

# Councillors' Forum

## Agenda

Thursday, 19 July 2018  
12.30 pm

Westminster Room, 8th Floor, 18 Smith  
Square, London, SW1P 3HZ

**To:** Members of the Councillors' Forum  
**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!**

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



### **Open Council**

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### **Accessibility**

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**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](http://www.local.gov.uk)

Councillors' Forum  
19 July 2018

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There will be a meeting of the Councillors' Forum at **12.30 pm on Thursday, 19 July 2018**  
Westminster Room, 8th Floor, 18 Smith Square, London, SW1P 3HZ.

Please note: *The Political Group meetings will be held prior to this, as follows:*

11.00am	Conservative	Westminster Suite (8 <sup>th</sup> floor)
11.00am	Labour	Smith Square Rooms 3 & 4 (Ground floor)
11.00am	Liberal Democrat	Smith Square Rooms 1 & 2 (Ground floor)
11.00am	Independent	Eaton & Cockell Room (7 <sup>th</sup> Floor)

A sandwich lunch will be available at 1.15pm in The Beecham Room (7<sup>th</sup> Floor).

**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.

<b>Conservative:</b>	Group Office: 020 7664 3223	email: <a href="mailto:lgaconservatives@local.gov.uk">lgaconservatives@local.gov.uk</a>
<b>Labour:</b>	Group Office: 020 7664 3334	email: <a href="mailto:Labour.GroupLGA@local.gov.uk">Labour.GroupLGA@local.gov.uk</a>
<b>Independent:</b>	Group Office: 020 7664 3224	email: <a href="mailto:independent.grouplga@local.gov.uk">independent.grouplga@local.gov.uk</a>
<b>Liberal Democrat:</b>	Group Office: 020 7664 3235	email: <a href="mailto:libdem@local.gov.uk">libdem@local.gov.uk</a>

**Location:**

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

**LGA Contact:**

Thomas French  
020 7664 3041 / [thomas.french@local.gov.uk](mailto:thomas.french@local.gov.uk)

**Carers' Allowance**

As part of the LGA Members' Allowances Scheme a Carer's Allowance of up to £7.83 per hour 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.

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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.**

## Councillors' Forum – Membership 2016/2017

Councillor	Authority
<b>Conservative ( 43)</b>	
Lord Porter of Spalding CBE (Chairman)	South Holland District Council
Cllr David Simmonds CBE	Hillingdon London Borough Council
Cllr Sean Anstee	Trafford Metropolitan Borough Council
Cllr Paul Carter CBE	Kent County Council
Cllr Izzi Seccombe OBE	Warwickshire County Council
Cllr Nigel Ashton	North Somerset Council
Cllr Philip Atkins OBE	Staffordshire County Council
Cllr John Beesley	Bournemouth Borough Council
Cllr Kevin Bentley	Essex County Council
Cllr Paul Bettison OBE	Bracknell Forest Borough Council
Cllr Morris Bright MBE	Hertsmere Borough Council
Cllr Gillian Brown OBE	Arun District Council
Cllr Vanessa Churchman	Isle of Wight Council
Cllr Neil Clarke MBE	Rushcliffe Borough Council
Cllr Simon Cooke	Bradford Metropolitan District Council
Cllr Deborah Croney	Dorset County Council
Cllr Tom Fitzpatrick	North Norfolk District Council
Cllr John Fuller	South Norfolk District Council
Cllr Keith Glazier	East Sussex County Council
Cllr Peter Golds	Tower Hamlets Council
Cllr John Hart	Devon County Council
Cllr Mark Hawthorne MBE	Gloucestershire County Council
Cllr Martin Hill OBE	Lincolnshire County Council
Cllr James Jamieson	Central Bedfordshire Council
Cllr Donna Jones JP	Portsmouth City Council
Cllr Rebecca Knox	Dorset County Council
Cllr Robert Light	Kirklees Metropolitan Council
Cllr Rory Love	Shepway District Council
Cllr Colin Noble	Suffolk County Council
Cllr Teresa O'Neill OBE	Bexley Council
Cllr Jonathan Owen	East Riding of Yorkshire Council
Cllr Stephen Parnaby OBE	East Riding of Yorkshire Council
Cllr Roy Perry	Hampshire County Council
Cllr Roger Phillips	Herefordshire Council
Cllr David Renard	Swindon Borough Council
Cllr Glen Sanderson JP	Northumberland Council
Cllr Martin Tett	Buckinghamshire County Council
Cllr Geoffrey Theobald OBE	
Cllr Barry Lewis	Derbyshire County Council
Cllr Catherine Rankin	Tunbridge Wells Borough Council
Cllr Colin Riley	Castle Point Borough Council
Mayor Tim Bowles	West of England Combined Authority
Mayor James Palmer	Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority

<b>Substitutes</b>	
<b>Labour ( 37)</b>	
Cllr Nick Forbes (Senior Vice-Chair)	Newcastle upon Tyne City Council
Cllr Lib Peck	Lambeth London Borough Council
Cllr Michael Payne	Gedling Borough Council
Cllr Peter Box CBE	Wakefield Metropolitan District Council
Cllr Sue Murphy CBE	Manchester City Council
Sir Richard Leese CBE	Manchester City Council
Cllr Simon Blackburn	Blackpool Council
Cllr Richard Watts	Islington Council
Cllr Simon Henig CBE	Durham County Council
Cllr Rishi Shori	Bury Metropolitan Borough Council
Cllr Alice Perry	Islington Council
Cllr Alan Rhodes	Nottinghamshire County Council
Cllr Clare Coghill	Waltham Forest London Borough Council
Cllr John Merry CBE	Salford City Council
Cllr Sabia Hussain	Slough Borough Council
Cllr Kate Haigh	Gloucester City Council
Cllr Aaron Shotton	Flintshire County Council
Cllr Sue Woodward	Staffordshire County Council
Cllr Timothy Swift MBE	Calderdale Metropolitan Borough Council
Sir Stephen Houghton CBE	Barnsley Metropolitan Borough Council
Cllr Graham Chapman	Nottingham City Council
Cllr Bryony Rudkin	Ipswich Borough Council
Cllr Helen Holland	Bristol City Council
Cllr Linda Thomas	Bolton Council
Cllr Anne Western CBE	Derbyshire County Council
Cllr Judith Blake CBE	Leeds City Council
Cllr Judi Billing MBE	North Hertfordshire District Council
Ms Fiona Twycross AM	London Fire and Emergency Planning Authority (LFEPA)
Cllr Roger Lawrence	Wolverhampton City Council
Cllr Vince Maple	Medway Council
Cllr Susan Hinchcliffe	Bradford Metropolitan District Council
Cllr Amy Cross	Blackpool Council
Cllr Debbie Wilcox	Newport City Council
Cllr Sharon Taylor OBE	Stevenage Borough Council
Cllr Iain Malcolm	South Tyneside Council
Cllr Richard Henry	Stevenage Borough Council
Cllr Tudor Evans OBE	Plymouth City Council
<b>Substitutes</b>	
Cllr James Dawson	Erewash Borough Council
<b>Liberal Democrat ( 11)</b>	
Cllr Howard Sykes MBE	Oldham Metropolitan Borough Council
Cllr Heather Kidd	Shropshire Council
Cllr Alan Connett	Devon County Council
Cllr Paul Tilsley CBE	Birmingham City Council
Cllr Richard Kemp CBE	Liverpool City Council
Cllr Claire Hudson	Mendip District Council

Cllr Abigail Bell	Hull City Council
Cllr Keith Aspden	North Yorkshire Fire & Rescue Service
Cllr Chris White	Hertfordshire County Council
Cllr Jon Hubbard	Wiltshire Council
Vacancy	Liberal Democrats
<b>Substitutes</b>	
Cllr Lucy Nethsingha	Cambridgeshire County Council
Cllr David Neighbour	Hart District Council
Mayor Dave Hodgson MBE	Bedford Borough Council
Cllr Paul Smith	Colchester Borough Council
<b>Independent ( 7 )</b>	
Cllr Marianne Overton MBE (Vice-Chair)	Lincolnshire County Council
Cllr Colin Mann	Caerphilly County Borough Council
Cllr Alan Seldon	Herefordshire Council
Cllr Wayne Davies	Redcar & Cleveland Borough Council
Cllr Carolyn Rule	Cornwall Council
Cllr Chris Townsend	Surrey County Council
Cllr Robert Bucke	Tendring District Council
<b>Substitutes</b>	
Cllr Phelim MacCafferty	Brighton & Hove City Council
Cllr Geoff Knight	Lancaster City Council

## Agenda

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### Councillors' Forum

Thursday 19 July 2018

12.30 pm

Westminster Room, 8th Floor, 18 Smith Square, London, SW1P 3HZ

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MAP OF 18 SMITH SQUARE

**Date of Next Meeting:** Thursday, 18 October 2018, 12.30 pm, Westminster Suite, 8th Floor, 18 Smith Square, London, SW1P 3HZ





## Susan Emmett, Head of Engagement, Homes England

### Purpose of report

For information.

