

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

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**Title:** Culture, Tourism & Sport Board  
**Date:** Friday 20 March 2020  
**Venue:** Smith Square 1&2, Ground Floor, 18 Smith Square, London, SW1P 3HZ and Online Conference Call.

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### Item Decisions and actions

#### 1 Welcome, declarations of interest and apologies

The chair welcomed members to the meeting and noted the boards new role during Covid-19.

Ian Hughes outlined how the LGA was dealing with recent events and supporting councils as the country must make big changes.

Ian Leete highlighted on how the board's work has changed in light of Covid-19, so members can be better supported in their councils.

#### 2 Minutes of the last meeting

Members noted the minutes of Tuesday 21 January 2020.

#### 3 London Marathon Charitable Trust Presentation

Sarah Ridley gave a presentation on the London Marathon Charitable Trust and the grant making objectives of the trust. Sarah Ridley highlighted how the London Marathon operates and how the London Marathon Charitable Trust can benefit local communities outside of London to develop their own similar fundraising projects.

Cllr Richard Henry highlighted that recent events are a learning opportunity for business continuity and the London Marathon Charitable Trust will be sharing best practice on this with local authorities throughout the year.

##### Decision

Members noted the presentation.

#### 4 LGA and Arts Council England (ACE) improvement proposals 2020/21

Lauren Lucas shared with members the LGA's proposed programme of activity for 2020/21 around ACE improvement plans. If members have any further comments, they should contact officers.

##### Decision

Members noted the proposals.

## **5 Exploring the evidence base for culture, tourism and sport**

Lauren Lucas presented to members the work the LGA was doing to ensure that councils are given the tools to demonstrate better the impact of their activities in culture, tourism and sport. She provided an overview of the data currently available to councils, which highlighted the relative lack of data on social impact in culture. The LGA is working with councils, making the case on both the economic impact and social impact of culture and sport.

Members made the following comments

- This is important work by the LGA and it will really highlight the assets councils already have in their communities.

### **Decision**

Members noted the paper.

### **Action**

Officers to get clarify for the board the percentages different types of leisure centre ownership across councils eg Trust, in-house and private contractor.

## **6 Libraries Connected Accreditation**

Isobel Hunter gave a presentation on the Libraries Connected Accreditation and highlighted the project board that has been set up to run the scheme. Isobel Hunter also gave a general update of what libraries will be doing during Covid-19.

Members made the following comments

- Making libraries more accessible and online for residents, including e-books and subscriptions would lessen the damaging cultural impact of library closures.

### **Decision**

Members noted the presentation

## **7 Let's Create**

Ian Leete set out the implications for local government and the LGA's improvement work around the new ACE Strategy.

Members made the following comments

- The strategy needs to be considering the survival of these important services that councils run and facilitate.
- Local government needs a greater voice within the Arts Council of England. Where local government is engaging, it makes a difference, but that voice needs to be continued to be heard.
- With Covid-19, it will be hard to rebuild many local government cultural institutions without serious intervention on a financial level after the lockdown.

**Decision**

Members noted the new direction for ACE.

**8 Tourism levy**

Rebecca Cox gave an update on the timeline of the work around the Tourism levy and asked members to feedback their experiences around tourism in their communities.

**Decision**

Members noted the update.

**9 Outside Bodies- feedback from Members**

Members gave updates on the recent outside body meetings.

**Decision**

Members noted the update.

**10 Any other business**

Members thanked officers for the success of the recent LGA Culture, Tourism & Sport conference.

The chair thanked Rebecca Cox for her support to the board, as she goes on maternity leave.