

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Date:	Friday 31st January 2014
Place:	Hosted by ACE at their <u>Birmingham offices</u>
Times:	1100 – 1545
Participants:	Iain Varah, Mark Allman, Christine Neyndorff, Diana Shelton, Ian Brooke, Kimiyo Rickett, Nigel Lynn, Simon Parkinson, Chris Holliday, Polly Hamilton, Grant Aitken, Lisa Dodd-Mayne, Matt Partridge, Neil Anthony, Carole Stewart
Apologies:	Debbie Kaye, Duncan Wood-Allum, Emma Wiggins, Richard Hunt, Rob Persey, Vincent Paliczka, Ian Shipp

	Item Description	Relevant business considered, facts noted, decisions taken and actions agreed
1.	Welcome & Introductions	IV thanked ACE for hosting.
	Arts Council England Strategic Agenda Laura Dyer, Executive Director, ACE Paul Bristow, Director of Strategic Partnerships, ACE	Investment approach 2015-18 LD – outlined the next budgeting process. Whilst the Arts Council (ACE) only has a funding settlement from government for 15/16 it is running a three year application programme for National Portfolio Organisations (NPO's) Major Partner Museums (MPM's) with planning figures given for 16/17 and 17/18. ACE recognise that their processes don't align in terms of timescale with local government settlements. In response to the challenge of diminishing resources, additional lottery resources have been invested into NPO pot in order to protect the core infrastructure of the arts. Music Hubs funding process not yet confirmed by DfE, so security and continuity still uncertain. ACE is not able to take the same total investment funding approach with MPM's as HLF are the lottery distributor for museums. CS asked LD to clarify the position with HLF. Their primary purpose is as a lottery distributor, not as a strategic development agency, so the two organisations can align around some areas such as private giving/sponsorship and are looking

at other areas for joint working such as cultural tourism. They are having conversations to identify ways in which money can be further aligned and working up an MoU to support this. SH queried how arts organisations can be honest in appraising their future financial situation if they don't know the likely LA settlement. LD advised stress testing i.e. what would they do if 10% reduction, 20% etc.

IV commented that the London position is affected by forthcoming election in May.

KR outlined the magnitude of cuts in Kirklees.

LD acknowledged that each NPO needs to be clear on the environment they are working in.

Strategic Funds/Grants for the arts

Drastically reduced budget, but ACE remain committed to strategic touring, as it spreads the benefit and helps reach areas with little cultural provision.

Creative People and Places (CPP) also remains a key commitment, as does Arts Award & Artsmark.

Work with LEP's is important for building resilience and developing partnerships. As such, ACE are having discussions about making a specific fund available to ensure the cultural sector works effectively with LEP's. Cultural champions now infiltrating LEP's. ACE Chair, Sir Peter Bazalgette is holding a round table meeting for CEOs and Chairs of LEPs on 6th March in London.

Action - PB to provide HB with details for cascade

NL expressed the opinion that Health & Well-being Boards (HWB's) don't get the cultural argument.

PB mention Cultural Commissioning project and how this will help engage commissioners in addition to increasing the understanding of the sector. Good practice case studies for presentation at two Cultural Commissioning Seminars in May/June 2014 are being invited

Action – HB to circulate info in next CLOA e-bulletin.

DS observed that in terms of approach commissioners with arts proposals, you need to ensure your approach is about clinical outcomes arts as the tool.

It was agreed that robust evidence base alongside anecdotal benefits was particularly important for Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCG's) and also making it easy for them to refer.

PH mentioned <u>Cultural attendance and public mental health</u> – <u>from research to practice</u> which outlines the health impact of 'general cultural attendance', simply going to a museum, art gallery, film or concert on a regular basis increases longevity. <u>Cultural funding across England</u> – a discussion of findings in

Rebalancing our Cultural Capital which highlights an imbalance between arts funding for London and the regions 1:15; followed. The Culture, Media and Sport Committee (CMSC) has launched a parliamentary enquiry on whether the geographical distribution of funding is fair and the justification for the current weighting of this towards London.