### Summary

This paper provides background to the LGA Councillors' Forum discussion with the Minister Susan Emmett, Head of Engagement at Homes England.

Homes England is a national agency charged with supporting the increase in housing supply around the country. It brings together land, money, expertise, and planning and compulsory purchase powers, with a clear remit to facilitate delivery of sufficient new homes, with a focus on areas with affordability challenges.

For background, a copy of the LGA conference publication '*Housing, planning and homelessness: Moving the conversation on*' has been appended.

### Recommendation

That the LGA Councillors' Forum notes this report as background.

### Action

As directed by Members.

**Contact officer:** Nick Porter  
**Position:** Senior Adviser (Housing)  
**Phone no:** 0207 664 3113  
**Email:** [nick.porter@local.gov.uk](mailto:nick.porter@local.gov.uk)

**Susan Emmett, Head of Engagement, Homes England.**



Susan Emmett is Head of Engagement for Homes England. She works across the Agency with the Investment, Land and Local Teams to strengthen existing partnerships and to support new entrants to the housing industry with the aim of shaping a stronger and more resilient housing market.

Before joining Homes England, Susan was Head of Housing and Urban Regeneration at Policy Exchange, a Westminster think tank, where her work focused on opportunities for mixed use development on brownfield sites.

Before that Susan was a director in the Savills Research team following a career as a national newspaper journalist at The Times, where she launched Bricks and Mortar, the property section, in 2002.

# Housing, planning and homelessness

Moving the conversation on



## **This paper is the very start of our campaign ahead of the Spending Review.**

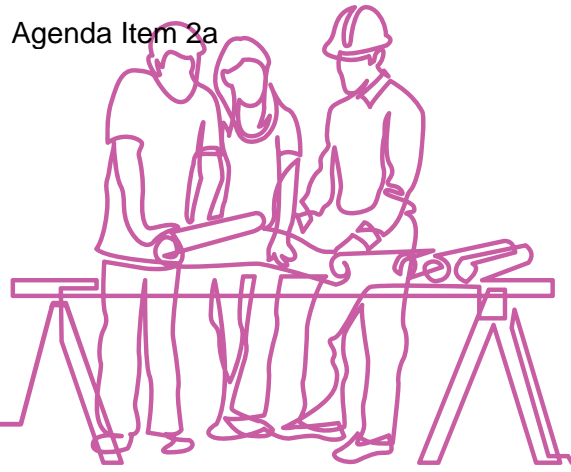
We have published a series of papers, commissioned by LGA boards, which start the new thinking around building the case for long term, sustained investment in local government as well as laying out the positive outcomes this would deliver for the country:

- local government funding
- housing, planning and homelessness
- improving schools
- Brexit
- the future of non-metropolitan England
- a sustainable adult social care and support system for the long term.

Over the coming months, we will be seeking your thoughts and evidence to further strengthen the rallying call to Government.

Find out more at [www.local.gov.uk/moving-the-conversation-on](http://www.local.gov.uk/moving-the-conversation-on)

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**Councils must be freed and empowered to play their full role in ensuring the provision of housing that supports health, jobs, and community.**

# The housing crisis

**In life every one of us needs a stable and secure home, it is central to leading healthy, fulfilled and productive lives. But for too many people housing is unavailable, unaffordable, or not appropriate for what they need.**

The impacts of our housing crisis are huge and widespread. It damages our communities, holding back growth and the creation of jobs. The impact of poor housing on health is similar to that of smoking or alcohol and costs the NHS at least £1.4 billion a year, as well as creating housing worries that ends in homelessness for too many families.<sup>1</sup>

Councils are currently providing temporary housing to over 200,000 homeless people, over half of whom are children.<sup>2</sup> Last year there were 4,751 rough sleepers living on our streets – more than double the number recorded in 2010.<sup>3</sup>

With an ageing population, older people in the UK now live in a third of all homes and the vast majority of over 65s currently live in the mainstream housing market with just 0.6 per cent in housing with care.<sup>4</sup> The suitability of the housing stock for our ageing population is of critical importance to the health and wellbeing of individuals, and the capacity of public services to sustainably support healthy ageing.<sup>5</sup>

While there are a number of explanations for our housing crisis, the reality is that the housing market is a complex system that is interconnected with other parts of our economy and society, and varying significantly around the country.

However, it is clear that councils need to be at the heart of solutions, and must be freed and empowered to play their full role in ensuring the provision of housing that supports health, jobs, and community.

<sup>1</sup> BRE, 2015

<sup>2</sup> Housing our homeless households, LGA, 2017

<sup>3</sup> Rough Sleeping Statistics Autumn 2017, England (Revised), MHCLG

<sup>4</sup> Can be termed extra care, assisted living, very sheltered housing or close care. It is housing for older people that often includes personal and domestic support, a dining service, communal facilities and 24 hour on site staff.

<sup>5</sup> Housing our ageing population, LGA, 2017



# A renewed focus on the role of councils

The LGA has played a central role in shaping a growing consensus around the need to empower councils to fix our broken housing market.

Working with the sector and Government we have secured a number of successes over the last year, this includes support for councils to:

**Build homes** – with an additional £1 billion borrowing headroom for the Housing Revenue Account; an expected consultation on reforming Right to Buy; a further £2 billion for the Affordable Homes Programme, including for social rent; and £5 billion for the Housing Infrastructure Fund.

**Prevent and tackle homelessness** – by helping to secure a £125 million Targeted Affordability Fund; £30 million for council rough sleeping projects; reversing the decision to apply the Local Housing Allowance rate to social housing and to end housing benefit for young people.

**Plan good places** – with the implementation of planning fees increases, and new powers enabling councils to set up local development corporations.

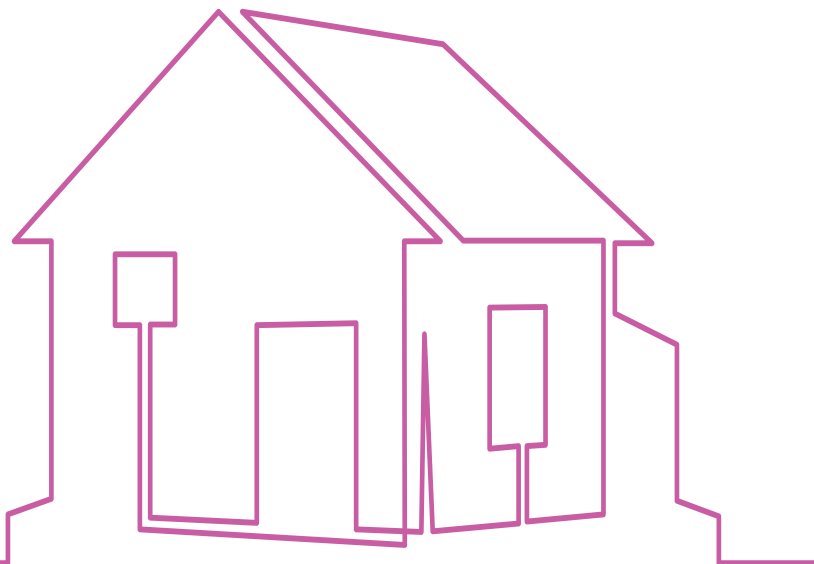
However, there is still a very long way to go in ensuring that councils have the tools and freedoms to meet the growing housing needs of their communities. We will continue to advance the case for councils to be fully enabled to tackle their local housing crisis with partners locally and nationally.



# Planning

**The planning system is not a barrier to building. Councils are approving nine in 10 planning applications and last year worked with developers to grant permission to over 350,000 homes, an 11 year high.<sup>6</sup> In fact, developers have been granted planning permission for 423,000 homes that they are yet to build.<sup>7</sup>**

A robust local plan-led system allows the views of communities to be heard and reflected in development proposals, but this risks being further undermined by national policy reforms. In essence, government proposals would impose a house building target on communities but give councils no new tools to deliver that target. In addition, communities may be penalised should independent private developers not deliver sufficient units, via the presumption of sustainable development – which allows development on sites not laid out and agreed in council's Local Plans. This type of development could account for 153,000 homes by 2020 and have a number of unintended consequences, including an impact on community support for development.



<sup>6</sup> Record planning permissions show house builders' investment continuing to rise, Home Builders Federation, May 2018

<sup>7</sup> More than 423,000 homes with planning permission waiting to be built, LGA, 2018

Permitted development rights, allowing the change of use of a number of different types of property into residential use without planning permission, will further erode the public's trust in the planning system. Since 2015, 8 per cent of new housing units nationally have arisen from the conversion of offices to flats. In many areas this accounted for over a third of net additions, and some areas old offices accounted for three quarters of new supply. These conversions do not provide any contributions to local infrastructure and services, provide no affordable housing, and risk being poor quality and badly designed – all issues of great importance to the public.<sup>8</sup>

Uncertainty in the process for negotiating the financial viability of developments, including developer's commitments to provide affordable housing and infrastructure, is also an issue. Developers are currently able to over-pay for land in the knowledge they can push down their contributions in later financial viability discussions. Government proposals for reforming viability are well-intentioned however, they risk maintaining a level of ambiguity that will not allow for further investment in affordable rented homes and infrastructure.

