SPCB(2014)Paper 42
25 June 2014

FESTIVAL OF POLITICS 2014: UPDATE

Executive summary

1. The purpose of this Paper is to update the SPCB on the planning and preparations for the Festival of Politics 2014 in particular the programme, ticketing, partners and budgets.

Background

2. At its meeting on Wednesday 25 September 2013 the SPCB agreed the Festival would take place from Friday 15 to Sunday 17 August based on the same model as last year providing a shorter, sharper and more focused programme developed through discussions with the Presiding Officer and Clerk/Chief Executive.

3. The SPCB also agreed that sessions should be led on the same basis as last year using experts and commentators; that the Garden Lobby be used as a Festival Café Bar; and that the theme should reflect issues coming from the Referendum.

Issues and options

Programme

4. The programme has been developed in line with previous referendum guidance agreed by the SPCB. As such each Festival event will reflect a careful balance.

5. **Annex A** contains details of proposed Festival events that have been or are close to being confirmed. Whilst it is hoped that the Festival programme will not change significantly before it goes to print at the beginning of July the SPCB's approval will be sought for any major amendments.

6. Unlike previous year's we are not proposing to list all panellists for each session but instead name check only chairs within the programme; listing all chairs and panellists over two pages as participants at this year's Festival. This allows the Festival Team flexibility around the composition of the panels as we expect last minute changes this year to ensure balance across each session. A complete list of participants taking part in this year's Festival is attached at **Annex B**.

   The SPCB is asked to consider this new approach and agree the draft programme as set put in Annex A and the list of participants as set out in Annex B.

Launch and Ticketing

7. Following approval by the SPCB the programme will be launched to the public and the media on Friday 18 July. The launch was scheduled for 18 July so that it would fit in with being two months from the date of the Referendum. Members will receive an email updating them on the launch and the dates of the Festival before the break for summer recess.

8. As with last year we will be charging a ticket price of £5.00 and £3.50 for concessions for all sessions apart from *In Time O' Strife* and *To see ourselves as others see us*.

9. For *In Time O' Strife* by the National Theatre of Scotland we are proposing to hold one performance in the Debating Chamber. The second performance will be followed by discussion with the Director Graham McLaren chaired by the Presiding Officer. To help us recover costs for staging this performance tickets for this event will be charged at commercial rates - £10.00 and £8.00 for concessions.

10. In addition *To see ourselves as others see us* will be free as all costs to hold the event are being met through the partnership with the Law Society of Scotland.

The SPCB is asked to consider the charges proposed for tickets and agree that tickets for all events should be charged at £5.00 and £3.50 for concessions apart from *In Time O' Strife* which should be charged at £10.00 and £8.00 respectively.

Partnerships

11. Key partners for the Festival in 2014 will be Cameron Presentations and the Law Society of Scotland. Both organisations have been supporters of the Festival in previous years and have confirmed their commitment.

Resource implications

12. The overall costs for the Festival will come from within budgets already allocated.

Publication Scheme

13. This paper can be published

Decision

14. The SPCB is invited to consider this Paper and to:

    14.1 approve the draft programme and list of participants for the 2014 Festival of Politics; and

    14.2 agree that tickets should be charged at £5.00 and £3.50 for concessions for all sessions apart from *In Time O' Strife* which should be charged at £10.00 and £8.00 respectively.

EVENTS AND EXHIBITIONS TEAM
June 2014

ANNEX A

FRIDAY 15 AUGUST

Balancing the books
16:30–18:00
£5.00/£3.50

What is the future of public services in Scotland and can the public sector meet the ever increasing demands that are placed upon it. Following the Referendum what is the future of our vital services; policing, health, social services and education? Join the debate with Chair **xxx**.

Defence
16:30–18:00
£5.00/£3.50

What are the key defence issues facing Scotland and the UK including the future of trident at Faslane? Join Chair **xxx** and panellists as they discuss defence capability, the right mix of defence forces and international co-operation including NATO membership.

Food Security
16:30-18:00
£5.00/£3.50

Can Scotland feed itself in the future? Join Chair **Dr Alan Rowe**, Food Industry Specialist, Rowett Institute, University of Aberdeen and our panel of experts in this discussion forum to explore some of the key issues. Can we resolve the health and wealth paradox and what is the role of the food industry? What is the proportion of crop-based food that we could expect to sustainably produce in Scotland? What is the role of sustainable plant protein in a healthy diet?

SATURDAY 16 AUGUST 2014

Poverty and Life expectancy
11:00-12:30
£5.00/£3.50

Scots have a lower life expectancy than the rest of the UK. Use of food banks has risen 300% and poor diet is inextricably linked to low income and poverty. Chaired by Guardian journalist **Polly Toynbee** our panel of experts will consider the link between poverty and life expectancy and consider possible solutions.

