

Outside Bodies

Purpose of report

For information.

Summary

This report has four parts:

- A - Report back on member meetings since 24th November 2015.
- B - Forthcoming meetings.
- C - Latest Chair's Report from Cllr Ian Stephens.
- D - CTS Outside Bodies 2015/16

Recommendation

Members are invited to note the report.

Action

Subject to comments from the Lead Members, officers to take forward any actions.

Contact officer:

Eleanor Reader-Moore

Position:

Members Services Officer

Phone no:

020 7664 3383

E-mail:

eleanor.reader-moore@local.gov.uk

Outside Bodies

A – Report back on Member meetings since 24th November 2015

| Purpose | Key Points Discussed | Outcome |
|---|--|--|
| Cllr Stephens met Quinton Carroll, Chair of the Association of Local Government Archaeological Officers (ALGO) in England on 24th November 2015 | | |
| Catch up following Mr Carroll's attendance at the Cultural White Paper Ministerial Round Table. | The important role of archaeology in preserving what makes places special, the capacity issues facing the sector, different delivery models for archive services and opportunities presented by devolution. | Mr Carroll to attend CTS Board on the 25 th February for the cultural heritage and landscape item. |
| Cllr Stephens met with LGA Chief Executive Mark Lloyd on the 1st December 2015 | | |
| Introductory meeting. | An update on CTS Board current activities. | The Chief Executive was appraised of the CTS Board's work and its contribution to the LGA's corporate work priorities. |
| Cllr Stephens met with LGA Chair Lord Gary Porter on the 1st December 2015 | | |
| Introductory meeting. | An update on CTS board current activities | The Chairman was appraised of the CTS Board's work and its contribution to the LGA's corporate work priorities. |
| Cllr Stephens met with Jeff James, Chief Executive of The National Archives, on the 1st December 2015 | | |
| To update on respective priorities. | Key issues for local archive services. This included the importance of sharing innovative practice, moving to the 20-year rule and plans to mark this year's 400 th anniversary of Shakespeare's death. | Agreed to keep sharing good practice and promote TNA projects to councils. |
| Cllr Stephens spoke at the Leadership Essentials Culture programme on 2nd-3rd December 2015 | | |
| To develop and strengthen political leadership skills amongst councillors with a portfolio for cultural services. | Cllr Stephens spoke about the positive relationship between the LGA and Arts Council England and how this is helping councils meet the challenges facing cultural services, as well as how new delivery models and a single cultural offer may offer a way | 15 portfolio holders supported to lead transformational change of culture. |

| Purpose | Key Points Discussed | Outcome |
|--|---|--|
| | forward. | |
| Cllr Ian Stephens and Cllr Mark Hawthorne, Chair of People and Places Board, met Jesse Norman MP, Chair of the Culture, Media and Sport Committee on the 7th December 2015 | | |
| Introductory meeting with the new chair of the Culture, Media and Sport Committee. | The superfast broadband rollout, the CTS Board's campaign for the Premier League to invest more of its profits in grassroots sport and the LGA's view that national sports funding should be re-balanced through Sport England towards councils and local partners. | Cllr Stephens will keep in touch with the Culture, Media and Sport Committee on their work programme. The LGA will contribute towards relevant inquiries. |
| Cllr Golds attended the Magna Carta 800th Committee reception on the 7th January 2016 | | |
| To represent the Culture, Tourism and Sport Board at the event. | Sir Robert Worcester, Chairman of the Magna Carta 800 th Committee, hosted the event which marked the end of the Magna Carta anniversary year. He thanked partners involved in the anniversary, including local government. | High profile recognition of the role that councils across the country played in the Magna Carta anniversary year. |
| Cllr Stephens attended the 2016 Anniversaries "Parliament in the Making" final event on 21st January | | |
| To represent the Culture, Tourism and Sport Board at the event. | Hosted by the Rt. Hon. John Bercow MP, Speaker of the House of Commons, there was a series of presentations show casing projects across the country for Parliament in the Making. | The LGA contribution was highlighted in the review document 'Parliament in the Making'. |
| Cllr Stephens met with Diane Lees (Chair National Museum Directors' Council) on the 3rd February | | |
| Introductory meeting between Diane Lees and Cllr Stephens. | The current local government context and museums within that, devolution as an opportunity to make the case to government about the economic and social impact of museums, the work councils are doing on the First World War centenary and opportunities for joint work. | The LGA will keep in touch on the ACE support offer and key issues for council funded and supported museums. The NMDC will share good practice case studies with the LGA for its website and bulletin, and will share early thinking on the impact on museums of localised business rates. |
| Cllr Stephens met with Cllr Guy Nicholson (Lead Member for Economy, Tourism and | | |

