

Cultural Commission

NOTE OF BOARD MEETING: 23 AUGUST 04

Present: Shonaig Macpherson, Sheena Wellington, Gordon Jeyes, Ian Ritchie, Colin Marr, George Black, James Boyle, Caroline Adam, Bryan Beattie, Martin Osler and Karen Watson

Item 1: Apologies	Apologies from Brian Lang, Lucy Mason, Rachel Blanche and Richard Smith
Item 2: Note of last meeting & matters arising	Note of last meeting agreed. [Action points covered under agenda items below.]
Item 3: Broughton High School (paper 2)	Broughton High School office is now up and running although there are a number of teething problems still to be resolved. The secretariat will continue to use the premises of its key stakeholders for outside meetings.
Item 4: Consultation Process	<p>Paper 3 and slides presented by JB, which included the identification of 14 sectors, with a lead agencies, and the lead agencies' role in issuing consultation letters to the organisations in their sector. This process is well underway and is part of Phase 1 of the consultation on Our Remit and Cultural Rights which runs until 27 September. Key points from the discussion included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Whether or not the Board would be sent the names of the "thinking groups" members. • Confirmation that the Board will see the outputs. • Proposals to create an ad-hoc group of artists.
Item 5: Website Update (paper4)	The Website is now up and running and it will be the main route into the Commission. So far only negative comment received was around the draft vision.
Item 6: PR update (paper 5)	Martin Osler updated the Board on press activity since the last meeting and distributed press cuttings. He also stressed the importance of now getting material into local newspapers and the British Press, and listed those he had already been in contact with.
Item 7: Correspondence Update (paper 6)	James Boyle and Karen Watson summarised the last month's activity.
8. Cultural Rights (paper 7)	<p>Final draft of consultation paper on rights will be available shortly on the website. Key points from the discussion included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Some useful material from Barcelona conference on cultural rights will be fed in. • DCMS also have a useful document which the Secretariat hopes to distribute to the Board
9. Issues, questions and strategies (paper 8)	<p>Areas for direct involvement of Board members in the work of the Commission have been identified: meetings & engagements, national negotiations, national consultations e.g. the Charities Bill, the development of the think tank, the development of our policy on National Companies, BBC Charter Review and the planned interim report event in early November. Key points from the discussion included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commission would not spend too much time looking at the tax regime. Instead it would focus on tried and tested areas and expanding the use of these into cultural areas. • It was agreed that the Commission should submit something on the BBC Charter renewal. JB stressed the importance of the Commission having a clear objective. • On meetings and invitations to speak at events, it was agreed that a protocol for Board members would be helpful.
10. Research (Paper 9)	Extracts of the research archive circulated.

11. AOB	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Secretariat to source details of the Scottish Funding Councils' report on quality• Discussion on the enthusiasm that exists for the Commission's review.• Agreed that organisations to be written to and asked in put links on their websites to the Commisison
12. Date of next meeting	Monday 27 September 7pm to 9pm at the Hub, Edinburgh.