Black Gold
11:00-12:30
£5.00/£3.50

The North Sea oil industry has been central to the debate on independence. Join our Chair **xxx** and the panel of experts who will look at the economic and wider societal implications of the "black gold" that almost every country in the world is critically dependant on. From exploration, extraction and tax revenues this event will cover all the key issues.

Polls and Polling
11:30-13:00
£5.00/£3.50

Are we influenced by polls or do polls reflect the actual attitudes of Scottish people? There is an increasing trend in political betting; is it any less accurate in determining the results of elections and referendums? In a yes / no situation do polls take on additional importance? Join Chair **xxx** and expert panellists in discussion and debate.

Scottish Independence Referendum: To see ourselves as others see us
13:30-15:00
FREE

Join us for a lively debate on the Scottish Independence Referendum, with a panel of international journalists discussing how the debate is being portrayed outside of Scotland. Chaired by the BBC's **Isabel Fraser**, this promises to be a stimulating and different view of the biggest question our country is being asked to answer in over 300 years.

Political Strategy
15:30-17:00
£5.00/£3.50

Do you have questions about Scottish public opinion on the referendum? How is that translated into political strategy? Come join our pollster roundtable and learn how political professionals turn data into strategy. Join American pollsters **Jason Boxt** and **Robert Moran** and others more local as they analyse current referendum polling.

Scottish Social Attitude
15:30-17:00
£5.00/£3.50

Following on from last year's very successful event we are proposing to repeat this session again this year bringing it up-to-date with the recent research and findings taken forward by the Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC). The ESRC has funded significant research into a number of the key issues relating to Scotland and the UK's constitutional future. This session will be chaired by the **Presiding Officer**.

Politics of philanthropy
18:00-19:30
£5.00/£3.50

This session will look at the role of charities, philanthropy and philanthropists play within the current debate around the Referendum. Chaired by **Nora Rundell,** Chief Executive, Carnegie Dunfermline Trust our panel discusses the role of philanthropy and ask whether today's philanthropists should be politically engaged like all citizens representing their and others' views to the politicians of the day just like Andrew Carnegie and others have?

What Currency?
19:00-20:30
£5.00/£3.50

Future currency options have been one of the most hotly contested issues in the Referendum debate. This panel will cut through to the nub of the matter and identify what are options are available, the likelihood of them being achieved and the pros and cons of each. Join in the discussion with Chair **xxx** and panellists.

***One Humanity* (Film Screening)**
19:00-22:00
£5.00/£3.50

One Humanity tells the story of how the world came to focus on a single cause – the end of the apartheid regime in South Africa - through two star-studded global television broadcasts produced by Tony Hollingsworth. In 1988 the Nelson Mandela 70th Birthday Tribute at Wembley Stadium called for Mandela's release and was broadcast to 600-million people in 100 countries. In April 1990, 54 days after his release, the International Tribute for a Free South Africa was produced at Mandela's request. View this amazing film and join **Tony Hollingsworth**, Director in conversation with **Alan Miller**, Scottish Human Right Commission and **Mark Muller Stuart QC**, Beyond Borders.

Lyceum 7 Billion
20:00-21:30
£5.00/£3.50

In 1930 by request the people of St Kilda - the most remote part of the UK - were evacuated. The world's population has since passed 7 Billion. The Lyceum Youth Theatre won't give you a history lesson but they will explore what's it's like to be from a small country with a big reputation that's about to make a huge decision

SUNDAY 17 AUGUST

Broadcasting
11:00-12:30
£5.00/£3.50

What is the future of broadcasting in Scotland and the UK? Do more media outlets make for a healthier media and what are the implications of the Referendum for public service broadcasting in Scotland and the United Kingdom? Switch on and join Chair **xxx** and panellists as they discuss the picture of things to come.

EU membership, the UK and Scotland
11:00-12:30
£5.00/£3.50

EU membership for an independent Scotland is much talked about and raises many questions. Would Scottish accession to the EU be a legal or political process or both? What would the terms of Scottish membership of the EU be and what would the timescale be? Join our Chair **xxx** and the panel to find out the answers.

Immigration
13:00-14:30
£5.00/£3.50

What are the key issues for immigration and immigration policy in the UK and Scotland? What are the impacts of immigration on the economy and society? Join Chair **Gary Christie** from the Scottish Refugee Council and panellists to discuss the issues.

Cochrane and Kerevan in Discussion
13:30-15:00
£5.00/£3.50

Two of Scotland's leading political journalists have used their insight to bring something unique to the independence debate: a side-by-side presentation of the case as seen from each camp. **Alan Cochrane**, Scottish editor of *The Daily Telegraph*, presents the No side while **George Kerevan**, economist and former Associate Editor of *The Scotsman*, gives the Yes point of view. Join them as they debate and discuss the key issues. Chaired by the **Presiding Officer**.