| Purpose | Key Points Discussed | Outcome |
|--|---|---|
| Culture, London Councils) on the 3rd February | | |
| Introductory meeting between Cllr Guy Nicholson and Cllr Stephens. | The positive relationship with ACE at a national level and the innovation shown by the sector in response to shrinking funding. Opportunities for closer working with London Councils was also discussed. | The LGA will involve London Councils in updating the Practical Statement of Purpose with ACE. |
| Cllr Stephens met with Emma Stewart, Senior Production Manager at Creative England on the 3rd February | | |
| Introductory meeting between Emma Stewart and Cllr Stephens. | Creative England's offer to work with councils to help drive growth through location filming. | Emma will share new case studies for dissemination with the LGA. |
| Cllr Stephens spoke at Inside Government's tourism conference on the 9th February | | |
| To give a keynote address at this national conference. | Cllr Stephens highlighted local government's role creating the conditions for the visitor economy to thrive, opportunities to boost tourism through devolution and the importance of the Discover England Fund complementing local growth priorities. | LGA represented at a high profile conference on a priority policy issue for the Board. |

B – Forthcoming meetings at the time of writing

| Title | Date | Attendees |
|--|---|----------------------------------|
| LGA /CLOA Annual Conference | 24-25 th February, Leicester | CTS Board |
| LGA / Sport England Sport Leadership Essentials Programme | 2 nd – 3 rd March | Arrangements are being finalised |
| Cllr Stephens to meet with Jessica Harris, Cultural Commissioning Programme Manager at NCVO | 3 rd March | Jessica Harris, Cllr Stephens |
| Cllr Stephens to meet Sally Balcombe, Chief Executive of Visit Britain | 17 th March | Cllr Stephens, Sally Balcombe |
| Cllr Stephens to chair the Cultural Commissioning Programme's National Evaluation Conference | 13 th April | Cllr Stephens |
| Cllr Stephens to speak at the Westminster Forum's Creative Industries Conference | 19 th May | Cllr Stephens |

At the time of writing, officers are arranging for Cllr Stephens to meet Ed Vaizey MP, Culture Minister, to discuss the Government's forthcoming Culture White Paper and joint Libraries Taskforce.

C - Culture, Tourism and Sport Board – report from Cllr Ian Stephens (Chair)

Spending Review

1. It was encouraging that the Government recognised the important economic and social benefits of our nation's cultural and heritage offer in the Spending Review. The LGA has long argued that culture and heritage boosts growth, attracts visitors and can help to reduce and prevent costly health and social care expenditure. The welcome settlement for national arts, tourism, sport, archives and heritage funding will help to relieve some of the pressure on councils, although the 24 per cent cut to local government funding will of course impact on valued frontline services. I will be discussing with Ministers and partners how we can work together to keep supporting local culture, tourism, sport and heritage and take advantage of opportunities from the devolution agenda.
2. The visitor economy is one of this country's strongest performing economic sectors and we look forward to working with the Government to understand how the new £40 million Discover England Fund will build upon locally-led activity to increase tourism. I have also written to the Rt. Hon John Whittingdale MP, Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport, to express concern at the proposed closer working between VisitEngland and VisitBritain. This risks diminishing the voice of the English regions in decisions about tourism investment and goes against the devolutionary direction of travel.

Sport and Physical Activity

3. The Government has published its new sports strategy and I was delighted that many of the LGA's recommendations have been taken on board. The strategy provides a good framework to further our call to Sport England to rebalance funding away from national interventions through to councils which already have the facilities, partnerships and expertise in place to best reach the most people, of all ages and abilities.
4. The extension of Sport England's remit to focus on children aged 5 and upwards is in line with councils' new public health responsibilities for this age group and offers great opportunities for joined-up work on tackling inactivity and driving up participation. Our calls for the Premier League to contribute more of its huge profits towards football grassroots have also been acknowledged by the Government and we look forward to seeing this directly benefit the country's sports pitches and facilities, the majority of which are still owned by councils.
5. I was pleased to speak at the latest of our very popular Sport Leadership Essentials Programme 21-22 October, in partnership with Sport England. The event supported 15 portfolio holders and sessions included different delivery models for leisure services, closer working with health, improving local commissioning relationships and partnerships with National Governing Bodies to increase participation.
6. With Cllr Mark Hawthorne, Chair of the People and Places Board, I met Jesse Norman MP, Chair of the Culture, Media and Sport Committee, on 7 December to discuss sport and broadband. I highlighted the CTS Board's campaign for the Premier League to re-invest a greater proportion of its profits into the grassroots game and the LGA's view that

national sports funding should be re-balanced through Sport England towards councils and local partners. I also spoke about local government's ambition to use devolutionary powers and funding to procure new solutions to achieving better broadband and mobile connectivity coverage, in particular the Three Southern Counties. We will keep in touch with the Committee on their work programme and ensure that the LGA contributes to relevant inquiries.

