

**MINUTES**

<b>Date:</b>	22 January 2003
<b>Time:</b>	9.00 – 12.30pm
<b>Venue:</b>	Committee Room 1, National Assembly for Wales
<b>Attendance:</b>	
<b>Members</b>	<p>Rhodri Glyn Thomas) (Plaid Cymru, Carmarthen East and Dinefwr, Chair)</p> <p>Jenny Randerson (Liberal Democrat, Cardiff Central, Assembly Minister)</p> <p>Owen John Thomas (Plaid Cymru, South Wales Central)</p> <p>Lorraine Barrett (Labour, Cardiff South and Penarth)</p> <p>Delyth Evans (Labour, Mid &amp; West Wales)</p> <p>Alison Halford (Labour, Delyn)</p> <p>Dafydd Wigley (Plaid Cymru, Caernarfon)</p> <p>Glyn Davies (Conservative, Mid &amp; West Wales)</p> <p>Rosemary Butler (Labour, Newport West)</p>
<b>Officials</b>	<p>Margaret Evans (Arts, Lottery and Sport Division)</p> <p>Arthur Emyr (Arts, Lottery and Sport Division)</p> <p>Russell Thomas (Culture and Welsh Language Division)</p>
<b>Secretariat</b>	Marie Knox: Head of MRCS
	Lynsey Hazzard: Deputy Clerk

**9.00am-9.05am****Item 1: Introduction, apologies, substitutions and declarations of interest**

1. The Chair welcomed the Committee and members of the public.
2. The Chair reminded Members of the declarations of interest requirement, in accordance with Standing Order 4.5.
3. The Chair apologised to the Committee for the late arrival of some large papers attached to the Minister's report, relating to the quinquennial review on the Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Wales. The Chair explained that comments did not need to be made on the same until the end of February. The corporate plans relating to Item 3 had also been available late in their electronic form. In future the intention was that Member's Research and Committee Services (MRCS) would provide summaries of lengthy documents.

## **9.05am to 10.00am**

### **Item 2: Policy Review on Sport: Analysis of Consultation Responses**

#### **CC 02-03(p.1); CC 02-03 {p1 Annex 1); CC 02-03 (p2); CC 02-03 (p2 Annex A); CC 02-03 (p3)**

1. The Chair drew attention to paper P6, the Minister's summary of current sports initiatives, which had also been circulated to Members. The Chair advised that the purpose of the discussion was to air Committee members' opinions on the review and determine whether any additional information was required. The Chair referred members to paper P2, which contained a summary of the key points raised during the information gathering process and highlighted the 4 main issues for the Committee to discuss. The following points were made in discussion:

- More information was needed in relation to the cost of sport in Wales across the various regions. It was felt the information might be useful in terms of assessing accessibility to sport, given that some authorities subsidised facilities to encourage participation. More information was also needed in relation to access to facilities for disabled people.
- There were concerns that the review would repeat the findings of other bodies. Fresh ideas were needed from the Committee to ensure that the review made recommendations that added value to existing policies.
- The Chair advised that whilst it was not the Committee's remit to consider the cost of any proposals they put forward, costs should be borne in mind.
- Whilst the groups that had spoken to the Committee had given a detailed account of their current work, not enough information had been provided as to their vision for the next 10-20 years, which would have assisted the Committee in formulating a strategy.

1. The Minister suggested that the Committee should consider some fundamental questions when deciding the focus of the review, such as:

- Whether the emphasis should be placed on increasing mass participation in sport, improving facilities for elite athletes, or both;
- Whether all sports should be considered or just the more traditionally popular sports;

- Whether funding should be concentrated on upgrading existing facilities rather than building new facilities;
- Whether, in relation to provision of facilities, the focus should be on the public sector, private sector or both.

1. After discussion between members, it was agreed that the following areas should be considered in preparing the draft Committee report:

- Mass participation-the Committee's remit had previously agreed that the review should focus on participation rather than elite sports. This was reaffirmed.
- Main themes – key themes had been identified in the analysis of consultation responses.
- Children and young people – curricular and extra curricular activities and counteracting primary to secondary school drop-off rates.
- Post school age participation – counteracting drop-off rates.
- Girls and women – More role models were needed. Also the focus should be on physical activity rather than just competitive team sports.
- Access for all – to allow better access for excluded groups.
- Increasing choice – support for minority sports.
- Costs – ensuring groups were not priced out of participation
- Transport – for certain groups and in rural areas.
- Coaching and volunteering.
- Health and education – detailed recommendations would be for the Health and Social Services and the Education and Life Long Learning Committees to consider.

