

## Culture, Tourism and Sport Board – Report from Cllr Liz Green (Chair)

### Culture

1. Cultural funding has been in the spotlight recently as a number of councils have made announcements about reductions in funding. I wrote an article for [Arts Professional](#) to explain the funding pressures councils are facing, and also contributed to a podcast for the Association of Cultural Enterprises. Cllr Barry Lewis also appeared on BBC Front Row to talk about this.
2. In order to provide a coordinated and impactful voice on the importance of councils to the cultural ecology – as the biggest public investor in culture – the LGA has co-founded a new National Cultural Alliance to bring together local government organisations working on these issues.
3. Cllr Julie Jones-Evans chaired a webinar with UK Music on how councils can support music tourism. This explored in more detail the recommendations from the Here, There and Everywhere report, and included presentations from Liverpool and Cheltenham Councils.
4. Cllr Jones-Evans also represented the LGA at a Reading Agency roundtable, chaired by Lord Parkinson as Libraries Minister, to discuss the findings of their 3-year pilot to extend the reach and impact of the Summer Reading Challenge to disadvantaged communities and with families new to library use.
5. Cllr Darryl Smalley chaired our first leadership essentials session for new and emerging library leaders, funded by Arts Council England. This new offer for officers was significantly over-subscribed and shows the level of demand for free training support for future leaders.

### Sport

6. Cllr Peter Golds attended a children's activity roundtable hosted by Dame Rachel de Souza, Children's Commissioner. Cllr Golds emphasised the importance of joining up the offer from schools and councils, and that this required appropriate funding to make it work.
7. Cllr Gary Ridley hosted our leadership essentials training for portfolio holders with an interest in physical activity, funded by Sport England. This introduces portfolio holders to the latest in national policies and funding, key decision making tools and effective practice from across the sector.
8. Over the next two years the LGA Culture, Tourism and Sport Board will take an in-depth look at a range of inequalities with the aim of sharing effective practice

within the sector. The first of these will focus on [supporting women and girls to be active](#) and the call for evidence now seeking insights and effective practice from members.

## Tourism

9. Government has announced that it will introduce a [registration scheme](#) and a [new planning use class](#) to help councils better manage the mix of visitor accommodation in their areas. This follows sustained lobbying by the LGA and partners. LGA officers will be working with civil servants to develop the detail of the schemes.
  
10. Ian Leete, Senior Adviser, attended the [Tourism Industry Council](#), the joint government and industry advisory body on tourism. This discussed plans to improve skills provision, make the sector more environmentally sustainable, and boost business events.

## Contact details

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