

# London <sup>c</sup>CLOA meeting

Friday 15<sup>th</sup> December 2017, 10:30-12:30

## Meeting Notes

### 1. Welcome to the Museum of London and Plans for Development

Finbar Whooley, Director of Content for the Museum of London gave a presentation to the group.

Finbar shared the museum's plans for the next 5 years with the group, focusing on the creation of a new home for the museum in nearby Smithfield Market. The relationship between the Museum of London and Borough Museums will be looked at as part of this evolution, with development of the way visitors are signposted to the wider collections in London. The move coincides with the ambition of receiving 2 million visitors per year, an ambition complimented by proximity to the new TfL Elizabeth Line. As plans for the site develop, London Boroughs will be invited to consult. The new location of the Museum is at the beginning of the Cultural Mile. This is likely to be a 5 year project.

### 2. Supporting Local Authority Museums: lessons learnt and case studies

Ben Travers and Yvette Shepherd, Museum Regional Development Manager and Officer

Ben began by recommending the group read the DCMS strategic review of museums, published in November 2017. Contained are several recommendations and Ben reported on some of the suggestions and implications for the group. There were recommendations for local authorities, including best practice, evidencing the contribution museums make to communities as well as barriers to innovation and enterprise. An 'Operational Freedoms' package, produced between DCLG and DCMS is also expected.

Yvette then reported on the London Museum Development Offer. There are 106 accredited museums in London, with 22 being local authority controlled, with many more 'spun out' to trusts with local authority connections maintained. Yvette spoke to the importance of local museums in fostering community and civic pride with 52% of adults having visited a museum in the last 12 months, higher than ever before. Yvette informed the group that the Strong & Safe programme will continue, supporting local authorities in advocacy, networking, sharing experiences, focusing on outcomes, training, factsheets, grant projects, business diagnostic tools and local forward planning support.

### 3. Creative Enterprise Zones

Mhora Samuel, Senior Policy Officer, Creative Enterprise Zones (GLA)

Mhora introduced the group to the Creative Enterprise Zone launch, which had been released publically the previous day (14<sup>th</sup> December 2017). The aspirations of this project extend to every borough. Mhora discussed the priority of protecting affordable workspace for the creative arts. The four key features of the policy, with the prospectus outlining this online, are space, skills and support, policy and community. This programme links to the draft London Plan, which contains a strong heritage and cultural policy section that can be used to shape and influence local borough agreements and other local initiatives. The Culture Infrastructure plan is currently being formed, with audits being conducted on a sector by sector basis. Anticipated publication for this is Autumn 2018.

Deadlines for submission for Cultural Enterprise Zones is **31<sup>st</sup> January 2018**.

#### **4. Borough Update**

The boroughs represented at the °CLOA meeting gave updates on local activity.

#### **5. Ideas for future meetings**

A group discussion explored desired topics and conversations for 2018:

- Although unable to attend this meeting, the new Chief Executive for London Sport has committed to speaking to °CLOA.
- With the GLA Culture Strategy expected in February 2018, a presentation from the GLA on this would be welcome.
- A conversation with Arts Council England, sharing their perspective, would be welcome.
- An invitation extended to the Society for Chief Librarians.
- A conversation related to the 2018 general election will be explored further.

Action:

Spike van der Vliet-Firth to contact steering group members to determine potential dates for the next °CLOA meeting. This is potentially for late-Feb/early-Mar.