Within the context of further reforms and a rising number of planning applications it will be important for councils to be able to halt recent losses of experienced planners. Government must move quickly to provide the additional 20 per cent planning fees increase, and begin piloting local fee setting.

### To ensure the planning system works, Government must:

- Scrap permitted development rules and empower local communities to have a say over development in their areas.
- Work with local government, establish a clear, robust and transparent national viability system that helps to manage down the escalation of land values and ensure the delivery of affordable housing and infrastructure that our communities desperately need.
- Work with local government to attract and retain the next generation of planners and place-makers.

<sup>8</sup> 'One in 10 new homes was a former office', LGA, 2018

# Housing

## **Council house building must be at the centre of a renewed effort to deliver homes that generate growth and that communities need now and into the future.**

In the wake of events last June, councils' immediate priority was to ensure that a fire like that at Grenfell Tower never happens again, and to make certain the buildings which people live, visit and work in, are safe. We have led calls for a review of building regulations and made the case for systemic change. Councils are ready to play their important role in making sure the new system works. However, significant funding concerns remain around the cost of safety improvements and must be urgently addressed by government.

In regards to the long term future of council housing the new system of self-financing gave councils control over their Housing Revenue Accounts, ending the unpopular central government control of rental income. It also provided a degree of certainty and capacity to plan for the development of council housing. After a period of uncertainty created by short-term measures such as rent reductions, Government and councils need to work together to explore bold options for restoring longer-term income certainty and freeing councils to stimulate a resurgence of council building.

Our analysis showed that councils have only been able to replace a fifth of homes sold under the right to buy since 2011/12, losing a total of 46,000 affordable homes. These could have provided secure affordable housing for key workers, victims of domestic violence, veterans, people facing homelessness, and others in desperate need of a home they can afford. Increased discounts and restrictions on the use of receipts risk making the right to buy unsustainable, and government must begin a major reform of the scheme.<sup>9</sup>

Housebuilding by councils at scale would boost local economies and productivity, reduce the Government's housing benefit bill, contribute to tackling homelessness, and create revenue-generating assets for communities.

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<sup>9</sup> 'Right to Buy replacement will be all but eliminated in just five years', LGA, 2018


**To ensure housing is available and appropriate for local communities, Government must:**

- Meet the unexpected exceptional costs for councils arising from conducting fire safety and major remedial work and for any essential fire and safety measures needed.
- Give councils a leading role in shaping investment through the Affordable Housing Programme and other funding schemes to ensure that new housing and infrastructure meets the needs of their local communities.
- Remove the Housing Revenue Account (HRA) borrowing cap for all areas.
- Allow councils to keep pace with right to buy replacement by letting them retain all the receipts generated from sales, and set Right to Buy discounts locally.
- Local authorities with no HRA should be able to access borrowing to develop housing if that would help meet local housing need.

~~46,000~~

Councils have only been able to replace a fifth of homes sold under the right to buy since 2011/12, losing a total of 46,000 affordable homes

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**Just 1 in 5 Right to Buy homes replaced**



# Homelessness and rough sleeping

**The number of households approaching councils as homeless has been increasing as housing costs rise above incomes. Latest figures show councils are currently housing 77,200 homelessness households in temporary accommodation, including 120,500 children.<sup>10</sup> In addition rough sleeping has doubled since 2010.**

Mirroring the experience of families themselves, the increasing unavailability of affordable housing further limits the options for councils trying to find settled and temporary accommodation for those that need it. Spending on temporary accommodation has increased by 39 per cent in real terms since 2010/11.<sup>11</sup> This is unsustainable for councils, and disruptive for families.

Councils want to end homelessness by preventing it happening in the first place. In the longer term this means building more affordable homes. However, these will not be built overnight and short term solutions are needed.

The Homelessness Reduction Act has the potential to bring a stronger focus to the prevention of homelessness and helping people before they reach a crisis point. However, councils have serious concerns that the new burdens funding to finance these changes is likely to fall short of the costs in delivering the duties in the Homelessness Reduction Act.

Building on the principles of the Homelessness Reduction Act, prevention and early action is fundamental to tackling the rise in rough sleeping. Local government cannot do this alone and it is encouraging to see the commitment to tackle rough sleeping supported across government. This commitment must translate into positive, systematic co-operation across agencies on the ground.

## Government must work to tackle homelessness and rough sleeping by:

- Adapting welfare reforms to reduce the risk of homelessness for key groups including lifting the Local Housing Allowance freeze to ensure the private rented sector and housing associations can play their role in preventing and relieving homelessness.
- Committing to cover any shortfalls in funding the new duties for councils in the Homelessness Reduction Act. This should be built into the Government's review of funding provision.

<sup>10</sup> Housing our homeless households, LGA 2017

<sup>11</sup> Homelessness Summary, National Audit Office 2017

# Our commitment

**In the year ahead the LGA will continue to work with councils, and on their behalf, to tackle the housing crisis and ensure that positive changes are made in all areas of the sector. This will ensure residents can live with dignity, achieve their goals and aspire to do more than just get by, as well as help reduce pressures on the rest of the public sector.**



We will continue to make the case for an empowered and resourced locally-led planning system led by councils working with communities, developers and landowners.

In addition, we will lobby the Government to make the changes detailed above to spark the necessary renaissance in house building by councils, including releasing the significant potential to further build from Housing Revenue Accounts.

We will fight to deliver our ambition of ending homelessness and rough sleeping by ensuring it is the business of everyone to help prevent it happening in the first place. We will work towards longer term solutions to tackling homeless by seeking practical solutions to increase the supply of affordable homes.

We will support the sector to meet local housing ambitions by providing advice through the Housing Advisers Programme and delivering a series of sector-wide learning projects.<sup>12</sup>

**As the case studies overleaf demonstrate, local government can deliver on housing. But national ambitions will not be realised without new freedoms and powers for councils and now, more than ever, is the time to act.**

<sup>12</sup> Further details of the Housing Advisers Programme available at (deadline for last round of submissions was on 26 June 2018): <https://www.local.gov.uk/topics/housing-and-planning/housing-advisers-programme-201819>

# Local government housing, planning and homelessness reduction in action

## Planning

**Chelmsford City Council** and Countryside Zest (Beaulieu Park) LLP (a 50/50 joint venture between Countryside Properties PLC and L&Q) has been collaborating closely to masterplan and deliver a vibrant neighbourhood to the North East of Chelmsford known as Beaulieu. The new community of 3,600 homes of which 27 per cent are affordable, includes 176 acres of public open space together with new schools, business space, shops and major infrastructure.<sup>13</sup>

**Plymouth City Council's** Plan for Homes has taken a proactive and collaborative approach to delivering 5,000 homes in the city. The £80 million programme identified 16 initiatives aimed at maximising investment in infrastructure and making land and finance available to accelerate delivery in the city. The council has released 33 sites and over 138 acres of land to deliver 1,649 homes, of which 51 per cent are affordable. For each of these sites, the council produced a site planning statement to guide developers and encourage innovation. The council has worked closely with its successful development partners to encourage meaningful public consultation, secure planning permissions, secure or provide funding and remove barriers to delivery.<sup>14</sup>

A strong and effective partnership between **Stoke-on-Trent City Council** and St. Modwen Homes has been fundamental to transforming the former Victoria Ground, a former football stadium, with 200 new homes, a park and school sports facilities. Planning permission was granted in Autumn 2017 and construction has now commenced. With its 'open for business' attitude, the city council has enabled St. Modwen Homes to prepare a high quality design and layout to create popular and stylish homes close to Stoke's city centre. The council has also opened up discussions between St. Modwen Homes and the local primary school to assess the feasibility of including sports facilities in the overall design of the scheme. The school does not currently have any sports facilities so new provision would greatly improve the pupil experience.<sup>15</sup>

**A robust local plan-led system allows the views of communities to be heard and reflected in development proposals**

<sup>13</sup> Planning positively through partnership, LGA, 2018

<sup>14</sup> Planning positively through partnership, LGA, 2018

<sup>15</sup> Planning positively through partnership, LGA, 2018



## Housing

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**Nottingham City Council** has two delivery vehicles. Nottingham City Homes (NCH) manages the council's housing stock and delivers new homes. Blueprint is a 50/50, private/public partnership between Aviva's Igloo fund and the city council. It assembles land and delivers new market homes in regeneration zones and establishes new markets in areas that had no residential offer or one of poor quality or low value.<sup>16</sup>

