

DCMS CREATIVE ECONOMY PROGRAMME

Minutes of the CEP Delivery Partners Group 07 October 2008

Attendees

Steve Mallinder, ADMHEA
Andrew Senior, British Council
Dan Sumner, UUK
Iain Bennett, NWDA
Will Bridge, UAL
Victoria Carson, British Library
Jon Kingsbury, NESTA
Stuart Bartholemew, AIB
Nigel Payne, e-skills
Chris Garcia, SWRDA
Lesley Morris, Design Council
Laura Gander-Howe, ACE
Catherine Mcleod, UKTI
Dinah Caine, Skillset
Andrew Yeates, ERA
Matthew Hill, DCMS
Eleanor van Heyningen, DCMS
Ed Pickering, DCMS
Alex Wilkinson, DCMS
Alastair Findlay, DCMS
Tim Scott, DCMS
Will Calladine, DCMS

Apologies

Lisa Vango, UK IPO
Valerie Waters, UK IPO
Adrian Brazier, BERR
Simon Miller, BERR
Peter Glover, Skill-fast
Shearer West, AHRC

Introduction

- Matthew Hill introduced the meeting and explained that its format has been changed in order to maximise the opportunities for networking as the chance for Delivery Partners to build relationships and partnerships is a key benefit of this group.
- **Action:** DCMS would welcome views on the new format and potential topics for presentations/discussions.

Actions from the last meeting

- In addition to circulating documents/contacts, DCMS has set-up a new website that will enable Delivery Partners Group members to contact each other, discuss issues and share documents on-line.
- **Action:** DCMS to finish setting the web-site up and invite group members. Members to post information/documents.

Progress Update

- DCMS are encouraged that progress is being made on all of the commitments. However, Apprenticeships and the Diversity Challenge are currently on red RAG status.
- DCMS has developed an action plan on Apprenticeships and has formed a working group to drive work forwards.

- DCMS are due to make announcements about progress on the CEP and the World Creative Business Conference in October.
- DCMS reassured regional partners that consideration was given to regional options for the WCBC venue – however DCMS will also follow-up concerns over the consultation of regional partners with the consultants delivering WCBC.
- **Action** – DCMS to reschedule first meeting of Local and Regional Issues Working Group.

Creative industries and the Current Economic Climate

- Although it is too early to say how the current economic climate is going to affect the Creative Industries, the following questions were raised:
 - How is the global economic crisis affecting the CI's in other countries – British Council to update on this, should there be any news.
 - Will tightening financial constraints lead to an increase in piracy of on-line content and a resultant decrease in investment in on-line businesses?
 - Will Apprentices be the first to lose their positions if redundancies in Creative Industries are necessary?
 - Could the Creative Industries be one of the few economic success stories at this time?
- UKTI do not anticipate that the current global economic problems will affect their current marketing messages for the Creative Industries, although they will keep this under review.
- It is possible that domestic economic problems are leading to creative businesses to consider further developing their export business.
- **Action** – ACE to circulate information on the impact of the credit crunch.

CEP Finance

- DCMS is still considering business cases for CEP funding.
- DCMS have updated the guidance for those making bids for CEP funds, asking bidders to emphasise deliverables and measures of success.
- The next Programme Board meeting will be on 21 October – further funding decisions are expected to be made at this meeting.
- DCMS are no longer going to fund the establishment of a Creative Industries web-site as market research results indicated there was no demand for this.

Research and Evidence

- DCMS' Ed Pickering presented DCMS' draft research agenda for the Creative Industries/CEP. Please find the presentation and draft research plan attached.
- DCMS anticipates that the research agenda will build the evidence base around the CIs.
- DCMS also aims to bring together different strands of research and improve consistency.

- Although one of DCMS' aims is to review the current statistical framework for the Cl's, the Department will take care to manage the transfer between the existing framework and the new one, including communicating anticipated changes to industry in advance.
- DCMS is also open to looking at examples of Cls from outside Europe – **Action** DCMS to liaise with British Council colleagues.
- DCMS are keen to improve their data on creative industry micro businesses – **Action:** British Library and Skillset to liaise with DCMS on how they can help/be involved.
- The group thought research could usefully be done on the impact of economic crises on the creative industries to identify particular vulnerabilities/resiliences.
- DCMS has noted the group's view that the draft research agenda could emphasise how each project will be forward looking, identifying trends and opportunities.
- The group would also be interested in research that provided different levels of focus, taking in the national and regional, the cross sector and the sector specific.
- **Action** – Group to feedback views on DCMS' research agenda.

Regional Creative Economy Strategic Frameworks

- Chris Garcia from SWRDA gave a presentation on the South West's approach to delivering the CEP in that region – the presentation is attached at annex ?
- Iain Bennett from NWDA presented on the North West's approach to CEP.
- Each region has a slightly different approach and focus, but both regions are making good progress on their Regional Creative Economy Strategic Frameworks and engaging a range of partners in its development.
- These Regional CE Strategies may form part of each region's integrated regional strategy.
- NESTA have put out a call for tender to research into Creative Clusters and are happy to share information with colleagues.
- The group raised concerns with BSSP – BERR leads on BSSP and RDAs should engage with them initially – **Action:** DCMS have circulated questions seeking further details and continue to talk to BERR.
- Colleagues would appreciate a time-frame for resolving BSSP issues as this would make it easier for them to keep partners engaged.
- **Action:** DCMS to arrange for BERR to present to the group on BSSP.

AOB

- A research proposal on business models for musicians or music businesses may be submitted in due course.