Scottish Independence: Yes or No is published by the History Press in Dublin.

In Time O' Strife
14:15-15:00 and 16:00-17:30
£10.00/£8.00

This event will showcase the National Theatre of Scotland's Production of *In Time O' Strife* by Joe Corrie, adapted, designed and directed by Graham McLaren followed by a discussion and debate that will explore notions of identity and community. To raise funds for the soup kitchens feeding the miners and their starving families, Corrie wrote *In Time O' Strife* whilst on strike himself, exposing the brutal lives of a family staring hunger and defeat in the face. Following the performance a discussion will explore how important are notions of identity and community within Scotland and beyond and what resonance does Corrie's play have for us today? Following the performance the **Presiding Officer** will chair a discussion with the director **Graham McLaren**.

Renewing local democracy
15:30-17:00
£5.00/£3.50

Nations and cities will grapple with entirely new governance challenges in the 21st century. These include automation and technological unemployment; surveillance, privacy and data security; resource conservation; local taxation and many others. Join Chair **xxx** as we explore these issues and what impact will the Referendum outcome have on local democracy? At what level should decisions be made and what powers need to exist at a local level?

An Economic Vision for 2020
15:00-16:30
£5.00/£3.50

The referendum has focussed minds on the short-term choices for Scotland, but what could the future hold? Chaired by **James Naughtie**, we will ask an expert panel drawn from economics, the media, business and the arts to imagine two scenarios: what will the country be like in six years' time if the vote is 'Yes' and what will it look like if the vote is 'No?'

I Spy
18:30-20:00
£5.00/£3.50

The threat of terrorism has become part of our everyday life. The intelligence services provide a vital front line defence in keeping our communities and our country safe. Chair **Professor Louise Richardson**, Principal at St Andrews University and panellists will discuss the shape of the intelligence services in the future and what role will they play.

ANNEX B

Participating in the 2014 Festival of Politics

Dr Angus Armstrong, National Institute of Economics & Social Research; Jo Armstrong**,** University of Glasgow; **Professor Liz Baggs,** University of Aberdeen; **Louise Batchelor,** Former BBC News Presenter and Environmental Correspondent; **Professor Christina Boswell,** University of Edinburgh; **Jason Boxt**, The Glover Park Group; **Alan Burnett**, Former Head of Counter Terrorism for Scotland; **Sue Cameron**, The Daily Telegraph; **Professor Malcolm Chalmers**, Royal United Services Institute; **Gary Christie**, Scottish Refugee Council; **Alan Cochrane**, The Daily Telegraph; **Tom Costley**, TNS Scotland; **Sarah Craig**, University of Glasgow; **Professor John Curtice**, University of Strathclyde; **Mark Diffley**, IPSOS MORI Scotland; **Dr Flora Douglas**, University of Aberdeen; **Martyn Evans,** Carnegie UK Trust; **Colin Fleming**, University of Edinburgh; **Ailsa Henderson**, University of Edinburgh; **Tony Hollingsworth**, Director; **Paul Johnson**, University College, London; **Dr Alexandra Johnstone**, University of Aberdeen; **Dr Karsten Karcher**, Pulsetta Foods; **Professor Michael Keating**, University of Aberdeen; **Professor Alex Kemp**, University of Aberdeen; **George Kerevan**, Economist & Journalist; **Dr Andy Kerr.** Edinburgh University; **Robin McAlpine**, Jimmy Reid Foundation; **Dr Nicola McEwan**, Edinburgh University; **Rt Hon Henry McLeish**, Former First Minister; **Iain Macwhirter**, The Herald; **Graham McLaren**, Director; **Alan Miller**, Scottish Human Rights Commission; **Robert Moran**, Data-Driven Strategist and Author; **Mark Muller-Stuart QC**, Senior Advocate; **Dr Andrew Neal**, University of Edinburgh; **Dr Phillips O'Brien,** Glasgow University; **Jeremy Peat**, Competition Commission; **Mandy Rhodes,** Holyrood Magazine; **Professor Louise Richardson**, St Andrews University; **David Robb**, Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator; **Dr Alan Rowe**, University of Aberdeen; **Nora Rundell**, Carnegie Dunfermline Trust; **Professor Sir Hew Strachan**, Oxford University; **Professor Adam Tomkins,** University of Glasgow; **Scott Walker**, National Farmers Union of Scotland; **Dave Watson**, Scottish Trades Union Congress; **Dr Lynn Whitaker,** University of Glasgow; **Professor Robert Wright**, University of Strathclyde Business School