Birmingham Municipal Housing Trust is **Birmingham City Council's** brand for building new homes with over 2,500 homes already delivered or under construction. This includes building new dormer bungalows to provide high quality homes for older people looking to 'rightsize'. The reaction from people living in the new bungalows has been overwhelmingly positive and has freed up large, family homes, a scarce resource in the City.<sup>17</sup>

## Homelessness

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**Teignbridge District Council** has taken action to reduce the number of homeless household placed in bed and breakfast accommodation due to a lack of suitable alternatives. Its strategy includes conversion of a former GP surgery into a well-managed hostel. The hostel can accommodate up to 10 placements at any one time. It is significantly higher quality than B&B, provides tailored support to the households living there, and is financially advantageous to the council. The council is also working with partners to improve access to the private rented service and an enhanced service to homeless young people.<sup>18</sup>

The **London Borough of Brent**, like other London boroughs, has been hit hard by decreased social housing lettings, increasingly unaffordable private rented accommodation for people on low incomes. Among other strategies, the council is making successful use of the powers in the Localism Act to reduce homelessness by supporting between 200 and 250 homeless families into a home within the private rented sector every year. This is because of a well-organised, thorough, and joined up process in identifying suitable properties and in handling the PRSO process with tenants.<sup>19</sup>

<sup>16</sup> Building our homes, communities and future, LGA, 2016

<sup>17</sup> Housing our Ageing Population, LGA, 2017

<sup>18</sup> Housing our Homeless Households, LGA, 2017

<sup>19</sup> Housing our Homeless Households, LGA, 2017

**South Norfolk District Council** has developed a strong focus on the prevention of homelessness. The council has implemented a new approach that gets at the very heart of some of the issues that can cause homelessness in the first place. The financial independence, resilience, skills and training (FIRST) approach provides residents with skills and resources to maintain their independence, avoid debt and achieve their potential. It is a holistic support package which seeks to improve the resilience of residents by providing the earliest one to one help. The council has evidence to show this approach, combined with other collaborative early intervention activities has helped vulnerable families and children into a safe and secure environment and away from the high need and costly levels provided at crisis stage.<sup>20</sup>

## Housing Advisers Programme

The Housing Adviser Programme (HAP) is already making a difference, offering independent consultancy and advice to help councils meet the Housing challenge. In the first year of the programme, a large number of councils came forward with bids for funding.

The HAP funded over forty councils who delivered a wide range of projects around our core themes of planning, housing supply and homelessness including the examples below. The LGA will update all projects as detailed case studies on our website. Councils have been very positive and have welcomed the support provided, particularly the quality of the advice given by the specialist advisers.



<sup>20</sup> Housing our Homeless Households, LGA, 2017

The 2018/19 programme is well underway and the LGA will continue to adapt and improve the programme to strengthen the improvement offer to housing colleagues.

**Warwick District Council** is keen to support and manage the growth of its thriving student population and how it impacts on the general housing supply and the local community. The aim of its HAP project was to develop a Student Housing Strategy to plan for future population demands.

The adviser worked with both Warwick and Coventry Universities to analyse projections of student numbers and produced detailed statistics to inform the strategy. Detailed statistical models were developed to appraise possible options and these have formed the basis of a SMART action plan. Throughout the project there was consistent consultation with the council's executive in order to shape the action plan.

In the short term, Warwick District Council has made excellent progress on developing the Student Housing Strategy. On completion, the council will have a comprehensive Student Housing Strategy for the district with a set of clear SMART actions and targets to take forward. In the longer term, this will support a thriving student community in the district, as well as providing an adequate amount of appropriate housing, well-integrated into the community.

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**Purbeck District Council** participated in the HAP in order to source additional private rented, (particularly temporary accommodation) to prevent homelessness, and meet the new duties of the Homelessness Reduction Act 2017.

The advisers spent time on site understanding the council's position and issues it faces in relation to the current and anticipated future demand for temporary accommodation, and to gain an understanding of the local market. They collected current research and reports to review what was known and identified gaps that may have existed.

From this process, Purbeck District Council now has a detailed project plan which contains a number of actions that the council can adopt to tackle homelessness in a small rural area with a limited private rented sector. A clear action plan with a range of options will increase the supply of private rented accommodation, prevent homeless and meet the new duties of the Homelessness Reduction Act. The plan has incorporated the specific needs of a small rural community and has the potential to deliver significant savings. In addition, it will also reduce the number of households in emergency temporary accommodation.

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We consider requests on an individual basis.

19 July 2018



## **New Local Government Mutual**

### **Purpose of report**

For information.

### **Summary**

Councils currently spend hundreds of millions of pounds on insurance nationally. The new mutual company was incorporated by the LGA on 1 May 2018 as LGAM Limited.

#### **Recommendation**

That the Forum note the update.

#### **Action**

There will be an information day held at the LGA on 6 September which will be open to all LGA member local authorities.

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## **New Local Government Mutual**

### **Background**

1. The LGA has been exploring options to develop a cost effective alternative to the conventional insurance market products and services available to local government, as well as improved ways of sharing best practice in risk management.
2. Councils currently spend hundreds of millions of pounds on insurance nationally. A mutual would be owned and controlled by its members, and professionally managed by Financial Conduct Authority (FCA) authorised industry experts.
3. The new mutual company was incorporated by the LGA on 1 May 2018 as LGAM Limited. Ian Rogers (Chief Actuary at Government's Actuary Department) and Brian Roberts (Former CIPFA President) are directors. James Alexander is company secretary.
4. The LGA has been working with 17 local authorities representing all political groups and types of local authorities on this project as founding members. They will co-own the company with the LGA. Their commitment is limited to the setup phase of the project.
5. The mutual is now appointing a service provider to provide professional support including business development, underwriting and a range of other work to prepare to open for business. The proposed hybrid-discretionary mutual structure learns from previous attempts at mutuals entering this market. The structure ensures the exposure of the mutual is capped. This removes the possibility of future calls on money which has been a character of MMI's demise. Such a structure is used by a number of mutuals including the Fire and Rescue Indemnity Company and local government internationally.

### **Next steps**

6. There will be an information day held at the LGA on 6 September which will be open to all LGA member local authorities. Politicians and officers are encouraged to attend. Details for sign up can be found on the LGA website.



## **Children and Young People Board – from Cllr Roy Perry (Vice-Chair)**

### **Conferences, meetings and external events**

1. Cllr Richard Watts spoke at the launch of the Care Crisis review, highlighting the huge pressure on children's services as a result of rapidly rising demand and significantly decreased resources.
2. Cllr Richard Watts met the Children's Minister, Nadhim Zahawi, and DfE officials to share the findings of new LGA research on the causes of variable spending on children's services across the country. The research identified a range of factors that result in inevitable variation in spending. Half of the variation was found to be outside of the direct control of local authorities, with deprivation the single biggest factor.
3. Cllr Lucy Nethsingha spoke at the APPG for Youth Work on 11 July. Chaired by Lloyd Russell-Moyle MP and supported by the National Youth Agency, the current inquiry was launched by cross-party MPs to evidence the role and impact of youth work and to consider whether there is sufficient provision to meet some of the key challenges and opportunities for young people. Cllr Nethsingha spoke on the important role of youth work as part of a broader package of services for young people, the £2 billion funding gap faced by children's services and the reduction in funding for the Early Intervention Grant.
4. Cllr Richard Watts and CYP Board Member Cllr Anntoinette Bramble both spoke at the LGA's conference on Home Education and Addressing Unregistered Schools on 14 June. We had an excellent turnout from local authorities, along with representatives of the home education community who were able to provide a helpful perspective for discussions on the day. Feedback from the conference informed the LGA's submission to the DfE's call for evidence on home education, and we are now considering how to take forward some of the key recommendations.

### **Publications and correspondence**

5. Cllr Lucy Nethsingha, Deputy Chair of the Children and Young People's Board, chaired a well-attended LGA Annual Conference workshop on mental health and loneliness. We also launched "Must Know" guides for councillors on mental health and loneliness.
6. On 8 June Cllr Gillian Ford co-hosted an LGA seminar with the Children and Young People's Mental Health Coalition to promote the Bright Futures CAMHS campaign and to discuss areas for joint working in the future.

