



## Culture, Tourism and Sport Board – Report from Cllr Gerald Vernon-Jackson CBE (Chair)

### Sports, physical activity and parks

1. The Board is working with partners to ensure Government has a strong evidence base to assess the impact of rising energy costs on the leisure sector, particularly swimming pools.
2. On National Fitness Day we launched a guide on [Identifying additional financing options for public sport and leisure services](#) which highlights different financing options to help sustain the leisure sector and shares learning from a number of councils who are already doing this.
3. On 27 September I met with Tim Hollingsworth, Chief Executive for Sport England to discuss how the cost of living and energy increases might affect sports provision and delivery of Sport England Uniting the Movement strategy
4. On 14 October Cllr Peter Golds spoke at the Why Sports? 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Sports Activity conference about local government working collaboratively with health and wider partners to serve our communities health and wellbeing needs.

### Culture, heritage and libraries

5. On the 21st July Cllr Peter Golds represented the LGA at the fourth and final of the Commission on Culture and Local Government's evidence sessions, which focused on 'place'. The evidence gathering phase of the Commission closed at the end of July, following a very positive response from the sector.
6. On the 5<sup>th</sup> September I represented the LGA at a roundtable discussion on the key findings and recommendations for the Commission's report. Cllr Peter Golds attended a follow-up session on the 10<sup>th</sup> October. We are now working towards a report launch in December.
7. On the 2<sup>nd</sup> August, Cllr Peter Golds gave the keynote address at the Public Policy event *Supporting Local Libraries: Protecting Services & Adapting to the Digital Age* in which he highlighted the innovative ways in which libraries have responded to digital adaptation and the challenges presented by the pandemic.
8. On the 10<sup>th</sup> October I was quoted in a press release announcing the launch of a new LGA case study resource for culture, which showcases the examples of best practice submitted as evidence to the Commission on Culture and Local Government:

18 Smith Square, London, SW1P 3HZ [www.local.gov.uk](http://www.local.gov.uk) Telephone 020 7664 3000 Email [info@local.gov.uk](mailto:info@local.gov.uk)  
Local Government Association company number 11177145

Improvement and Development Agency for Local Government company number 0367557

**Chairman:** Councillor James Jamieson OBE **Chief Executive:** Mark Lloyd CBE **President:** Baroness Grey-Thompson



8.1. "Funding for council cultural services declined by over 40 percent between 2009/10 and 2019/20, but these excellent case studies highlight just how vital culture can be in our communities. Councils understand that we are facing a cost-of-living crisis ahead of the autumn budget, but these integral services must not only be preserved but invested in to support economic, health and creative recovery from the pandemic."

### **Visitor economy**

9. The LGA has submitted a response to the Government's call for evidence on developing a tourist accommodation registration scheme for England. The response highlighted the pressures that the increase in unregulated short-term lets is placing on some local communities and services.

### **Contact details**

Contact officer: Ian Leete

Position: Senior Adviser

Phone no: 0207 664 3143

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