CONNECTING BRITAIN'S EVENTS INDUSTRY

#### ALL PARTY PARLIAMENTARY GROUP - UK EVENTS INDUSTRY - Key Recommendations

	Recommendations	BVEP Response	Agreed Action	Lead(s)
	Recommendations for Industry			
1	Share best practice (Need to define what best practices should be shared – The Report talks about operating and marketing effectiveness. Suggest also room to encourage trade media to feature best practices; facilitate an industry report on best practice and a series of work- shops through one of the Partners).	The BVEP terms of Reference now includes a commitment to foster best practice. BVEP also fosters open forums. BVEP to work closely with 'Interboard' (VisitEngland, VisitScotland, Tourism Ireland, NITB, London & Partners) partners on best practice examples Agree that the fundamental first step is agreeing what best practices should be shared. This needs to be prioritized as potentially a LONG LIST!! Once priority areas agreed, the expert organization in that field should lead on establishing that (taking into account who is best placed to international benchmark also). Once best practice established, it should be collated in one area (area of BVEP website?) and shared through BVEP and its members organisations (including UK Interboard members).	To include e.g. - Professionalisation (apprenticeships) - Sustainability - Case studies	BVEP & partners Interboard - Tracy Halliwell (VC rep: SA)

	Business Visits & Events Partnership CONNECTING BRITAIN'S EVENTS INDUSTRY				
2	Form industry partnerships with local and regional authorities	<ul> <li>BVEP to continue to support better relationships with local and regional authorities, principally through our partner organisations LAEOG and interboard members</li> <li>Agree. There are no plans for a regional roadshow however. From an England perspective, we can look to incorporate into the work we are currently doing with LEP's (in establishing and increasing the emphasis on the visitor economy in their economic growth priorities) and DMO's (offering guidance/sharing best practice).</li> <li>Need to agree the message. What do we actually want to say to LEP's/DMO's.</li> <li>This could be a permanent agenda item for Interboard.</li> </ul>	Gain further insight from VisitEngland on existing activity with local authorities including plans for a regional roadshow in conjunction with Eventia.	LAEOG (Andy Grove) UK Interboard – VE, VS, NITB, VW, L&P (VC rep: SH)	

	Busi	ness Visits & Events	s Partnership	
		CONNECTING BRITAIN'S EVENTS I	NDUSTRY	
3		Since the APPG inquiry took place, VisitEngland has set up and is achieving success with the Ministerial Bid Support Initiative. VisitEngland, BVEP and Britain for Events continue to keep dialogue with UKTI. Proposal to operate an "events portal" on behalf of UKTI with support from VisitBritain. England: Since the English MBSI was re- established under the auspices of VisitEngland in May 2013, to date there have been 13 requests for Ministerial Support Letters. Of those 10 have been received and 2 events won. 2 are outstanding and 1 not received. The initiative is working well. Agree that there should be more active PR of bids won once we have more success stories. Other NTO's lead on their own MBSI's	More communication of Initiatives through our partners to member level to encourage further engagement BVEP to circulate MBSI one page guideline to all partners and member organisations (This has already been done – Suggest more active PR of bids submitted and won). VisitEngland, BVEP and Britain for Events to coordinate activity and communication with UKTI	UK Interboard – VE, VS, VW, NITB Britain for Events All Partners (VC rep. SH) (VC rep CS)

		Industry needs to gather further	BVEP to invite prospective chairs to	VC rep. CS / SA
4	Embrace Sustainability and	research / information on the validity of	create sub-commitees comprising	
	Apprenticeship programmes	this claim	influencing organisations and individuals	
			with a view to producing a quantitative	
	(In the last edition of Conference News,		piece of research in three areas:	
	I read about the Apprenticeship and			
	Internship schemes already in place in		Sustainability	
	the sector. It would be good to scope		Fiona Pelham and other sustainability	Fiona Pelham(Chair
	these further and prepare a list of		champions (e.g. Sam Wilson and others	
	available schemes).		pro and con)	
			Apprenticeships	ID(Chair)
			Juliet Price / Institute of Event	JP(Chair)
			Management	
			British Hospitality Association and	
			the Big Conversation campaign	
				MF
			Internships- Michael Forman re	
			internships	
			MIA / AIM to look at discussing with	John Gallery
			AIM development group across all	,
			three sub-commitees.	
			BVEP to communicate the progress	VC's
			of the sub-committees to the partners	
			and stakeholders	