### **Press Releases and Statements**

7. In June Cllr Richard Watts made public statements on [responding to latest school offer statistics](#),



Councillors' Forum

8. In June I made the following public statements on [responding to EPI report on school performance, figures analysed by the LGA indicating more than 180 children are placed on child protection plans every day to keep them safe from harm, responding to a report by education think tank LKMco and social enterprise Minds Ahead on what role schools should play in tackling the youth mental health crisis and responding to Action for Children's 'Revolving Door' report.](#)
  
9. I have recently also made [public statements responding to children's commissioner report on vulnerable children, responding to a joint report on neglect of older children from the inspectorates Ofsted, HMI Constabulary and Fire & Rescue Services \(HMICFRS\), the Care Quality Commission \(CQC\) and HMI Probation, on new analysis reveals more failing schools are turned around by councils than academy chains, responding to a report by the All-Party Parliamentary Group for Children on varying levels of social care support for children and responds to PAC report on academy conversions.](#)

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## **City Regions Board – report from Sir Richard Leese CBE (Chair)**

### **Industrial Strategy**

1. Stephen Jones, Director of the Cities and Local Growth Unit, MHCLG, attended the last Board on 18 June 2018. Stephen updated Members on progress with the design and implementation of key place-based policies announced in the Industrial Strategy, including Local Industrial Strategies and the LEP Review.
2. Members may recall the LGA hosted a roundtable event with the LEP Network on 15 March, attended by representatives of the People and Places, City Regions, and Environment, Economy, Housing and Transport (EEHT) Boards as well as LEP Chairs. Following on from this event, the LEP Network and the LGA wrote to the Secretary of State for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy, setting out our joint offer to work with him and his Department on securing an ambitious Industrial Strategy that works for the whole country.
3. Subsequently, in the light of the limited information that has emerged regarding the process and principles underpinning key elements of the Industrial Strategy we have written again to the Secretary of State requesting further clarity regarding the geographic extent, scope and timings of local industrial strategies, as well as requesting a meeting before Parliamentary recess.

### **Skills and Employment – Work Local**

4. At the last Councillors Forum, the Rt. Hon. Anne Milton MP (Minister of State for Apprenticeships and Skills) talked about the latest DfE skills policy reforms. It was clear from the Q&A session which followed that the discussion could have gone on for longer. We will look for further opportunities to do this.
5. Immediately afterwards the Forum, Cllr Mark Hawthorne and myself met her to discuss how the DfE, LGA and our members can work together more effectively on the design, commissioning and delivery of post 16 skills. This was the LGA's second meeting with her since February. It was a positive meeting, at which we agreed next steps to support more collaborative working.

### **Devolution Improvement Support Offer**

6. At the last board meeting, Members received a paper on the LGA Support offer for established and aspiring Combined Authorities (CA). This included updates on the existing CA networks and the potential of a governance network to be set up. Members were particularly keen to provide support around scrutiny and also associate membership. Members were also advised about the improvement support work that was being steered by the CA CEX group.
7. There was a Mayors plenary at the LGA conference which focussed on the first year of office. Andy Burnham as the elected mayor for Greater Manchester CA was the key speaker and he covered what had worked well and any lessons that had been learnt for the future.

### **Higher Education**

8. In light of the conclusion of the second phase of the Leading Places programme as well as recent changes to national higher education governance, the City Regions and People and Places Boards have jointly agreed to refocus the LGA's higher education engagement activity.

This engagement will now focus primarily on the Industrial Strategy, and related activity will include the continued delivery of improvement support to local partnerships, engagement with the UPP Civic University Commission and the exploration of strategic collaboration on cross-sector priorities such as the UK Shared Prosperity Fund.

### **Fiscal Devolution**

9. Work has progressed on research commissioned by the Board into modelling and messaging relating to fiscal devolution. These research projects are nearing completion and officers will report findings to the Board in September.

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## **Community Wellbeing Board – from Cllr Izzi Seccombe OBE (Chair)**

### **Conferences, meetings and external events**

1. Throughout May and June Mark Lloyd and I were members of Lord Darzi's advisory panel for his review of health and social care. The final report was published on 15 June and I took part in a panel discussion on the future of health and care at an Institute for Public Policy Research conference to launch the report.
2. On 28 June I spoke on the importance of political leadership at the Health+Care Expo.
3. On 5 June I spoke at the King's Fund and NHS England personalised care conference on the contribution of adult social care and local government to joined up care and support.
4. On 5 June I attended the launch of the Carers Action Plan hosted by Caroline Dinenage, MP Minister of State for Care. I also responded to the Action Plan via a press release. The LGA are developing guidance for local authorities on carers that will reflect the action plan.
5. Cllr Robin Moss represented the LGA at the Mental Health Crisis Care Concordat Steering Group on 12 June. Cllr Moss highlighted the importance of resourcing wider local services to both prevent people from reaching crisis point and to ensure people can be signposted to the support they need.
6. On 13 June I took part in a panel discussion on the future of adult social care and health at the NHS Confederation annual conference.
7. The LGA's annual conference had a strong theme of adult social care and health, including a parallel plenary on shifting the centre of gravity away from acute hospital services to preventative and community based care and support. We also announced the LGA's own Green Paper would be published by the end of July in the wake of the news that the Government had postponed its own green paper until the autumn.
8. On 1 July, and ahead of Annual Conference, I was interviewed by Sky News on the future of adult social care funding, following our news story on the same subject in which we surveyed council leaders and adult services lead members on their views on long-term, sustainable funding for the sector.
9. On 9 July I took part in a panel discussion at the inaugural meeting of the South East Health and Social Care Leaders network.
10. On 12 July, Cllr Richard Kemp gave a presentation at the Social Enterprise UK conference on health and social care.
11. On 12 July, I spoke at an East of England LGA event with adult services lead members and health and wellbeing board chairs on the future of adult social care and support.



**Councillors' Forum**

**Publications and correspondence**

12. Cllr Lucy Nethsingha, Deputy Chair of the Children and Young People's Board, chaired a well-attended LGA Annual Conference workshop on mental health and loneliness. We also launched "Must Know" guides for councillors on mental health and loneliness.
13. On 30 May the LGA republished the document "Good progress but more to do: teenage pregnancy and young parents" with updated policy, data and case study content.
14. I also wrote to the Chair of the Independent Review of the Mental Health Act to further outline local government's role in mental health and the importance of prevention. This follows-on from the publication of the Interim Report which reflected many of our recommendations. The LGA have also been allocated a place on the MHA review team advisory panel.

**Press Releases and Statements**

15. In June I made public statements on the [NHS Health Check figures published in June by Public Health England](#), [the poll commissioned by NHS Confederation which found that 82 per cent of people support a spending increase for adult social care](#), [the latest delayed transfers of care figures](#), [our response to the Lord Darzi report on social care](#), [the dementia addition to the NHS check](#), [responding to NHS 70th anniversary funding announcement](#), [responding to the keynote speech by Theresa May on funding for the NHS](#), [the Child Obesity Strategy](#), [the health precautions urged by Councils during the heatwave](#), [responding to a report by the Institute for Government \(IFG\) on 'How to fix the funding of health and social care'](#), [the report on treating tobacco dependency in the NHS](#), [responding to the Joint Select Committee report on adult social care funding](#) and [responding to the Public Health England report on fast food hotspots](#).
16. I have recently also made public statements on [nine in ten \(89 per cent\) of councils saying national taxation must be part of the solution to securing the long-term financial stability of adult social care](#), [the LGA response to the Christians Against Poverty report on council and Government debt collection](#), [responding to the latest NHS Digital figures on the number of adult smokers](#), [on a new Bill published today on reforms to Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards \(DoLS\)](#), [emphasising prevention funding will help NHS 70th birthday cash go further](#), [responding to NAO report on health and social care integration](#) and [responding to the recent report by the Centre for Ageing Better on housing adaptations](#).

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## **Culture, Tourism and Sport Board – report from Cllr Gerald Vernon-Jackson CBE (Chair)**

1. Our final Culture, Tourism and Sport Board of this cycle took place on 4 June 2018. The agenda covered an update on the Board's tourism skills research, and culture-led regeneration research. The Board discussed an item which described early options on venue and content of the CTS Conference 2019, and finally heard an overview of the Board's targeted improvement support work.

### **Sport and physical activity**

2. Cllr Peter Golds spoke at a Leadership Essentials Sport event, which is a programme to assist Cabinet members/portfolio holders with the responsibility for sport to lead transformational change in their service. The address gave an overview of the role that sport and physical activity can play in helping address health improvement and health inequality within communities; public health, health and social care commissioning and personalisation; the transformation required in the provision, management and development of sport and physical activity services within councils in order to improve efficiency and value for money and increase participation; and how Sport England and the LGA can help and support councils through change programmes and hear about Sport England's new strategy Towards an Active Nation.

### **Arts, Culture and Heritage**

3. Cllr Peter Golds attended a Parliamentary roundtable on libraries, convened by Lord Bird and attended by Libraries Minister, Michael Ellis MP. The event focused on the impact of libraries on wider government objectives, and discussing future funding options.
4. On 18 July I am meeting with the Rt. Hon Michael Ellis MP, the Minister for Arts, Heritage and Tourism for a second time. We plan to discuss the findings from the CTS Board's culture-led regeneration research, and hear any updates on tourism, the development of the sector's bid for a Brexit deal, and developing the sector's skills.
5. On 10 July, Cllr Michelle Tanfield visited the Bush and the Unicorn Theatres as part of her role as Theatre lead on the Board. She explored their contribution to the local economy, relationship with the local council, and work to engage a more diverse audience in theatre-based cultural experiences.

