

Note of last LGA Leadership Board meeting

Title: LGA Leadership Board
Date: Thursday 15 June 2017
Venue: Rooms A&B, Ground Floor, Layden House, 76-86 Turnmill Street,
London, EC1M 5LG

Attendance

An attendance list is attached as [Appendix A](#) to this note.

Item Decisions and actions

1 Declarations of Interest

The Chairman, Cllr Vernon-Jackson CBE and Sir Steve Bullock declared an interest in item 6 (Consolidated Financial Statements) and item 11 (IDeA Pension Fund) as members of the local government pension scheme.

2 Congratulations and Thanks

Congratulations

The Chairman congratulated those members that had secured re-election in the May local elections.

Thanks

It was noted that this would be the last Leadership Board meeting for a number of longstanding members: Cllr Gerald Vernon-Jackson CBE who has served six years as Liberal Democrat Group Leader and Cllr Taylor OBE, Sir Steve Bullock and Mayor Thornhill whom had all enjoyed long tenures as Deputy Chairs. On behalf of the Board, the Chairman warmly thanked all four members for their long service on the Board and paid tribute to their significant contribution to the LGA and the sector as a whole.

3 Combined Authority Mayors

Rebecca Cox (Principal Policy Advisor) introduced the report which updated on the recent election of six Combined Authority Mayors (CAM) and outlined the LGA's membership offer. In particular she thanked political group leaders and the LGA group offices for their support in engaging with the Mayors.

Members commended a recent CAM engagement forum and endorsed the LGA's flexible support offer and approach. The Board highlighted a number of issues for further consideration, including: support for all component parts of Combined Authorities in resilience and managing conflict; and an inclusive approach to cross party engagement in Combined Authorities, with particular mention to the importance of pre-scrutiny and inclusion of independent members.

Decisions

The LGA Leadership Board:

- i. **noted** the Combined Authority Mayoral elections outcomes;
- ii. **noted** LGA activity to support combined authorities, engagement with Combined Authority Mayors and development of the mayoral support offer; and
- iii. **agreed** that their comments continue to inform the development of the LGA's support offer.

4 Local Elections and LGA Political Balance 2017-2018

Claire Holloway (Head of Corporate Services) introduced the definitive figures for the LGA's proportionality for 2017-2018 following the local election results, and outlined the implications for the distribution of seats on the LGA's governance structure amongst the political groups. The report also sought Members' decision on whether to include Combined Authority Mayors (CAMs) in the LGA's political balance.

In the following discussion, the Board agreed not to include CAMs in the LGA's political balance calculations for the coming year, however reiterated the importance of bringing CAMs into the local government family, and therefore agreed to review this position in 2018.

Decisions

The LGA Leadership Board:

- i. **endorsed** the proportionality figures for 2017/2018; and
- ii. **agreed** not to include Combined Authority Elected Mayors in the LGA's political balance calculations for the coming year and to review this position in 2018.

5 Vice-Presidents

David Holdstock (Director of Communications) introduced the report which listed those Members of the House of Commons, House of Lords and European Parliament that the LGA's Political Groups would be inviting to be Vice-Presidents for 2017-18.

The report was agreed without further comment.

Decision

The LGA Leadership Board **noted** and **endorsed** the Vice-President appointments made by the Political Groups.

6 2017 Annual Report of the Audit Committee

Claire Holloway introduced the report which summarised the work undertaken by the Audit Committee in 2017/18.

The report was agreed without further comment.

Decision

The Leadership Board **agreed** the annual report of the Audit Committee be presented to the General Assembly on 4 July 2017.

7 LGA Group consolidated financial statements for the year to 31 March 2017

Jonathan Gratte (Strategic Finance Manager) introduced the LGA's consolidated financial statements for the year to 31 March 2017 for Members' agreement prior to the accounts being submitted to the LGA General Assembly for adoption.

The report was agreed without further comment.

Decision

The LGA Leadership Board **agreed** the financial statements for 2016/17 prior to their adoption at the LGA General Assembly on 4 July 2017.