	Business Visits & Events Partnership						
	CONNECTING BRITAIN'S EVENTS INDUSTRY						
5	Create a single better resourced organisation to represent the industry	<ul> <li>BVEP to reiterate that it remains the most representative body in the UK events industry</li> <li>BVEP acknowledges the need to be even broader in its representation and seeks improved financing to take on industry progressing activity.</li> <li>Finance would be through sponsorship, private and public funding, and commercial initiatives.</li> <li>BVEP also recognises the need for stronger engagement with VisitBritain</li> <li>From the UK Interboard perspective we are still not clear why we need stronger engagement with VisitBritain.</li> <li>Agree that BVEP should be better resourced.</li> <li>A smaller core group of representatives should be established to assist in driving things forward. The current meetings are too big and the agenda too broad to achieve that.</li> </ul>		BVEP (VC rep. RF + AT)			

	Recommendations for	It is not for the BVEP to involve itself in		
	Government	the recommendations to government,	(Suggest we indicate that the Partnership will use the	
		however it could be an interested party in	recommendations of the report to write	
		keeping track on the progress of the	to appropriate Ministers, Government Departments and Agencies and other	(BVEP – MH)
		recommendations from the APPG Inquiry	policies being proposed).	
		Industry to agree if the BVEP, throug its		
		partners, is the right platform to		
		represent the industry in holding		
		government to account on the following		
		recommendations.		
		Yes, the BVEP should be. It is the		
		lobbying organization for the industry.		
		UK interboard members take an		
		'advisory' role to government.		
		Support lobbying for a Growth Council	Ensure business events and leisure	
1	Establish a cross-departmental	currently being undertaken by the	events interests are included in any new	
	approach towards the Industry	Tourism Alliance	Council established by DCMS & BIS.	(BVEP – MH)
		Not sure what this Growth Council is.	Include in Events Manifesto	(Brian Kirsch)
		Need clarity.		

2	Create a special events visa	Requests for the introduction of a "special events" visa have already been proposed to the Home Office and Borders Agency and are reiterated at VisitBritain Welcome to Britain meetings. Agree	Identify a pilot trial with a specific event where over 2,000 delegates will attend for visa requiring destinations. Include in Events Manifesto	(BVEP – SH/BK) London and Partners to provide potential event to be used as a trial. (L&Ptnrs – TH)
3	Conduct a feasibility study into tax raising powers of Local Authorities for capital investment	Endorse proposal to DCLG and the Treasury	Identify a project which will support event infrastructure.	(BVEP –ALL)
4	Consider the impact of taxation on the events industry (inc. APD, VAT etc.)	Support current campaigns being conducted by the Tourism Alliance and the Fair Tax on Flying campaign.	cost to the events sector and benefits from lower levels of taxation.	(BVEP-JG) (Manifesto Group-BK)
			Include reduction in tax in Events Manifesto	

	Business Visits & Events Partnership CONNECTING BRITAIN'S EVENTS INDUSTRY					
5	Recognise BVEP and B4E as representative of industry and include VB & DMOs within the Partnership. This should read National Tourist Boards – NOT DMO's. NTO's already members!?! Not clear why we need VB on the partnership. That is what the UK Interboard is there to do.	BVEP welcomes endorsement of its role as industry co-ordinator and representative of industry issues.	Help strengthen the Partnership by providing additional funding to enlarge its role to achieve greater economic benefit from events	(BVEP – RF/AT)		

6	Facilitate local authorities and DMOs working with business organisations to develop a region specific approach to subvention. Is this an action for government? Not sure what is actually intended here.	Accept the need for such action	initiaited on the VisitEngland Destinations Forum. Could also be discussed by the InterBoard Group	UK Interboard – however need to understand better before committing to a role in this action (VE). (Manifesto Group – BK)
7	Develop a communications programme in partnership with the industry for local authorities to promote the benefits of events and offer guidance on best practice and regulation. Is this an action for government? How does this differ from point 2 in the industry recommendations? Surely this is the objective of point 2???	Accept the need for such a programme	Proposal to work with <b>UK Interboard</b> members. LGA and DCLG through one of	UK Interboard Eventia –SH LAEOG - AG