

Community Wellbeing Board

Agenda

Supplementary Agenda

Thursday, 28 March 2019
11.00 am

Smith Square 3&4, Ground Floor, 18 Smith
Square, London, SW1P 3HZ

To: Members of the Community Wellbeing Board
cc: Named officers for briefing purposes

Guidance notes for members and visitors **18 Smith Square, London SW1P 3HZ**

Please read these notes for your own safety and that of all visitors, staff and tenants.

Welcome!

18 Smith Square is located in the heart of Westminster, and is nearest to the Westminster, Pimlico, Vauxhall and St James's Park Underground stations, and also Victoria, Vauxhall and Charing Cross railway stations. A map is available on the back page of this agenda.

Security

All visitors (who do not have an LGA ID badge), are requested to report to the Reception desk where they will be asked to sign in and will be given a visitor's badge to be worn at all times whilst in the building.

18 Smith Square has a swipe card access system meaning that security passes will be required to access all floors. Most LGA governance structure meetings will take place on the **ground floor, 7th floor and 8th floor** of 18 Smith Square.

Please don't forget to sign out at reception and return your security pass when you depart.

Fire instructions

In the event of the fire alarm sounding, vacate the building immediately following the green Fire Exit signs. Go straight to the assembly point in Tufton Street via Dean Trench Street (off Smith Square).

DO NOT USE THE LIFTS.

DO NOT STOP TO COLLECT PERSONAL BELONGINGS.

DO NOT RE-ENTER BUILDING UNTIL AUTHORISED TO DO SO.



Open Council

Open Council, on the 7th floor of 18 Smith Square, provides informal meeting space and refreshments for local authority members and officers who are in London.

Toilets

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Accessibility

If you have special access needs, please let the meeting contact know in advance and we will do our best to make suitable arrangements to meet your requirements.

Every effort has been made to make the building as accessible as possible for people with disabilities. Induction loop systems have been installed in the larger meeting rooms and at the main reception. There is a parking space for blue badge holders outside the Smith Square entrance and two more blue badge holders' spaces in Dean Stanley Street to the side of the building. There is also a wheelchair lift at the main entrance. For further information please contact the Facilities Management Helpdesk on 020 7664 3015.

Guest WiFi in 18 Smith Square

WiFi is available in 18 Smith Square for visitors. It can be accessed by enabling "Wireless Network Connection" on your computer and connecting to LGA-Free-WiFi. You will then need to register, either by completing a form or through your Facebook or Twitter account (if you have one). You only need to register the first time you log on.

The LGA also offers the Govroam network, a Wi-Fi network which gives Members seamless roaming internet access across multiple public-sector locations if you have also signed up for this service. This network is enabled throughout our Westminster building and allows Members and staff from other authorities who are part of the Govroam network to seamlessly connect to our Wi-Fi.

Further help

Please speak either to staff at the main reception on the ground floor, if you require any further help or information. You can find the LGA website at www.local.gov.uk

LGA Community Wellbeing Board
28 March 2019

There will be a meeting of the Community Wellbeing Board at **11.00 am on Thursday, 28 March 2019** Smith Square 3&4, Ground Floor, 18 Smith Square, London, SW1P 3HZ.

A sandwich lunch will be available after the meeting.

Attendance Sheet:

Please ensure that you sign the attendance register, which will be available in the meeting room. It is the only record of your presence at the meeting.

Political Group meetings:

The group meetings will take place in advance of the meeting. Please contact your political group as outlined below for further details.

Apologies:

Please notify your political group office (see contact telephone numbers below) if you are unable to attend this meeting.

Conservative:	Group Office: 020 7664 3223	email: lgaconservatives@local.gov.uk
Labour:	Group Office: 020 7664 3263	email: Lewis.addlington-lee@local.gov.uk
Independent:	Group Office: 020 7664 3224	email: independent.grouplga@local.gov.uk
Liberal Democrat:	Group Office: 020 7664 3235	email: libdem@local.gov.uk

Location:

A map showing the location of 18 Smith Square is printed on the back cover.