Libraries and Culture

7. I have written to Ed Vaizey MP, Culture Minister, and Tracey Crouch MP, Sport and Tourism Minister, about the forthcoming Culture White Paper. I emphasised that much of this country's cultural offer is funded and supported locally and that continued budget pressures mean it is vital central and local government work together to ensure the total public subsidy for culture is spent efficiently and in accordance with local need. I also highlighted opportunities for culture from devolution, how culture can add value to other priorities and the LGA's and Arts Council England's partnership to support effective local political leadership.
8. The LGA/Department for Culture, Media and Sport Leadership for Libraries Taskforce has published its first 6-month report on progress against the priorities agreed by LGA Members and Ministers. In particular, the Taskforce secured £2.6 million funding to rollout free WiFi to over 98% of public libraries by end of March 2016. 68 councils will benefit from the funding and I wrote about how libraries are using digital to enhance their offer in the December edition of [first](#).
9. I was pleased to speak at the Leadership Essentials Culture programmes on 3-4 November and 2-3 December. These events, organised in partnership with Arts Council England, supported 25 portfolio holders and sessions included different delivery models for library services and how cultural services can be commissioned to deliver wider council priorities.

Archives and Archaeology

10. I met Jeff James, Chief Executive of The National Archives, on 3 December to discuss key issues for local archive services. This included the importance of sharing innovative practice, moving to the 20-year rule and plans to mark this year's 400th anniversary of Shakespeare's death.
11. I met Quinton Carroll, Chair of the Association of Local Government Archaeological Officers (ALGO) in England, on 24 November. We talked about the important role of archaeology in preserving what makes places special, the capacity issues facing the sector, different delivery models for archive services and opportunities presented by devolution.

Culture Tourism and Sport Board 1 December

12. Viscountess Penelope Cobham, Chairman of Visit England, and Mike Diaper, Executive Director of Sport England, updated the Board on their organisation's respective priorities.

LGA members reinforced the important role councils play boosting growth through tourism and increasing sport and physical activity participation.

D- CTS Outside Bodies 2015/16

| Organisation | Background | Representative for 2015/16 | Recommendation on Way Forward | Dates of Future Meetings | Contact at Organisation |
|--|--|-----------------------------------|--|---|--|
| British Board of Film Classification – Consultative Council | The British Board of Film Classification classifies films on behalf of Local Authorities and videos / DVDs under the terms of the Video Recordings Act. Its "Consultative Council" is a requirement of the Board's designation under the Video Recordings Act. | 1 place | Cllr Faye Abbott has been appointed as the board's representative. Cllr Abbott attended the board's last meeting on the 8 th February 2016. | - Monday 20th June - Monday 10th October | Amy Brooks Assistant to Director abrooks@bbfc.co.uk Tel (+44) 020 7440 0372 |
| Tourism Alliance | The TA seeks to establish and maintain a favourable operating environment for all businesses involved in the delivery of tourism, particularly in England. The LGA has a non-voting place on the Board. | 1 place | This is an important forum for us to engage with industry, DCMS and VE. The Conservative representative for this group is TBC. | Future board dates tbc | Director: Kurt Janson Tel: +44 (0)20 3117 0664 Email: kurt.janson@tourismalliance.co.uk |

| Organisation | Background | Representative for 2015/16 | Recommendation on Way Forward | Dates of Future Meetings | Contact at Organisation |
|-----------------------------|---|----------------------------|---|--------------------------|--|
| British Destinations | Operates as a trade association representing the wider interest of local authority sponsored tourism. Membership includes local government authorities of all types and sizes from across the UK, regional and local tourist boards and commercial organisations. | 1 place | The Board meets two or three times a year and brings together destinations including councils with VE and industry partners. Cllr Geoff Knight has been appointed as the LGA's representative on this body. | Next meeting TBC | CEO: Peter Hampson – 0151 9342285 – 07714341379 email peter.hampson@btconnect.com |