

nca

Protecting and promoting the arts

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www.artscampaign.org.uk

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It's been a fairly quiet week in the arts world although the NCA is busy as ever planning future campaigns and responding to myriad policy consultations. Elsewhere, ACE has compiled and analyzed responses to its consultation paper 'Achieving great art for everyone'; the NCA wants your views on our draft response to the consultation on National Lottery shares; DCMS seeks views on the new policy direction for the Big Lottery Fund; and Minister Ed Vaizey trials new speed-dating style surgery session.

NEWSFLASH: The NCA is pleased to report that the Culture Forum meeting was a success and invite members to download a copy of the minutes [here](#).

Don't forget to follow the NCA on twitter at: <http://twitter.com/artscampaign>

Also take part in our weekly facebook debates at:

<http://www.facebook.com/artscampaignuk>

- Arts Council England publishes 'Achieving great art for everyone report'
- NCA draft response the DCMS Consultation on National Lottery Shares
- DCMS holds consultation on the change to policy direction for the Big Lottery Fund
- Culture Minister Ed Vaizey trials express surgery
- Where we've been and who we've seen

Arts Council England publishes 'Achieving great art for everyone report'

Arts Council England last week published findings from its consultation 'Achieving great art for everyone'. The consultation process, which began in January and ended in April 2010, and for which the NCA compiled a response, was developed to better plan for organisational reform. There was an overall feeling among respondents that ACE's vision lacked precision and further clarity from the Council is required around what its vision excludes.

In response to specific points in the consultation, some respondents felt that ACE had disproportionately focused its efforts to London and other urban parts of England, calling for greater attention to more rural and remote areas. There appeared to be agreement however, that development of the sector must continue to respond to the heightened need for the arts among disadvantaged groups.

The NCA, along with several other respondents, urged ACE to be more ambitious in its aims and to also be frank and open about the need to address, and commit more funding to, underdeveloped areas in the sector at specific points in time. Despite concerns of elitism, there is broad support for ACE to focus on excellence both in terms of 'talent' and 'art', although many argued that artistic excellence is as much about the process as the end product.

There is broad support for the encouragement of risk and innovation, especially in financially testing times, as a means of inspiring the longer-term evolution of artistic forms. Some concerns were raised that this will become less of a priority in the face of spending cuts and called on ACE to ensure promotion of innovation among RFOs. Respondents would also like to see ACE continue funding organisations that challenge the sector's reputation of elitism, by making arts accessible, meaningful and participatory.

In terms of funding, there is support for greater diversification of income streams among the arts, and respondents call ACE to support and encourage this throughout the sector. Respondents also looked to ACE to support, champion and lobby for the arts in government, not only to the DCMS but also across Whitehall.

The NCA's response to the original consultation can be read [here](#)
Read the full report on the Arts Council England website by clicking [here](#)

NCA draft response to the DCMS Consultation on National Lottery Shares

The NCA has compiled a draft response to the current inquiry, led by the DCMS, into the distribution of National Lottery shares, which would directly benefit the sector with an increased share of 4 percent by 2012. The proposed changes would see an increase in the apportionment of shares for arts, heritage and sport to 18 percent on 1 April 2011, with a further increase to 20 percent on 1 April 2012.

The NCA's draft response can be read [here](#)

We urge members to email thoughts to campaigns@artscampaign.org.uk for inclusion in our response by **noon on 16th August**. The consultation closes on 21 August 2010.

Further information can be found on the DCMS website by clicking [here](#).

DCMS holds consultation on the change to policy direction for the Big Lottery Fund

Last week, John Penrose MP, Minister for Tourism and Heritage wrote to the Chair of the Big Lottery Fund, Clive Booth, to put forward his proposals for changing the policy direction of the Big Lottery Fund. In his letter, the Minister argued for the need to focus funding on projects that benefit people and local communities in the voluntary and community sector.

The DCMS is currently seeking views on the proposed wording of the new policy direction for the Big Lottery Fund to take into account when they make their funding decisions on Lottery grants.

The consultation ends on **29th October 2010**. The NCA is compiling a response and would like to hear from our members at campaigns@artscampaign.org.uk.

Members are also advised to respond individually by clicking [here](#).

Ed Vaizey trials express surgery

Last week Culture Minister, Ed Vaizey, trialled a new 'express ministerial surgery'.

Meeting with people from across arts and media last Friday, the Culture Minister gave each person the opportunity to discuss their matter for 15 minutes.

The NCA welcomes this new format which will enable more people across the sector to raise their issues with the Minister in person, and we hope that DCMS will maintain this open door policy.

The NCA would also like to hear from members who had the opportunity to test out this new format.

Where we've been, who we've seen

Mobilizing public advocacy meeting with David Brownlee of Audiences UK; MAC
Consultation at the Home Office

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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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