LGA Contact:

Alexander Saul
0207 664 3232 / alexander.saul@local.gov.uk

Carers' Allowance

As part of the LGA Members' Allowances Scheme a Carer's Allowance of £9.00 per hour or £10.55 if receiving London living wage is available to cover the cost of dependants (i.e. children, elderly people or people with disabilities) incurred as a result of attending this meeting.

Social Media

The LGA is committed to using social media in a co-ordinated and sensible way, as part of a strategic approach to communications, to help enhance the reputation of local government, improvement engagement with different elements of the community and drive efficiency. Please feel free to use social media during this meeting. **However, you are requested not to use social media during any confidential items.**

The twitter hashtag for this meeting is #lgacwb

Community Wellbeing Board – Membership 2018/2019

Councillor	Authority
Conservative (8)	
Cllr Ian Hudspeth (Chairman)	Oxfordshire County Council
Cllr Nigel Ashton	North Somerset Council
Cllr Sue Woolley	Lincolnshire County Council
Cllr Jonathan Owen	East Riding of Yorkshire Council
Cllr Andrew Brown	Hammersmith and Fulham London Borough Council
Cllr Mel Few	Surrey County Council
Cllr Colin Noble	Forest Heath District Council
Cllr David Williams	Hertfordshire County Council
Substitutes	
Cllr Graham Gibbens	Kent County Council
Cllr Graham Jones	West Berkshire Council
Labour (7)	
Cllr Paulette Hamilton (Vice-Chair)	Birmingham City Council
Cllr Shabir Pandor	Kirklees Metropolitan Council
Cllr Jackie Meldrum	Lambeth London Borough Council
Cllr Rachel Eden	Reading Borough Council
Cllr Helen Holland	Bristol City Council
Cllr David Shields	Southampton City Council
Cllr Denise Scott-McDonald	Royal Borough of Greenwich
Substitutes	
Cllr Mohammed Iqbal	Pendle Borough Council
Cllr Robin Moss	Bath & North East Somerset Council
Cllr Richard Chattaway	Warwickshire County Council
Liberal Democrat (2)	
Cllr Richard Kemp CBE (Deputy Chair)	Liverpool City Council
Cllr Doreen Huddart	Newcastle upon Tyne City Council
Substitutes	
Cllr Rob Rotchell	Cornwall Council
Independent (2)	
Mayor Kate Allsop (Deputy Chair)	Mansfield District Council
Cllr Claire Wright	Devon County Council
Substitutes	
Cllr Neil Burden	Cornwall Council
Cllr Tony Saffell	North West Leicestershire District Council

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11.00 am

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3. Public Health Grant and Business Rates Retention Update	1 - 4

Date of Next Meeting: Wednesday, 19 June 2019, 11.00 am, Smith Square 3&4, Ground Floor, 18 Smith Square, London, SW1P 3HZ



Public Health Grant and Business Rates Retention Update

Purpose

For information and discussion.

Summary

This report provides a summary of progress on the Business Rates Retention work in respect of public health.

Recommendation

That members note contents of the report and provide a steer on the LGA's work regarding the future of the public health grant.

Action

Officers to proceed with delivery of the LGA work programme on Business Rates Retention and the Fair Funding Review taking account of any steers about how to respond to concerns about removal of the public health ring-fence.

Contact officer: Paul Ogden
Position: Senior Adviser
Phone no: 020 7664 3277
Email: paul.ogden@local.gov.uk

Public Health Grant and Business Rates Retention Update

Introduction

1. This report updates members on progress on Business Rates Retention in relation to the public health grant.
2. The work on further Business Rates Retention and the Fair Funding Review is being considered by the LGA's Task and Finish Group on Business Rates Retention (a cross party, cross board group) and the Fair Funding Review, alongside consideration by Leadership Board and Executive.
3. This paper focusses on the future of the public health grant and the interaction with the timing of the 2019 Spending Review.