1. In summing up, the Chair said that the draft report would be concise, identifying the broad areas where further action was required and referring recommendations to the relevant bodies.

### Action Points

- MRCS to produce a short paper to the Committee highlighting the areas to be focused upon in the review.
- The Chair to write to the SCW and WLGA to request information concerning the varying cost of facilities across Wales and accessing facilities by the disabled.
- The Chair to write to the Health and Social Services Committee and the Education and Life Long Learning Committee to invite them to consider the health and education perspectives of sports participation.

**Break: 10.15am-10.45am**

**10.45am-11.30am**

### **Item 3: Council of Museums in Wales**

**CC-02-03 (p4)**

Presenters: John Marjoram, Acting Director and Robert Francis-Davies, Chairman of Council of

## Museums in Wales (CMW).

3.1 The purpose of the presentation was to look at CMW's annual report and corporate plan. A copy of the presentation is attached to the minutes at Annex A. The following points were made:

- The CMW had been in existence for 35 years. It was sponsored by the Welsh Assembly Government. Members of the organisation represented local authority, independent and trust museums in Wales. Their remit included conservation of collections, targeting grant aid, improving standards of collection care, development of public services and a general advisory role. Since 1968 the number of local museums in Wales had increased from 29 employing 10 professional staff to approximately 105, employing 120 professional staff. CMW had created 47 subsidised posts to assist in the development of professional standards of care. Grant programmes provided to museums by CMW totalled £3.3 million and touched all parts of Wales.
- CMW would dissolve in March 2004 and would be replaced by CyMAL. There were several initiatives in place which would need to be continued by CyMAL, namely:
  - Advocacy role – There was a concern that CyMAL's remit would not include this role.
  - "Museum Mapping 2002" – this was both a qualitative and quantitative survey of collections and public services in Welsh museums. The data would need continual updating.
  - Relationship between museums in Wales and "Resource" (The Council for Museums, Archives and Libraries) – The CMW had overseen Resource's Museum Registration Scheme and was the only Area Museum Council in the UK to complete Phase 2 registration within the requested timescale. Phase 3 registration would need to be continued by CyMAL. It was felt that Resource had been very England-focused to date. CMW received support equivalent to £10,000 pa from Resource. Previously this amount had been £50,000 pa. It was hoped that matters would improve with the appointment of Anna Southall as the new Chief Executive of Resource.
  - Subsidised posts – museum officers in the local authority were working closely with independent museums, which would need continued support, advice and assistance in terms of education, access and the requirements of the Disability Discrimination Act.
  - Continuation of grant programmes – Major work had been undertaken with 3 local museums, namely Oriel Ynys Mon, Wrexham and Brecknock, to develop their infrastructure via the "Gathering the Treasures" scheme. This had been possible due to additional funding from the WAG. It was hoped that other museums would benefit from similar funding next year.
  - Working with libraries and archives – especially in relation to providing training seminars. This work should be continued.
  - University museums – in 2002, the CMW published a survey on the CMW website "Dining Amongst the Bones" which highlighted the considerable collections in universities. It was felt that such collections were under funded and it was hoped that CyMAL would assist in restoring the same.
  - Cymru'n Creu – there was concern raised that following the end of CMW, local museums would lose their representation in Cymru'n Creu.

3.2 The Minister then made the following points:

- The head of CyMAL was involved in Cymru'n Creu and so continuity of involvement would be assured.
- The Minister considered the fear of the introduction of CyMAL to be overstated.
- There was nothing restricting CMW retaining its advocacy role, even if WAG funding was withdrawn as CMW was not an ASPB, rather a funded body.
- CyMAL should form a strong relationship with Resource to maximise the benefit of the larger resources available to Resource.

3. There followed a question and answer session, during which the following points were made:

- Until recently all relevant qualifications originated in England. Aberystwyth University had now developed a museums and galleries course and the University of Glamorgan was also developing NVQ courses. More "home grown" specific training courses needed to be developed.
- Tone and direction of CyMAL – CMW wished to make sure that the progress made to date would not be lost. They welcomed the continued support for independent museums.
- Artefacts outside Wales – in particular the "Mold Cape", currently being displayed in the British Museum. It was important to get the infrastructure developed in North East Wales to allow such a fragile item to be displayed within its home locality.
- Registration of museums involved ensuring the standard of collection care, security and public services were of a sufficient level to allow artefacts to be properly protected. The museum also had to have permanent collections and have a firm constitutional basis. This enabled the museum to attract grant aid from major sources such as lottery funding.

### Action Points

- The Chair to write to Anna Southall to invite her to speak to the Committee about Resource.