LD acknowledged the disparity, but highlighted that a simple (but compelling) metric has been used that doesn't tell the whole story about the complex arts ecology. LD further cautioned that we should not assume that just because the major institutions (which take over 30% of resources) are necessarily accessed by the local area. Growth and economy and population movement needs to be considered. In terms of lottery investment, in the last funding round ACE tried to address this and issue by spreading activity through Strategic Touring & CPP.

ACE is committed to not being a London-centric organisation. Their own structure is dispersed with leadership spread across country. However, equality of distribution is not viable, clusters are essential.

LD is conscious of the challenges facing LA budgets that will impact on sustainability of joint capital investments and concerned that the full impact is not yet visible; ACE will need to ensure sufficient support and recovery funds available. KR suggested that that the focus for scrutiny should be not which institutions were in receipt of funding, but who is receiving the end product.

LD agreed stating that the 'area of benefit' was a key concern for ACE and giving Birmingham as an example whereby it has low engagement and yet, outside London, receives the highest level of investment.

NL agreed that the report based on place not people, and asked how ACE planned to focus on areas of deprivation, which is a high priority for LA's.

LD gave the Royal Shakespeare Company as an example of a large, national NPO working with harder to reach communities and reiterated that ACE continually challenge NPO's, whatever their scale and size, to reach communities and show their 'stretch'.

Grants for the Arts (G4A) – has enjoyed a budget increase, which will help to ensure that if a local community wants to do something it can be resourced. ACE is also working with Voluntary Arts Network (VAN) to link up and encourage this. CS highlighted that the opportunity to comment on G4A bids has gone, and no opportunity exists to link to LA strategies.

LD responded by explaining that ACE had to cut administration out of G4A, and return on request for comments was less than 20%. However, ACE is trying to improve the speed with which they share the info regarding awards with ADO's.

PH expressed the opinion that the historical lack of investment has had a massive impact in some geographical areas. It is critical to see the ambitions of cultural organisations linked with LA's local priorities, as investment is often used to unlock other funds. Joint solutions need to be identified, backing local investment and recognising differences between LA's. Social and cultural capital outcomes are equally important to infrastructure.

KR queried why ACE don't fund or support amateur sector – yet it drives interest and income, and it's important to sustain facilities for their use too.

LD responded that ACE fund VAN, and hope this attitude is shifting; acknowledging that some amateur organisations are amazingly entrepreneurial and best practice examples.

IB asked how ACE is developing leadership in the sector and supporting organisations to become more resilient.

LD noted ACE support for the Clore Leadership programme and their and leadership diversity in terms of supporting ethnic minority and disabled people into leadership roles. Board leadership is equally important and ACE is working to help Boards challenge not only finance, but also artistic aspects.

Action - PH to co-ordinate a response to parliamentary enquiry by 17th Feb and share with ACE.

How ACE will work with local government through the immediate challenges and long term developments.

LD described how ACE is working with LGA to deliver Cultural Leadership Academies, which have been a great success. These will continue and ACE are think about holding Alumni events to bring those who have been through the Academies together with elected members on ACE Area Councils to discuss key issues and topics. ACE is also keen to ensure that Culture features as part of other LGA leadership Academies, for example those looking at Childrens' Services.

Acknowledge that whilst there is a challenge regarding turnover of Portfolio holders, this is also a benefit as it sees them move into responsibility for other council areas taking the knowledge and advocacy skills to influence cultural investment.

PH flagged up the fact that arts development officers are no longer getting the level of support previously offered by ACE and that this lack of investment in talent development will have longer term implications.

