
- Members discussed the impact of 100% business rate retention on the funding of the culture and the opportunities this may or may not present. There was concern that this area would be under continued pressure.
- There was concern that some areas (such as CGI animation) relied on arts education to fund them and keep them accessible. Members were advised that the Arts Council were working with government on this and had commissioned work to look into GCSE take up and diversity of arts-based careers.
- Members asked what the deadline for Cultural Citizens Programme was and whether applications for this had now closed.
- There was a discussion on funding challenges for smaller communities and the problems councils now faced in matching funding with the Arts Council for local projects. Some communities would have less exposure to culture as a result. Members were advised that Arts Council and the LGA would need to work together to find alternative sources of funding. It would be easier for the Arts Council to invest in the locality if local government was supportive of the arts and culture.
- Members discussed Brexit and the funds which would no longer be paid into the EU, and whether the Arts Council could be involved in the criteria for the distribution of these funds.
- Members asked if the Arts Council had or would alter the composition of regional offices or staffing in the context of devolution, and were assured that ACE's structures are already decentralised
- In a response to a query on the relationship between the LGA and the Arts Council, members were assured that regular meetings took place between LGA and Arts Council officers. Most recently, the LGA and Arts Council had shared the Autumn Statement lobbying lines.
- There was a discussion on the Arts Council's relationships with local authorities and how this worked within the context of limited funding opportunities. Members were advised that the Arts Council were looking at new ways of working with local government and focusing on places where engagement in the arts was at a low level.

**Decision:**

1. Members **agreed** the draft Arts Council England and LGA Shared Statement of Purpose.

**Actions:**

1. Paul Bristow to clarify the deadline for the Cultural Citizens Programme.
2. Officers to take forward work as directed by members.

**5 Culture, Tourism and Sport Annual Conference 2017**

Jade Nimmo, Events Manager, introduced the item. She advised members that the LGA Culture, Tourism and Sport Conference dates for 2017 had been set for the 22<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> February.

Last year's conference had been a success with 150 delegates attending. However, it was felt that holding the CTS board during the conference had caused minor problems, and it was agreed that lead members would discuss this and the possibility of finding another date for the board at the next lead member meeting.

The proposed timetable for the 2017 conference was explained and members were asked for comments and suggestions.

The following point was made:

- The walking study tours at last year's conference had proved difficult for some delegates with mobility problems. It was suggested that some tours were arranged closer to the venue in 2017, with the option of transport if needed.

**Decision:**

1. Members **noted** the report

**Action:**

1. Officers to take forward work as directed by members.

**6 Outside Bodies**

The Chair introduced the item. It was agreed that lead members would discuss appointments to outside bodies at the next lead member meeting.

**Decisions/Actions:**

1. Lead members to agree the list of outside bodies at the next lead member meeting.
2. Lead members to work with their political group offices to make

these appointments.

## **7 Membership and Terms of Reference**

### **Decision:**

1. The board **noted** membership for 2016/2017 and **agreed** the Terms of Reference.

## **8 Minutes of the Last Meeting**

### **Decision:**

1. The board **agreed** the notes of the last meeting as an accurate summary.

## **9 Any Other Business**

Members requested that the Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport be invited to attend a CTS board meeting and the LGA Culture, Tourism and Sport Conference in 2017.

### **Actions:**

1. Officers to issue an invitation to the SoS to attend a CTS board meeting.
2. Officers to issue an invitation to the SoS to attend the CTS Conference.

**Appendix A -Attendance**

Position/Role	Councillor	Authority
Chairman	Cllr Ian Stephens	Isle of Wight Council
Vice-Chairman	Cllr Paul Bettison OBE Cllr Simon Henig CBE	Bracknell Forest Borough Council Durham County Council
Deputy-chairman		
Members	Cllr Tom Fitzpatrick Cllr Peter Golds CBE Cllr Barry Lewis Cllr Colin Organ Cllr Greg Smith  Cllr Terry O'Neill Cllr Sonja Crisp Cllr Faye Abbott Cllr Muhammed Butt Cllr Alice Perry Cllr Richard Henry Cllr Geoff Knight Cllr Stewart Golton Mark Allman	North Norfolk District Council Tower Hamlets Council Derbyshire County Council Gloucester City Council Hammersmith and Fulham London Borough Council Warrington Council City of York Council Coventry City Council Brent Council Islington Council Stevenage Borough Council Lancaster City Council Leeds City Council
Apologies	Cllr Geraldine Carter Cllr Mike Bell	Calderdale Metropolitan Borough Council North Somerset Council