### **Tourism**

6. I was very pleased to have chaired the Workshop on Tourism and Brexit at day two of the LGA's Annual Conference and Exhibition 2018. The visitor economy in the UK, which is one of this country's fastest growing economic sectors, is worth £126.9 billion to the UK economy in 2015. The session looked at how councils can work with local, national and international partners to ensure their local economy benefits from sustainable tourism; and a good discussion followed which focused on new tools like a tourism tax and how they might be used to grow the visitor economy in the future. The presentation from the Chief Executive of the Peak District National Park showed how our council members can work with our National Park members on a shared agenda of growing sustainable tourism.

**Parks**

7. I continue to be involved in the Parks Action Group, which is discussing next steps to safeguard and enhance parks and green spaces for future generations. The Group has developed a workplan, making use of the £500 000 allocated to the Group, and is awaiting Government approval for the components. The LGA will be working closely with PAG members to improve officer skills and networking.

**Media**

8. Our work with the PAG was featured in the June edition of the Countryside Managers Association journal. This set out the funding challenges facing local government, and explored the ways in which the PAG might support parks.

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## **Environment, Economy, Housing and Transport Board – report from Cllr Martin Tett (Chairman)**

### **Meetings and external events**

#### **Industrial Strategy**

1. I chaired an informative and lively session on Industrial Strategy at the LGA's Annual Conference. The discussion focused on the work that is needed if local government is able to play as full role as possible on delivering and ensuring that their Local Industrial Strategies are inclusive, sustainable and tackle the nation's skills gap and poor productivity record against our global competitors. The session included expert input from Irene Lucas, the chief executive for Sunderland City Council on the role of council leadership, and Lesley Giles, from the Work Foundation on overcoming the challenges of poor productivity and 'good' jobs. Cllr Mark Hawthorne then rounded of the session to launch the interim report of the LGA's Post Brexit Commission which has been set up to examine the challenges and opportunities faced by non-metropolitan England.

#### **Future Transport**

2. I also chaired an interesting session on a topic that the board has done some important work on this year, future transport technology. In particular we have been looking at ways in which councils will need to respond to developments in connected, electric and autonomous vehicles. The session included a presentation from Konstanze Sharring from the Society of Motor vehicle Manufacturers and Traders on the current state of vehicle technology and likely developments in the near future. We also heard from Cllr Yvonne Constance of Oxfordshire County Council and Laura Shoaf from Transport for the West midlands about the work their authorities are doing to prepare and how they are harnessing the opportunities arising from this new technology. There was also an interesting question and answer session with discussions of modal shift, commercial opportunities and sharing best practise. This is an important area of work for the board and we will be looking at it again next year in order to provide leadership for local government on an emerging policy area.

#### **Clean Air Summit**

3. Uk100, a grouping of local authorities concerned about environmental issues, hosted a clean air summit this month bringing together Metro Mayors, Council leaders and the Secretary of State Michael Gove. The summit examined ways in which cities could work together to improve the UKs illegal air quality and how the Government could do more to help authorities. The LGA was represented at the event by Cllr Susan Hinchliffe leader of Bradford City Council. She made the case for greater government support and national action as well as properly resourcing local authority plans to improve clean air. The Government has recently launched a draft clean air strategy which the LGA will respond to as well as announcing their intention to legislate in order to give councils appropriate powers to improve air quality in their area. We will continue to engage with the

Government at every opportunity to ensure the final strategy and any legislation give us the tools we need to improve air quality.

### **Right to Buy**

4. LGA has published a report with Savills on the sustainability of Right to Buy, which looks at the different factors limiting councils from building replacement homes sold via the scheme and makes recommendations for how adjustments would enable councils to build again. The full report is available at <https://www.local.gov.uk/sustainability-right-buy>

### **Housing, planning and homelessness**

5. The LGA Annual Conference saw the publication of a suite of documents setting out the case for long term, sustained investment in local government. The housing publication highlights the impact of the housing crisis and sets out a series of recommendations that put councils at the heart of solutions, and empowers them to play their full role in ensuring the provision of housing that supports health, jobs, and community.  
<https://www.local.gov.uk/moving-the-conversation-on/housing>

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## **Improvement and Innovation Board – report from Cllr Paul Bettison OBE (Chairman)**

1. Much of this Board's recent activity formed part of the LGA Annual Conference and Exhibition 2018, as outlined throughout this report.

### **Innovation**

2. Many of our Board Members contributed to our sixth successful three-day Innovation Zone. Cllrs Peter Fleming OBE, Joy Allen, Laura Miller and Catherine Rankin formed a working group in November that has since provided strategic oversight of the Zone's development, advised on the Zone's programme, and compered in the Zone along with other Board Members – Cllrs Linda Robinson, Judi Billing MBE, Nicole Meardon and Mayor Dave Hodgson MBE.
3. In advance of conference, I also promoted the Zone through a Local Government Chronicle article. We also promoted the Zone through our membership magazine 'first' and various other ways.
4. The Zone itself involved over 60 speakers from over 40 organisations including many councils. It started with an engaging session with Southend-on-Sea Borough Council and their social humanoid robot Pepper. The final day included the National FGM Centre and councils' work to improve the lives of children, and how councils and Nesta are exploring the future of drone usage. Hundreds of delegates visited the Zone, and case studies therefrom are being uploaded to the LGA website.

### **Leadership**

5. Cllrs Judi Billing and Liz Green chaired a new development day for women councillors on 22 June, which created a network for female politicians and empowering women to develop their political careers. Further to its success, a two-day programme will be launched this winter; the first "weekender" will take place 8-9 December in Warwick.
6. Cllr Green also hosted the LGA's Leadership Academy graduation event at the end of June.
7. At conference we promoted the Be a Councillor campaign, soft launched the opening of council registrations for the next round of the National Graduate Development Programme (ngdp) and contributed to the LGA/SOLACE session on getting more senior women into local government.
8. NGDP was recently voted 25<sup>th</sup> in the Guardian UK 300 top employers, ranking it higher than John Lewis, Apple, Sky, HMRC, the Army, GCHQ and the RAF.

### **Efficiency and productivity**

9. Cllr Allen chaired a successful conference workshop on commercial councils – profit with a purpose, during which we heard from commercial councils having successful impacts on local jobs, skills and growth through their commercial activity, and how councils were investing in property within their local areas to achieve a commercial return as well as social value.
10. Following the fully booked 2017/18 pilot, the free 2018/19 Commercial Skills for Councillors Masterclass training dates have been [finalised](#) in Leeds, Cambridge and Winchester. The

masterclasses focus on the role of the councillor in commercialisation and is hosted by and LGA member peer and an experienced trainer with a commercial background.

11. At the last Improvement and Innovation Board meeting, the Chief Digital Officer at the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government gave a presentation on the proposed Digital Declaration. Members raised a number of concerns about the Declaration, which officers continued to negotiate with civil servants. We were advised at conference that the Minister wanted to spend a considerable amount of his speech focussing on the Declaration. Sufficient changes to the Declaration's wording were made for the LGA to agree. A meeting was arranged with the Minister, Cllr Fleming, officers and civil servants where the Minister was very clear that he needed a decision before his speech. An urgent meeting was therefore convened of the Chairman and Group Leaders who agreed the LGA should support the Declaration. This will be reported to the next meeting of the Improvement and Innovation Board in July.
12. The Digital Place: connecting citizens, councils and communities sponsored by Capita workshop took place at conference on 4 July.
13. We launched the [National Procurement Strategy 2018](#) on 3 July at a conference workshop – an updated version of our first strategy in 2014. There will be a benchmark diagnostic exercise taking place later in the summer to identify the baseline position for councils.
14. The LGA's refreshed [Shared Services Map](#) shows that there are now 555 individual shared service arrangements (up from 486) across the country, resulting in £840 million (up from £640m) of cumulative efficiency savings. The map shows once again that when it comes to making efficiency savings there is no sector better at doing it than local government.
15. We ran a closed fringe session with Chief Executives on cyber security with SOLACE at conference where they discussed how some of their peers dealt with a cyber security attack.
16. As part of the National Cyber Security Strategy (2016 – 2020), we have been awarded funding by the Cabinet Office to ensure councils are as resilient against cyber-attacks as possible. Our Chief Executive wrote to every council in England in June, highlighting our 'stocktake', inviting them to complete a questionnaire regarding their cyber security arrangements, and asked them to nominate a lead contact to collate their organisation's response. Through this information, we aim to: capture each council's existing cyber security arrangements, identify good practice, risks and councils at risk, so we can target support, including grant funding to individual councils on a bidding basis to undertake agreed activity or work to improve their cyber security. We will advise councils how to bid for this later this year. Each organisation has until 31 August to complete the 'stocktake' questionnaire and can email this to [cybersecurity@local.gov.uk](mailto:cybersecurity@local.gov.uk). Councils that have not yet sent details of their lead contact are asked to do so via the same email address.
17. We have created a [webpage](#) that will have links to guidance and support for councils wishing to submit a modern slavery transparency statement. There will also be a portal of almost 50 councils who have done so. Councils can contact [productivity@local.gov.uk](mailto:productivity@local.gov.uk) for help or to discuss further.