### 11.30am to 12.00pm

#### Item 4: Minister's Monthly Report

#### **CC-02-03 (p5)**

4.1 The following points were made:

- The Minister suggested that the chair of Library Information Services Council [LISC] should attend the Committee to make a presentation on its current work. The Chair advised that consideration could be given to holding the presentation before April. If this were not possible, it would be recommended to the successor Committee that LISC should attend.
- No decision had been taken to transfer CADW to the Culture Minister's portfolio. At present responsibility lay with the Environment Minister.
- The Events Strategy Group comprised Andrew Davies, The Minister and representatives from The Wales Tourist Board, WDA, WLGA, SCW and the Arts Council for Wales. They were working with consultants, looking at major events in various areas of Wales. The aim of the Group was to assist local authorities that did not have the size or expertise to attract events alone.
- The Arts Council of Wales' review of Festivals in Wales has been carried out as part of its 5-year strategic plan. The review was completed last summer and was available on the ACW website.

- The Minister would write to the Chair of the Arts Council and the presidents of the National Museum of Wales and the National Library in connection with the payment of chairs. Due to the fact that they were Royal Charter bodies, they would need to seek amendments to their Charter. The Minister was heartened by the number of applications received for the Chair of the Arts Council position. A decision would be made by an appointments panel made up of the Minister, members and an external assessor.
- The Criminal Records Bureau had agreed to produce forms via the medium of Welsh following intervention by the First Minister and assistance from the Welsh Language Board.
- Legislation regarding the limitation of arts activities in chapels – the Minister was writing to DCMS to express concerns at the proposals.
- National Botanical Gardens – all aspects of the Gardens' work was being considered and not just financial issues.
- Wales Millennium Centre - £2 million pounds has been set aside to develop arts projects outside Cardiff. A group would be set up to look at various projects that have been suggested. New and innovative suggestions would be considered.

## 12.00pm to 12.30pm

### Item 5: Cardiff Bay Arts Trust (CBAT)

Presenters: Carole-Anne Davies, Director, Geraint Talfan Davies, Chairman and Wiard Sterk, Commissions Director of CBAT.

5.1 The purpose of the presentation was to highlight the work of the Trust. A copy of the presentation is attached at Annex B. The following points were made:

- The Cardiff Bay Development Corporation (CBDC) formed CBAT in 1991. Initially CBAT was funded by CBDC. When the CBDC came to the end of its term, CBAT decided to continue in existence. CBAT received funding from the Arts Council of Wales, the WDA and the local council. Between 1991 and 2003, CBAT received £850,000 in funding. They had just completed Cardiff County Council's strategy on public art, which essentially was a model for Cardiff however could be applied to the whole of Wales.
- CBAT's remit was not confined to Cardiff Bay and involved projects all over Wales as well as several projects in England. The rationale for projects outside Wales was to develop UK opportunities for Welsh artists and improve the reputation of Welsh art.
- Public art was important as it enriched public buildings, created civic identity, delivered safer public spaces, developed the cultural economy and was accessible to all. However it was under developed. The "Creative Futures" scheme hoped to extend best practice to the whole of Wales.

5.2 There followed a question and answer session, during which the following points were made:

- The provision of public art in some European countries was second nature. This was not true of the UK. The attitude to public art depended very much upon the enthusiasm of the local authority.
- Public art required an amount of legal and contractual work. A maintenance regime had to be

written into contracts to ensure sustainability. Vandalism had generally not been an issue with public art so far and there had been only one project in Cardiff that had been wilfully damaged. If people were given a quality environment, they respected it.

- The cities of Wales were filling their public spaces with public art. In Swansea, for example, the WDA were working with multi-disciplinary teams including environment experts, property experts and public art experts, providing an urban framework and carrying out effective site assessments.
- Commercial developers recognised that the market was increasingly competitive and accordingly public art had become increasingly important. A significant number were CBAT clients, including homebuilders such as Barratt, Persimmon and Bellway Homes.
- At present, CBAT received 3-4 tender invitations per week. They had been held up in countries such as France and Spain as a best practice model. They had also received bids from Manchester, Bristol, Cornwall, Avon and Gloucester.
- Development agencies usually took the first step in approaching CBAT to produce work. Small community groups also approached CBAT.

## **Item 6: Minutes of Previous Meeting**

### **CC-01-03 (min)**

1. The members agreed the minutes of the last meeting on 16<sup>th</sup> January 2003 subject to the minor amendments to be incorporated by the Secretariat in the Cabinet Office presentation.

### **Action Points**

- Minutes to be updated.

## **Members' Research and Committee Services January 2003**