

Cultural Commission

NOTE OF BOARD MEETING: 27 May, Melvin House Hotel, Edinburgh

Present: George Black, Shonaig Macpherson, Colin Marr, Ian Ritchie, Sheena Wellington, Lucy Mason, James Boyle, Bryan Beattie, Martin Osler, and Karen Watson

1: Apologies	Gordon Jeyes and Brian Lang
2. Minute of meeting	Minutes of 13 May accepted
3. Media & PR update	Verbal update from Martin Osler included summary of recent meetings and activities. Media plan for publication will be circulated shortly. Two or 3 Board members will be required at the press briefing and others to respond to specific enquiries.
	Consultant now working with the Commission on the editing and production of the final Report. Publication date has been agreed with the Minister/Department.
4. Mapping the sector – paper 3	<p>The Board commented on the draft as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Need to maintain the balance of evidence and content • Page 4 – remove the ref to Easterhouse • Page 6 – remove ref to SAC polling or place in a footnote • Page 20 – questioned ref to the 1960s • Need to spell check • Page 21 – ref to “distortion of the free market” questioned • Page 5 – accuracy of comparative funding figures questioned and agreed that table should be deleted • Page 6 – clarity required on public opinion versus priorities • Page 5 - £10.5m is a useful figure and needs to feature in the Commission’s later recommendations • Page 6 – ref to 1% of the SE budget is an observation which the Board would like carried forward into its later recommendations
9. Built heritage – paper 8	<p>The Board commented on the draft as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Need to cross ref PPP schools to the education paper • Page 4 - should include ref to British architects Foster and Rodgers • Include 1% for arts as an recommendation
5. Making it happen – paper 4	<p>The Board commented on the draft as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Page 5 – Need the express the CCPR quote on “different classes” differently • Page 6 – Concern expressed that comparison could be drawn with Sweden and its spending supported the deletion of comparative figures from paper 3 • Need to define at the start of the Report (in the Methodology) what the cultural sector is • Where is Dom Paterson’s vision? • Amend paper to reflect better the evolutionary development of local authorities working together in cultural partnerships
6. Providing the infrastructure – papers 5a & b	Bryan Beattie introduced paper 5(a) on governance and confirmed that its subject matter would be included in the section of the Report on <i>Making Better Use of Public Resources</i> . The Board commented on the draft as follows:

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Page 3 – include ref to the use of standard constitutional templates and requirement for monitoring and mentoring • Include distinction between large and small organisations • Include the need for funding agreements to be discussed with organisations • Include ref to document removed from earlier draft <p>James Boyle introduced paper 5(b) on the options and confirmed that it was a very early draft and still required material on the options appraisal and costings. Copies of graphics also circulated. The Board commented on the draft as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Need to include details or an example of how the college and Board is “elected”, and include ref to skills set • Should include ref to representatives being “champions” rather than official or organisational representatives • Page 4 – requirement to make the role of Culture Scotland in funding explicit and include ref to sanctions • Requirement to re-draft the description of the funding mechanism • Page 3 – Amend sentence on setting standards • Page 2 – Amend “delivered cultural provision” • Page 1 – Remove quote • Page 2 – Remove final sentence from para 3 “The theory being..” • Page 2 – Include ref to a separate Ministry for Culture in the VOCAL model • Page 2 – Clarify what is meant by the final sentence • Include a clear statement on the mechanism for local authority funding under all 3 options (e.g. Page 4) • Page 6 – Amend voluntarily to reflect volunteers • Page 7 – The “Chancellor” replace with the Minister for Finance and Public services • Page 6 – Include ref to the advertisement of vacancies • Text on the Centre for Creativity needs expansion • Option 3 should be included, but less narrative to be provided • Status quo diagram required
7. Making better use of public resources – paper 6	<p>The Board commented on the draft as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Are clear on what is not being measured but not on what requires measurement and how • Clear identification of priorities required • Need better measurement of outcomes • Be cautious about non specialist functions and backroom sharing. Payroll can be shared but not marketing, except data • On Best value & economies of scale – amend use of “flop” • In the conclusions, which should be recommendations, question the use of the word outcomes
8. Private Sector – paper 7	<p>The Board commented on the draft as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Should stress that funding goes to only a very proportion of organisations • Include voluntary support from business e.g. professional support from large companies (accounts etc) • Include ref to the absence of any cultural philanthropists e.g. Tom Hunter • Include ref to the “Scotland Fund” • Pages 3 and 6 - Remove ref to Tartan Week • Include Kelvingrove and Playfair as case studies • Page 2 – expand sentence on local sponsorship • Include ref to the difficulty of assessing funds for small organisations • Need recommendation on the benefits to business through working with

	<p>the cultural sector e.g. Unilever</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Should include quotes from Susan Rice and others • Include ref to the Fringe and why performers will participate and loose money
10. Libraries – paper 9	<p>The Board commented on the draft as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Page 2 – Context is required for the “£8m” reduction • Page 3 – remove ref to use of the internal market • Page 3 – National Librarian recommendation is too specific • Page 4 – Local authorities provide “core library services” not free public services • Page 4 – Need to include cross ref to Bookstart in the education paper • Page 4 – Remove ref to “endemic” marketing • Page 5 – Integrate paragraphs 4 and 2 • Page 1 – Amend typo in para 3 “numbers” • Page 3 – Amend to “excellence” and “innovation” • Page 5 – Include case study on Glasgow libraries
11. AOB	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agreed that Broadcasting paper would be submitted as amended. • Board members asked to consider an alternative title for the Commission’s Final Report for discussion at the next Board meeting
12. Date & time of next meeting	Monday 13 June, Melvin House Hotel, 1pm (finishing time flexible)