

Meeting: CTS Board

Date: 1 February 2023



Commission on Culture and Local Government

Purpose of report

For information.

Summary

This paper aims to update members on progress of the Commission, including a summary of the launch event and progress on regional roadshows.

Is this report confidential? No

Recommendation/s

That the CTS Board Members note the contents of the report and share their views.

Contact details

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Commission on Culture and Local Government



Launch

1. The Commission on Culture and Local Government was launched on 8 December 2022, with a hybrid event hosted at 18 Smith Square.
2. Chaired by Baroness Lola Young, presentations included a video message from Lord Neil Mendoza, Bobby Seagull, Cllr Vernon-Jackson, Val Birchall and Abby Symonds of the ACE Youth Council. Lord Parkinson, Minister for Arts and Culture, provided a Government response to the report, welcoming the recommendations.
3. There was attendance from organisations across cultural sector, including: Making Music, Creative UK, CultureRunner, National Centre for Creative Health, Mercury Theatre (Colchester), Art Fund, Vision Redbridge Culture and Leisure, Amanda King Associates (arts consultant), CLOA, The National Lottery Heritage Fund, DCMS, Museums Association, Shared Intelligence, Arts Council England, Yeme Architect Ltd.
4. We had 220 people signed-up to attend, with 70 of those being in-person.
5. The feedback survey showed that 92.68% of attendees were very or fairly satisfied with the event.

Comms

6. The Commission has received significant positive interaction online.
 - 6.1. In the lead up to the launch, we posted our four short films focusing on the themes of the commission weekly. They received **32,494** combined impressions, **887** combined engagements and **4,127** combined video views.
 - 6.2. The launch posts on the LGA's corporate Twitter received **49,554** impressions and **977** engagements, placing them in the top 10 posts of the year.
 - 6.3. Event coverage on the CTS Twitter **received 20,167** impressions **and 566** engagements.
 - 6.4. The Cornerstones of Culture report has so far **gained 2,868** total page views and **2,215** unique page views. The report was the 6th most viewed webpage on the website during the week of its launch.
 - 6.5. We sent out two bulletins on launch day – to the advisory group and CTS bulletin subscribers – which drove 1/3 of the traffic to the report.

Press Pickup

7. Press pickup included:
 - 7.1. Local Government Chronicle – [Chair of LGA culture board criticises 'disconnect' with DCMS](#)
 - 7.2. The Stage – [Report outlines recommendations for local councils to improve arts access](#)
 - 7.3. Arts Professional – [Cornerstones of culture | ArtsProfessional](#)

Financial Implications

8. None

Equalities Implications

9. We will ensure a diverse group of voices are represented at the regional roadshows, and will aim to use accessible venues.

Next Steps

10. We are currently planning regional roadshows to share the findings of the report across the country.
 - 10.1. We are planning for these to be in Birmingham, Manchester and Newcastle.
 - 10.2. This will be co-produced with local cultural partners.