8 Chief Executive's report

Mark Lloyd (Chief Executive) moved the report which set out the LGA's main achievements against the business plan priorities since the last meeting. In doing so, he drew attention to the current membership position and recent LGA support for those councils that had undergone a change of control political control following the local elections.

The report was agreed without further comment.

Decision

The LGA Leadership Board **noted** the Chief Executive's report for June 2017.

9 LGA Forward Plan

The Forward Plan was moved without further comment.

Decision

The LGA Leadership Board **agreed** the forward plan.

10 Note of the last meeting

Decision

The Leadership Board **agreed** the minutes of the previous meeting held on 8 June 2017.

11 Confidential

The following items were considered in the confidential section of the meeting.

12 LGA Company Structures: Report of the Company Structures Task and Finish Gro

Sarah Pickup (Deputy Chief Executive) summarised the outcome of a member review of the LGA's company structures and invited Members to recommend the proposed changes to the General Assembly for agreement.

There followed a confidential discussion.

Decisions

The Leadership Board **agreed** the recommendations as set out in the report.

13 IDeA Pension Fund

Sarah Pickup introduced the item which sought the Board's agreement to a number of measures to protect the Association and its members against risks associated with its pension deficits.

There followed a confidential discussion.

Decisions

The Leadership Board **agreed** the recommendations as set out in the report.

14 Annual Conference & Exhibition

David Holdstock to introduced the latest programme and preparations for the LGA's Annual Conference taking place in Birmingham from 4-6 July 2017.

The report was agreed without further comment.

Decisions

The LGA Leadership Board **agreed** the final programme & activities for the Annual conference and exhibition 2017.

15 Implications of the General Election

The Chairman briefly introduced the report which set out an early analysis of the issues for local government and the LGA to consider in engaging with the new government.

There followed a confidential discussion.

Decisions

The Leadership Board **agreed** the recommendations as set out in the report and that their comments inform the LGA's work.

16 LGA Conference Publication

David Holdstock briefly introduced the LGA's main publication for members' comment and clearance prior to launch at annual conference.

The report was agreed without further comment.

Decision

The LGA Leadership Board **agreed** the LGA's main publication for launch at annual conference.

17 Report of the Commercial Advisory Board

Sir Steve Bullock (Commercial Advisory Board Chairman) introduced the item which updated on a Commercial Advisory Board project.

The report was agreed without further comment.

Decisions

The Leadership Board **agreed** the recommendations as set out in the report.

18 Local Partnerships: Revised Members' Agreement

Claire Holloway introduced the report which asked the Board to agree a revised Members' Agreement with Local Partnerships.

The report was agreed without further comment.

Decision

The Leadership Board **agreed** the recommendations as set out in the report.

19 Local Government House & Layden House Update

Claire Holloway provided a verbal update on the refurbishment of Layden House and Local Government House development projects which remained to timescale.

Sarah Pickup introduced the short report that has been tabled.

There followed a confidential discussion.

Decisions

The Leadership Board **agreed** the recommendations as set out in the report.

Appendix A -Attendance

Position/Role	Councillor	Authority
Chairman	Lord Gary Porter CBE	South Holland District Council
Senior Vice-Chair	Cllr Nick Forbes	Newcastle upon Tyne City Council
Vice-Chairman	Cllr David Simmonds CBE	Hillingdon London Borough Council
	Cllr Gerald Vernon-Jackson CBE	Portsmouth City Council
	Cllr Marianne Overton MBE	Lincolnshire County Council
Deputy-chairman	Cllr Sharon Taylor OBE	Stevenage Borough Council
	Mayor Sir Steve Bullock	Lewisham London Borough Council
	Cllr Anne Western CBE	Derbyshire County Council
	Cllr Sue Murphy CBE	Manchester City Council
	Cllr Peter Box CBE	Wakefield Metropolitan District Council
	Cllr Peter Reeve MBE	Cambridgeshire County Council
Members	Cllr Peter Fleming OBE	Sevenoaks District Council

Cllr Sean Anstee

Trafford Metropolitan Borough Council

Apologies

Baroness Couttie of Westminster City Council
Downe Philippa Couttie
Mayor Dorothy Thornhill Watford Borough Council
MBE