

16 September 2014

Update on current issues

Purpose of report

For information/ noting.

Summary

This report updates Members on current issues of interest to the Board which are not covered elsewhere in the agenda. Updates are included on:

- Investing in our Nation's future 'First 100' days
- Arts Council England national portfolio funding
- First World War commemorations
- Sport and Physical Activity

Recommendation

Members are asked to note the update.

Action

Officers to action as appropriate.

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Investing in our nation's future: The first 100 days of the next government

1. In July 2014, the LGA launched a new campaign at annual conference 'Investing in our nation's future: The first 100 days of the next government.' <http://100days.local.gov.uk/>
2. Accompanying the report and video, there is a to do list with infographics and a localised data tool which can be used to create your own infographics for your area that you can download for your own use on social media or your website. You can also read what a number of stakeholder organisations would like from the first 100 days of the next government.
3. The CTS Board is contributing to the priorities in the first 100 days campaign through its work on promoting the magna carta 800th anniversary celebrations, triennial review of Visit England and Visit England and funding settlements for arts and sport in England.

Arts Council national portfolio funding programme

4. Arts Council England (ACE) announced on 1 July its three-year investment plan for funding the National Portfolio of 670 arts organisations (NPOs) and 21 Major Partner Museums (MPMs).
5. The funding for the National Portfolio will fall from £341.4 million in 2014/15 to £339.5 million in 2015/16. This is a relatively small reduction thanks to the better than expected arts funding settlement, which the LGA's arts and growth campaign helped to achieve, and also greater use of lottery funding.
6. There will be 46 arts organisations that will join the portfolio and 58 leave, alongside 5 new museums being added, which will ensure a wider geographic spread . The Major partner museum budget has increased to £22.6 million in 2015/16 from £21.5 million.
7. The ACE Strategic funds will reduce to £104 million per annum in 2015/16, from £153 million in 2014/15 and the Grants for the arts budget will increase to £70 million per year from 2015-18, from £63 million a year in 2012-15.
8. The LGA is continuing to make the case for more fairer geographical spread of the various funding pots that ACE distribute and that the NPOs and MPMs that work more collaboratively with councils to maximise resources.
9. More details about the new National Portfolio funding programme <http://tinyurl.com/lkcc8ts>

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First World War Commemorations

10. August 2014 saw the centenary of the outbreak of the First World War. Councils the length and breadth of the country joined with voluntary and community groups to commemorate this historic event, including PALs battalions.
11. National government has made money available, along with the Heritage Lottery Fund. The Imperial War Museum is coordinating the First World War Centenary Partnership, an association of more than 2,900 not-for-profit organisations dedicated to marking the centenary.
12. The LGA has established a resource of information and case studies on its website and will continue to encourage more councils to organise commemorative events over the next four years. The following are two examples of the case studies listed:

Hertfordshire County Council

13. Stories and family memories are being archived online at www.hertsmemories.org.uk to help record the impact of World War I on Hertfordshire and its residents. People can contribute their own articles, photographs and comments, or just have a browse. Poppies planted at the front of County Hall should be in bloom by 4 August, when Richard Smith, Chairman of Hertfordshire County Council, will lower our flag to mark the day 100 years ago that Britain declared war on Germany. Hertfordshire Archives and Local Studies service are running a series of exhibitions and events. For more information go to:
www.hertsdirect.org/services/leisculture/heritage1/commemoratingworldwarone

Reigate-Banstead Borough Council

14. There are a number of activities and events taking place with local groups from music hall sing-a-longs and show-and-tell events, to remembrance events and local history talks. Work is underway to refurbish the borough's seven war memorials and 207 war graves, to ensure they are in pristine condition for the centenary. For more information go to
<http://rbbc.newsweaver.co.uk/Newsletter/lnazk6c9pa3?a=1&p=47370225&t=21529445>
 15. Further information on the LGA website <http://tinyurl.com/n2d45j8>
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Sport and Physical Activity

Moving More Living More events

16. The LGA in partnership with Public Health England, UKActive and the County Sports Partnership Network ran a series of regional events aimed at bringing together the various sectors and organisations involved in promoting physical activity.
17. The 'Moving More, Living More' events took place between 10-17 July 2014 in Birmingham, Leeds, London, Cambridge and Bristol with over 700 delegates from the public, voluntary and private sectors attending.
18. The feedback from the events was very good and many delegates felt that the events enabled them to make contacts with other physical activity providers locally and nationally.
19. The LGA is working with the other partners organise more events and to promote the concept that increases in physical activity levels will best be achieved at a local level with local providers working together to improve the local connectivity of physical activity initiatives. To view information about the programme go to <http://tinyurl.com/m9xtbwb>

Economic value of sport tool

20. All local authorities in England can now show how sport benefits their economy thanks to a new modelling tool launched by Sport England. The 'Economic value of sport – local model' provides each local authority, county sport partnership (CSP) and local enterprise partnership area with estimates on sports' contribution to the local economy in the form of business output and jobs as well as wider benefits like health. It also includes guidance on how to best use this evidence.
21. The newly-created model gives a "snapshot" of the overall value of sport in the local area, indicating the contribution made by businesses and services supporting people playing sport plus the wider interests in sport (e.g. sports broadcasting or spectating at sporting events).
22. The LGA provided feedback during the development of the tool and will complement the work that the LGA and Sport England are undertaking on the political leadership events. To sign up and access the 'Economic value of sport - local model', go to <http://tinyurl.com/ortp2ra>

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Call for 'Obesity Action Fund'

21. The LGA is calling for a fifth of the current VAT on fast food, soft drinks and confectionary to go to councils to tackle the obesity. The extra £1 billion from this share could help transform the lives of the three and half million overweight or obese children in this country. Currently, health problems associated with being overweight or obese cost the country £5 billion, according to government statistics. Read the LGA's press release <http://tinyurl.com/ofshdnz>

Profiles for each local authority in England launched

23. Health Profiles provide summary health information to support local authority members, officers and community partners to lead for health improvement. Health Profiles is a programme to improve availability and accessibility for health and health-related information in England. The Profiles give a snapshot overview of health for each local authority in England. Designed to help local government and health services make decisions and plans to improve local people's health and reduce health inequalities, the Profiles present a set of health indicators that show how the area compares to the national average. View the health profiles here: <http://tinyurl.com/obbfre4>