Action – ACE to share future dates of Leadership Academy. LD we are using Sir Peter Bazalgette to lead advocacy round tables and are engaging with central government inc DCLG, Defra, DfE, Treasury. Action – Invite Sir Peter Bazalgette to speak at AGM on 13th June at the Velodrome London PB mentioned that ACE is working with the New Local Government Network to develop some research and a report on different business and investment models being developed by local government and others to sustain the cultural offer in a place. ACE aim to have a report ready by the Autumn. Action – PB to share survey and info; HB to cascade to wider membership. LD & PB interested in talking further to LA's about the controllable and non-controllable spending, what is over the horizon. Action – PB to advise of another date for a conversation with representative of the ^cCLOA Executive in October 14 David Sparkes from the ASA joined the meeting to discuss Driving up swimming 2. participation feedback on driving up swimming participation – this was a summary of responses to the consultation undertaken with ^cCLOA members during September/October 13 in relation to swimming and the respective roles of the ASA and Sport England. MA suggested that the discussion focus on the big issues and how we might want to work more collaboratively in the future. Why provide pools? What is the LAs role in investing heavily in pools? Possible budget impacts over the next 10 years How best to deliver swimming How the ASA and ^cCLOA can work together DS stated that the ASA's key aim is to grow the number of people that swim regularly, noting the will in central government to see more people active, but limited by insufficient resources. ASA are in discussion with Public Health England and DfE about getting school involvement back on track. There is an issue of stock and Sport England (SE) need to be part of the solution. LDM flagged up the issue with Academies; they don't have to provide swimming lessons, so how can we hold them to account? DS replied that there is a requirement to provide a rounded education, and ASA are working with DfE to introduce more rigorous inspection of PE that seeks to establish why swimming is not included. CN noted that many small swimming pools located in primary schools, are unsustainable and as such have closed. It's a dilemma as the education department usual can't help, nor are the district councils able to intervene as the pools are not owned by the LA. The accumulative effect is significant as these pools often hosted swimming clubs.

		DS reminded the group that Public Health England (PHE) has a delegated responsibility for childhood obesity and that this is an issue for SE, LA's, ASA and PHE to collaborate around by radically rationalising the pool stock. But this needs to be demand driven and the right site is critical. Furthermore, many LA's are seeking zero revenue implications moving forward. KR highlighted that the SE models for affordable swimming pools, needs to take into account sustainability moving forward and this is often about having a fitness offer. DS felt these models were achievable, but provide a utilitarian facility and ASA try to influence the specification where possible. CH observed that if the future is about relying on the private sector to admit children f.o.c and those unable to pay expensive memberships, then the health inequalities will become further exacerbated. NL felt the real divide was between those who can/cannot afford to learn to swim, and asked how ASA can help. This has implications for future pool use/income streams and health & well-being; if children don't learn to swim they won't use the facilities for leisure or fitness in future adult life. DS outlined that some pools have introduced incremental access times — using low cost airline modelling i.e. top dollar for after school, cheaper in evenings. Some pool operators are working with public health to offer subsidies for learning to swim. ASA can help LA's trying to rationalise pool stock, they can also influence swimming clubs, encouraging them to come together. The message is ASA want to work with LA's in a constructive Action - ASA to stay in communication with cLOA
3.	Apologies for absence Matters Arising from minutes 20 th Sept	No Hon Secretary – Colin Chaytors volunteering. LDM – proposed a constitutional amendment to 3 Vice-Chairs with one assuming responsibilities of Honorary Treasurer. This received general support. Action - HB to draft a constitutional amendment.
4.	Updates: NCLF - strategic direction and priorities Commissioning Support for Local Authorities - Sport England Project Bid	DS attended the November meeting on behalf of CLOA. NCVO gave a presentation on the Cultural Commissioning programme and TCPA updated on the Planning Toolkit. AD:uk presented the findings of their arts investment survey, which highlighted the loss of lots of small and medium size arts services. IV informed the Executive that CLOA have been awarded £100K from Sport England to offer a package of support that will help LA sport and leisure teams engage with strategic commissioning. This will include • Exploring the impact of the earlier commissioning pilots; develop case studies to encapsulate the lessons learnt. • Providing training on use of the Outcomes Framework & Engaging in Commissioning for 8 local authorities. • Deploying specialist consultants to work with the LA's to: • map the local landscape and identify the key opportunities for sport and leisure.