Public health grant and business rates retention

4. At the time of writing, it remains official Government policy that the public health grant will be phased out as part of the move to further Business Rates Retention from April 2020, with the ringfence on spending lifted at the same time. The LGA's current position is to support the transfer of the Public Health Grant into Further Business Rates Retention and this was endorsed by Leadership Board and Executive in 2017, and re-endorsed by the Task and Finish Group in March 2019.
5. Concerns have been raised about the implications of rolling the ringfenced public health grant into the business rates retention arrangements from April 2020. Those concerns focus on fears that without the ringfence local government will be free to reduce the total amount it spends on public health.
6. The existing ring-fence is not in itself protection against cuts to the grant as the grant has been cut significantly by the Government over recent years and will continue to reduce in 2019/20. The LGA estimate a real terms reduction of £700 million between 2015-2020.
7. Recent publications also make it clear that discussions within Government continue and it is still possible that this decision could be fully or partially reversed or go even further and see some public health service commissioning responsibilities (and associated funding) returned to the NHS.
8. For example, the NHS long-term plan mentions a review of public health commissioning. This is likely to report before the end of May 2019. While the terms of reference for the review of public health commissioning are not yet set, it is clear that the outcome of this review could affect the decision on whether to roll public health grant into retained business rates.

9. DHSC Ministers have also said publicly that the public health grant will only be replaced by retained business rates on the understanding that “assurance arrangements” have been established. Unless any risks have been mitigated, business rate retention implementation of public health may be delayed.
10. Members and officers have been engaging with ministers and senior civil servants in MHCLG, DHSC and Treasury as well as Public Health England and have provided evidence of the success of public health commissioning by councils including sharing our recent publication, [Local Government Delivers](#), as well as wider examples of good practice.
11. Members’ thoughts are invited on the tactical approach to building on the transfer public health grant and lifting of the ringfence, as set out above.

The impact on further business rates retention

12. The LGA’s policy work on business rates retention is governed by the LGA’s Leadership Board and Executive, informed by advice of the LGA’s political Task and Finish Group on business rates retention and the fair funding review.
13. Members of the Task and Finish Group received an update, In March 2019, on what the impact of the public health grant not rolling into business rates could be. This is summarised below. Following a discussion, the group agreed that the LGA should still support the rolling in of Public Health Grant in to Business Rates Retention.
14. The Government’s stated ambition is for local government as a whole to retain 75 per cent of business rates income collected through local lists from April 2020.
15. Under the current policy of this being a fiscally neutral move, the Government has to find and phase out other funding streams flowing to councils, or to transfer new responsibilities, worth the equivalent of 25 per cent of business rates income in 2020. At its 2019/20 value of £3.1 billion (or close to 12 per cent of estimated 2020/21 business rates income), public health grant is the single biggest element of this equation.
16. Should the transfer of public health funding into the business rates system not happen, the Government would potentially have to look into the following options:
 - 16.1. Find other funding streams to transfer, or transfer new responsibilities, to make up the £3.1 billion shortfall – although this has been ruled out as LGA policy and ruled out by MHCLG as part of discussions in 2017 and 2018;
 - 16.2. Reduce the share of funding retained, both on day one and in subsequent growth, to 63 per cent (75 per cent less the 12 per cent value of the public health grant);



- 16.3. Reduce the share of funding retained to 63 per cent (75 per cent less the 12 per cent value of the public health grant), with 75 per cent of subsequent growth retained. We have not assessed whether this would be possible within the current legislation but informal soundings suggest it would be unlikely; or
 - 16.4. Provide the £3.1 billion in the baseline as an injection of completely new funding with no responsibilities or phasing out of grants by still keeping the retained shares at 75 per cent. Whilst this would align well with the LGA's call to use business rates income to help address the funding gap, it would breach the Government's policy of fiscal neutrality.
17. It is important to note that a reduction of the retained share of business rates to 63 per cent would mean that local authorities collectively forego 12 per cent of future business rates growth. A rough estimate suggests this could be worth £60 million annually (on the assumption that business rates are worth £25 billion in 2020/21 and they grow by 2 per cent)
18. A similar set of options would face the Government if it decided to return part of the commissioning responsibility back to the NHS, except the amount of funding that needs to be found would be smaller. For example, councils spend approximately £600 million on sexual health commissioning and £800m on health visiting, making up nearly half of the £3.1 billion 2019/20 value of the public health grant.

Implications for Wales

19. Local government funding is a devolved matter and Business Rates Retention and the Fair Funding Review are limited to English local authorities.

Financial implications

20. The work set out above forms part of the LGA's core work programme and has been funded through the 2018/19 budget.