## **Improvement**

18. Principal Advisers supported the organisation of five sessions for Chief Executives on: driving the health and social care integration agenda, lessons from inspection, an update from the

permanent secretary at MHCLG, walking tall: the 21st century Chief Executive, and commercialisation – is this the answer to plugging the gap?

**Accountability, transparency and sharing good practice**

19. We recently launched our [free online data maturity self-assessment tool](#) through which local authorities can complete a questionnaire to highlight their capabilities, be compared with others, and receive suggested next steps.
20. The LGA research and information team demonstrated [LG Inform](#), [LG Inform Plus](#) and the new [LG Inform Value for Money profiles](#) at conference. The Value for Money profiles bring together data about the costs, performance and activity of local councils and fire and rescue authorities.

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## **People & Places Board – report from Cllr Mark Hawthorne MBE (Chairman)**

### **Post Brexit England Commission**

1. The Commission's Interim Report – 'The Future of Non-Metropolitan England' – was launched at an evening fringe event at the LGA Annual Conference on 4 July. The event was well attended and capped widespread press coverage that highlighted many of the longstanding challenges identified by the report, including: a lack of affordable housing, patchy mobile and broadband connectivity, and an ineffective national employment and skills approach.
2. Following on from the two regional roadshows that took place on 9 May in Taunton and 11 May in Nottingham, four more have now been planned:
  - 2.1 South East / London: Thursday 20 September;
  - 2.2 North East: Wednesday 26 September;
  - 2.3 West Midlands: Thursday 4 October;
  - 2.4 Yorkshire and Humber: Tuesday 9 October;
  - 2.5 North West: Tuesday 16 October; and
  - 2.6 East of England: Wednesday 14 November.
3. Over the summer period officers will begin work to identify and commission key elements of the final report, due to be published early next year, in anticipation of a discussion with members of the People and Places Board at the first meeting of the new cycle in September.

### **Industrial Strategy**

3. At LGA Conference, I spoke at the 'Local Industrial Strategies – the role of Local Leadership' plenary. This proved an engaging session which explored the role of local councils, both in driving local industrial strategies, tackling the productivity challenge, and their potential to deliver inclusive growth for all parts of the country post-Brexit.
4. Alexandra Jones, Director of Industrial Strategy, BEIS, attended the last Board on 12 June 2018. Alexandra updated Members on progress with the design and implementation of the place-based policies announced in the Industrial Strategy, including Local Industrial Strategies, the Strength in Places Fund and the LEP Review.
5. Members may recall the LGA hosted a roundtable event with the LEP Network on 15 March, attended by representatives of the People and Places, City Regions, and Environment, Economy, Housing and Transport (EEHT) Boards as well as LEP Chairs. Following on from this event, the LEP Network and the LGA wrote to the Secretary of State for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy, setting out our joint offer to work with him and his Department on securing an ambitious Industrial Strategy that works for the whole country.

6. Subsequently, in the light of the limited information that has emerged regarding the process and principles underpinning key elements of the Industrial Strategy we have written again to the Secretary of State requesting further clarity regarding the geographic extent, scope and timings of local industrial strategies, as well as requesting a meeting before Parliamentary recess.

#### **Rural Digital Connectivity Working Group**

7. The Rural Digital Connectivity Working Group recently met with Ofcom to share their concerns regarding the current level of mobile connectivity available to rural residents and explore areas where the regulator, local government and the communications sector can work in partnership to catalyse improvements.
8. Members used the opportunity to emphasise that councils would be better placed to have more meaningful discussions with mobile operators on improving local connectivity if Ofcom supplied more accurate local coverage reports that reflect consumer mobile experience on the ground. Ofcom have agreed to maintain a dialogue with the Group in the coming months.

#### **Skills and Employment – Work Local**

9. At the last Councillors Forum, the Rt. Hon. Anne Milton MP (Minister of State for Apprenticeships and Skills) talked about the latest DfE skills policy reforms. It was clear from the Q&A session which followed that the discussion could have gone on for longer. We will look for further opportunities to do this.
10. Immediately afterwards the Forum, Sir Richard Leese and myself met her to discuss how the DfE, LGA and our members can work together more effectively on the design, commissioning and delivery of post 16 skills. This was the LGA's second meeting with her since February. It was a positive meeting, at which we agreed next steps to support more collaborative working.

#### **Higher Education**

11. In light of the conclusion of the second phase of the Leading Places programme as well as recent changes to national higher education governance, the City Regions and People and Places Boards have jointly agreed to refocus the LGA's higher education engagement activity. This engagement will now focus primarily on the Industrial Strategy, and related activity will include the continued delivery of improvement support to local partnerships, engagement with the UPP Civic University Commission and the exploration of strategic collaboration on cross-sector priorities such as the UK Shared Prosperity Fund.

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## **Resources Board – report from Cllr Richard Watts (Chair)**

### **Local Government Finance**

#### **Fair Funding Review and Business Rates Retention**

1. We are continuing our work on further Business Rates Retention and the Fair Funding Review in conjunction with MHCLG. The Business Rates Retention officer working groups on Fair Funding and on Systems Design have both met since the last Councillors Forum. The Systems Design Working Group considered some MHCLG work on resets, a paper on different ways of incentivising pooling, draft criteria for placing non-domestic properties on either the central or local list, and a paper on implementing the funding of appeals centrally. Resources Board cleared the LGA's [response](#) to the appeal paper, which was submitted to MHCLG in June. The Fair Funding Review working group considered area cost adjustments, how to deal with transition at implementation and legacy capital finance. These issues will be discussed in further detail at a meeting of the Task and Finish Group on Business Rates Retention and the Fair Funding Review which I Chair in my role as Resources Board Chair and which has further representation from the Board.
2. As part of the LGA's work programme on the Fair Funding review, we are launching two tools to help the LGA and member councils evaluate the impact of various Government and stakeholder proposals on their council. It will also enable member councils to develop their own proposals by seeing the impact on their own and other authorities. Firstly, a model to allow local authorities to see the impact on funding levels of using different needs formulae, key cost drivers and their weightings and secondly a model to identify the impact of various options for adjusting for council tax and council tax support on individual authorities.
3. Further consultations on further Business Rates Retention and the Fair Funding Review are expected from the Government in the autumn.

#### **LGA Annual Conference**

4. On 3 July, we launched a paper Local Government Funding – Moving the Conversation On. This paper is the beginning of our work on the 2019 Spending Review, which will build the case for long term, sustained investment in local government as well as laying out the positive outcomes this would deliver for the country. This particular paper looked ahead to 2025 and showed that the forecast funding gap will be nearly £8 million per annum by that time.
5. The paper was discussed at the parallel plenary session “At a crossroads – the future for local government funding” where the speakers included the Vice Chair of the Board, Cllr John Fuller and the LGA's Senior Vice-Chair, Cllr Nick Forbes. Although the session was early in the morning on the final day, it was a well-attended session with barely any seats untaken.

#### **Public Accounts Committee Report on Local Authority Financial Sustainability**

6. The House of Commons Public Accounts Committee published the report of its inquiry into local authority financial sustainability. The LGA submitted written evidence to this inquiry and the LGA's Chief executive, Mark Lloyd, appeared as a witness in May. The report reflects a number of the points made by the LGA including recognition of the significant funding pressures and huge financial uncertainty facing all councils and acceptance of the LGA's funding gap analysis to 2020 that was the latest available at the time of the inquiry .The report

also highlighted the need for a long-term solution to the adult social care funding crisis with long-term funding for the NHS needing to be matched by a significant investment in adult social care and public health services.

### **Insurance Mutual**

7. The new mutual company was incorporated by the LGA on 1 May 2018 as LGAM Limited. Ian Rogers (Chief Actuary at Government's Actuary Department) and Brian Roberts (Former CIPFA President) are directors. James Alexander is company secretary.
8. The mutual is now appointing a service provider to provide professional support including business development, underwriting and a range of other work to prepare to open for business. The proposed hybrid-discretionary mutual structure learns from previous attempts at mutuals entering this market. The structure ensures the exposure of the mutual is capped. This removes the possibility of future calls on money which has been a character of MMI's demise. Such a structure is used by a number of mutuals, including the Fire and Rescue Indemnity Company and local government internationally.
9. There will be an information day held at the LGA [on 6 September](#) which will be open to all LGA member local authorities to attend. Politicians and officers are encouraged to attend. Details for sign up can be found on the LGA website.