	LGA Conference in Portsmouth	 broker links with commissioners across a range of service areas. in one locality focus on developing the market side. Provide a peer support function through a LinkedIn group. Produce an overall evaluation and case studies targeted at influencing thinking nationally and locally within specific sectors e.g. public health; adult social care; crime and community cohesion. Disseminate the learning through the CLOA network via our website/e-bulletin updates and using regional meetings to platform best practice. IV thanked HB for the work undertaken to secure the funding on behalf of CLOA. The next step is to identify participating authorities and IV & MA will work on this with SE. HB reiterated that the next few Exec meetings would incorporate a project steering group meeting in advance of the meeting. DS has been working on this with LGA and noted that the priority is for Councillor speakers, which is good for raising the profile of our sector, but means that there are less officers contributing to the event. HB informed the group that all 3 of our sponsors are attending. There was some discussions regarding the optional dinner, and a split of individuals attending/making their own arrangements.
	Health & well-being guidance SPELG/SAFE	The final draft has been circulated to LGA, Sport England, ACE, TNA, The National Leisure & Culture Forum, TCPA, Sport + Recreation Alliance, for comment. The plan is to have the guidance ready for launch at the CTS conference in March and feedback from the Executive must be received no later than Monday 10 th February . MA updated on SAFE, a consultancy forum for Skills Active, and alerted the Exec to the Whitehead Report, which is considering
	<u></u>	whether skills sector councils are needed.
5.	Finance Update	HB summarised the financial variances to projected budget and these were noted by the Executive. A discussion around membership attrition followed, which has been largely due to redundancy/budget reduction in LA's. Action – all to identify potential CLOA members in their regional networks and refer to HB.
6.	^c CLOA Membership and Commercial	IV gave an overview of the rational for the report, which outlined the existing conditions of membership for the

interests	commercial costor
interests	commercial sector DWA was unable to attend, but had circulated feedback via email. He feels the need to create equity amongst members, supported by a shared set of values and expected behaviours for all. In DWA's opinion the current proposal creates a two-tier membership that discriminates against consultants. As a solution he suggested a code of conduct for all members. NL reminded the Exec that 'CLOA originated in LA's and we have moved on by embracing the Trust movement, but there is a clear distinction between public sector leisure and the world of consultancy, which is profit led. This may restrict our membership, but it is important to retain our distinctiveness. KR added that when strategic partners such as ACE/SE consult with 'CLOA it is to get a view from the public sector, the risk of not controlling commercial membership is that in future we may not be representative. DS, NA, LDM and GA all echoed these views. IV also felt that the balance of staff and % turnover needed considering. It was proposed that the ratio of commercial members be set at a maximum of 10% to keep the ethos that 'CLOA is an association of senior local authority leaders. Furthermore, no more than 3 members of the Executive should come from a commercial background. Action – HB & NA to work up an amendment to the constitution for the AGM in June based on the above proposal. Action – The introduction of a Letter of understanding for
7. CLOA AGM	Members with Commercial Interests was approved. The CLOA AGM will be held on 13 th June at the Velodrome,
	pending a site visit to ascertain suitability.
	IV suggested AGM 10.30 to 11.30. Followed by open meeting for
	members, with a charge of £135 non-members (to include
	membership) Suggested speaker line up:
	Shaun Dawson, CEO Lee Valley Park,
	Ian Drake, British Cycling Federation
	Sir Peter Bazelgette Chair of ACE,
	Chairman, Christopher Rodrigues, VisitBritain
	Tour of velodrome and chance to cycle at lunchtime
	Theme – future aspirations
	Action – HB to circulate a 'hold the date' in the next e-bulletin.
	Action – IV to liaise with Shaun Dawson and Ian Drake. HB to
	invite other speakers.
8. A.O.B	UK Active has issued a report <u>Turning the tide of inactivity</u> .

	Action - IV to issue a supportive comment and HB to cascade to membership thro e-bulletin and Twitter.
Dates of next Executive meetings	 Thursday 24th April 2014 – venue tbc Friday 26th September 2014 – The National Archives