

1 August 2008

To all those who are reading this returning from a holiday – we hope you had a lovely time. To all those yet to take a break – worry not – the NCA will be here to keep an eye on things while you're away. This week, the NCA calls for swift implementation following Arts Council England's (ACE) response to the McIntosh Review. Plus, we want your views on the impact of the Licensing Act 2003 to submit the Commons Culture Media and Sport (CMS) Select Committee. And finally, we're looking for an image to adorn the cover of the forthcoming edition of *nca news*.

- NCA calls for swift implementation of ACE response to McIntosh Review
- New inquiry launched into the effects of the Licensing Act 2003
- Front cover image needed for *nca news* 82 (Autumn 2008)

NCA calls for swift implementation of ACE response to McIntosh Review

On Wednesday 30 July the NCA attended a briefing of arts sector representatives in which ACE Chief Executive Alan Davey outlined the Arts Council's response to a report by Baroness Genista McIntosh on the way in which recent ACE regular funding allocations were carried out.

Mr Davey responded to eleven points raised by Lady McIntosh, focusing on: the nature of leadership within ACE and the lack of a unifying national strategy; the need for ACE's relationship with the sector to be rooted in mutual respect; and the need to ACE to make its national and art form priorities clearer to the sector. In responding, Mr Davey espoused the need for increased art form expertise within the ACE National Council, clearer guidelines for regularly funded organisations, and the expression of a more coherent national strategy across the regions through increased support and training of Lead Officers.

The NCA's view is that, whilst many of Mr Davey's suggestions are cogent, most have long been understood by arts bodies and practitioners themselves, and the concern now should be that ACE clarify and deliver on their proposals at once.

Click [here](#) for the ACE response to the McIntosh review (with review itself annexed)

Click [here](#) for the NCA press release on the ACE response, issued 30 July 2008

New inquiry launched into the effects of the Licensing Act 2003

On 18 July the CMS select committee launched a fresh inquiry to ascertain industry views on the effect of 2003's Licensing Act since it came into force in November 2005. The NCA wants to hear how the Act has affected your work, either as a practitioner or

venue, with a view to compiling a submission to the committee on behalf of all our members. Of particular relevance to our members, the Committee is seeking views on the following:

- The impact of the Act on the performance of live music;
- The financial impact of the Act on sporting and social clubs;
- Whether the Act has led, or looks likely to lead, to a reduction in bureaucracy for those applying for licences under the new regime and for those administering it.

Please send responses to editor@artscampaign.org.uk by 31 August 2008.

The NCA's previous work on the Licensing Act can be viewed [here](#)
Full details of the inquiry can be viewed [here](#)

In a related development, on 22 July, Lord Davies of Oldham (lab) stated in a response to Lord Clement Jones (Lib Dem) that the DCMS were developing plans to exempt low impact live performance from the scope of the Act, taking into account recommendations made by the Live Music Forum and sector representatives. He stated that exemptions could potentially be in place by early 2009.

Front cover image needed for *nca news* 82 (Autumn 2008)

The Autumn edition of *nca news* is being published in the final week of September and will be focusing on the place of the arts at the different levels of policy making in the UK.

We are looking for an image to appear on the front cover that conveys the idea of multiple perspectives. This is an excellent opportunity to have your image seen by both the NCA's network of members and our contacts in government and press.

If you have a suitable image that you would like to be considered then please email it to editor@artscampaign.org.uk with the subject line: 'cover image'. Very large files can be sent on CD marked *nca news* to our address as below. The image will be credited on the contents page of the magazine.

To be considered for the front cover images must:

- Be free for the use of the NCA in publications and online (free of charge and free of any permissions or restrictions that would prevent this)
- Include appropriate credits for featured artists and photographers
- Be at least 216mm wide x 303mm deep (portrait format)
- Be at least 300dpi
- Be in jpeg, tiff, pdf or bmp format
-

The deadline for receipt of images is **Friday 12 September**.

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If you have received this email in error, have questions about its content or no longer wish to receive copies of the Friday Briefing then please contact the NCA as below.

The NCA is the UK's only independent campaigning organisation representing all the arts. It provides a voice for the arts world in all its diversity. It seeks to safeguard, promote and develop the arts and win public and political recognition for their importance as a key element in our national culture.

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