### **EU Funding**

10. To date we are still awaiting details on how, or when, the Government's UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF) will be administered, the allocation principles, or the overall quantum of funding. A period of pre-consultation is being run through regional roundtables until September, which we will be providing support to councils who are invited. The government will hold a major consultation is expected later this year. The LGA is pressing Government to provide clarity of the detail of UKSPF to best equip local areas following the UK exiting the European Union. More details can be at the [Beyond Brexit discussion document](#) and our Moving the Conversation On [Brexit Conference Report](#).

### **Workforce**

#### **Pay Negotiations**

11. Two-year pay awards of 2 per cent and 2 per cent have been recently agreed for Chief Executives and Craftworkers. The outcome of the unions' consultation of Chief Officers on the Employers' two-year offer of 2 per cent and 2 per cent is expected shortly.
12. The LGA's Workforce Team and local government unions have issued joint advice to councils on issues related to moving employees on to the new pay spine next April.

#### **Apprenticeships (Levy)**

13. The LGA continues to provide a national programme to help councils get the best return on their levy investment. With councils facing a need to invest £207 million in Apprenticeship training every year or lose the money to HMT (if it's not spent within 24 months) the LGA launched a support programme to help those councils in need of help. The programme offers up to 20 councils with onsite advice and guidance to improve workforce development and apprenticeship levy investment plans. LGA received 34 requests from councils for support in



June. The [support programme](#) runs from August to January and all 34 councils will receive support.

## **Welfare**

### **LGA Evidence on Universal Credit**

14. The Work and Pensions Committee held an [evidence session](#) on Universal Support, as part of its ongoing inquiry into Universal Credit. LGA officers worked in collaboration with the Local Authority Welfare Reform Steering Group, to give evidence to the committee on behalf of local government. Prior to this the committee heard from former Work and Pensions Secretary, Iain Duncan Smith MP, who said that the support provided by councils and other agencies to claimants is essential to the success of Universal Credit.
15. Officers told MPs that the Universal Support programme would be better equipped to help achieve the Government's welfare reform aims if councils had the flexibility to address each claimant's needs. Officers also highlighted the need for the Government to ensure Universal Credit is compatible with wider reforms to working-age welfare, and the housing and employment markets.

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## **Safer & Stronger Communities Board – report from Councillor Simon Blackburn (Chair)**

### **Counter Terrorism**

#### **Contest 3.0**

1. On 4 June I attended the ministerial launch of Contest 3.0, the Government's revised counter-terrorism strategy. Following the launch I met with Home Office officials to discuss the strategy's implications for councils, which includes new pilots that are trialling different ways of sharing information about individuals with a broader range of partners, including councils.

#### **Prevent Champion's Network**

2. At the end of June Cllr Joy Allen, one of the LGA/Home Office's Prevent Champions, launched a new Prevent Champions Network in the North East. The Network brings together elected members and officers from authorities across the region to increase awareness of local, regional and national Prevent delivery, further understanding of current threats, share best practice, and provide a forum for discussion and debate.

### **Domestic Violence**

#### **Women's Aid Roundtable**

3. Deputy-Chair Cllr Anita Lower attend a roundtable hosted by Women's Aid which explored the various funding models for supported housing and refuges. Representatives from No.10, the Department for Work and Pensions, the Home Office and MHCLG also attended. Cllr Lower highlighted the importance of ensuring domestic abuse services are adequately funded, with a particular emphasis on early intervention and prevention programmes – to stop domestic abuse from occurring in the first place.

#### **National Oversight Group on Domestic Abuse**

4. I attended the Home Office-led National Oversight Group on Domestic Abuse. The meeting focused primarily on the police response to domestic abuse and the importance of training for frontline professionals on this important issue. The new Home Secretary Sajid Javid MP provided an update on the Domestic Abuse Bill consultation, which the LGA submitted a response to.

#### **Domestic Abuse Services Funding**

5. The Government has responded to calls from the LGA to provide additional funding for domestic abuse services and announced there would be almost £19 million of funding available to councils working in partnership with charities and other organisations to expand the support for survivors of domestic abuse. This will go some way to helping local authorities and their partners continue to provide support for domestic abuse services. We continue to push the importance of early intervention and prevention initiatives that will stop domestic abuse from occurring at all.

### **Home Affairs Committee Evidence**

6. We submitted written evidence to the Home Affairs Select Committee as part of their inquiry into domestic abuse. Subsequently, I have been called to give oral evidence to the committee in July. Our key messages are [available here](#).

### **Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) Event**

7. In June, the LGA held an event with council officers who had been successful in their bids for funding as part of the Home Office's VAWG service transformation fund. The purpose of the event was for councils to share best practice and case studies, showcasing some of the innovative work being carried out across local government, which is helping to improve the lives of victims of domestic abuse.

### **Serious Violence**

#### **Serious Violence Taskforce**

8. In June, I attended the second meeting of the Serious Violence Taskforce. The Taskforce is formed of Government Ministers, cross-party MPs, police leaders, local government and the voluntary sector, who ensure sustained, swift and decisive action is taken against serious violent crime. The meeting focused on the Offensive Weapons Bill and the use of social media to insight violent crime. The next meeting is due to take place in July.

### **County Lines Event**

9. In July, the LGA hosted a conference on county lines issues and tackling child criminal exploitation. This included speakers from the Home Office, local government colleagues, the Violence and Vulnerability Unit, the Children's Society and other key partners. Local government colleagues who attended to event were able to share best practice and discuss how improvements could be made in local areas when responding to county lines issues.

### **Moped and Scooter Roundtable**

10. In June, I attended the moped and scooter roundtable which focused on parking security measures, police disruption methods and included an update on the recent Government consultation on police pursuits. The next meeting is expected to be held in September.

### **Cohesive Communities**

11. I chaired a Building Cohesive and Resilient Communities workshop at the LGA conference, which included inputs from Dame Louise Casey; Sara Khan, Lead Commissioner for Countering Extremism; and Cllr Hoddinott, Community Safety portfolio holder at Rotherham Council. The workshop was well attended and explored the importance of social and economic integration, leadership around tackling difficult issues, and the evolving nature of extremist threats.

## **Fire Safety Management Committee**

### **FSMC Meeting**

12. A special meeting of the FSMC was held on 11 July to discuss the findings from the Hackitt Review and the LGA's response to the issues raised within it.

### **Risk and Demand Roundtable**

13. The Home Office and some members of the FSMC held a meeting on the 11 July to discuss the Home Office's work on risk and demand. The meeting will help to inform a piece of work that the Home Office are doing looking at the evidence for both demand and risks facing the fire service, as well as the financial resilience of the sector. The work will also examine how the identified risks set out in Integrated Risk Management Plans translate into the level of resources required in order to meet those risks.

### **Fire Safety in Buildings**

14. Cllr Ian Stephens and Fiona Tywcross AM from Fire Services Management Committee respectively chaired and spoke at a session at the LGA conference on fire safety in high-rise buildings after the fire at Grenfell Tower, which included a discussion of the recommendations from Dame Judith Hackitt's review of building regulations.

## **Licensing and Regulation**

### **Fixed Odds Betting Terminals**

15. We have also sought to keep up the pressure on Government to ensure an early implementation of reduced FOBT stakes, by highlighting concerns about the amount of money that will be lost on FOBTs if the reduction is delayed. Following a press release on this issue, I set out our concerns on Sky News Radio, while Cllr Lower gave evidence at a hearing of the APPG on FOBTs.

### **Harmful Gambling – Event to Launch New Guidance**

16. Earlier this month, Deputy-Chair Cllr Anita Lower chaired an event on 'Taking a whole council approach to tackling harmful gambling', to coincide with the launch of a new LGA-Public Health England guidance document on this issue. The event considered a range of different steps councils can take to help support local people experiencing harm connected to their or someone else's problem gambling, including hearing from individuals and families with direct experience of this.

## **Modern Slavery**

### **Environmental Audit Committee inquiry into Hand Car Washes**

17. Last month, Councillor Alan Rhodes gave evidence to an EAC inquiry into hand car washes. Hand car washes have been identified by the Gangmasters' and Labour Abuse Authority (GLAA) as a sector where there is a high risk of modern slavery and labour exploitation.

Cllr Rhodes outlined local authorities' regulatory responsibilities in relation to hand car washes, and highlighted the LGA's recent work with councils to raise awareness of modern slavery and how they can disrupt it.

### **APPG on human trafficking and modern slavery**

18. On 5 June Cllr Alan Rhodes met with the APPG on human trafficking and modern slavery to talk about the work of the LGA on this issue. He outlined the LGA's guide for councils on tackling modern slavery as well as talking about future work. The APPG were positive about the work of the LGA and our commitment to tackling modern slavery, however there was some acknowledgement that there was still further to go to ensure that everyone was aware of modern slavery.

### **Public Bill Committee**

19. Last month, I gave evidence to a Public Bill Committee session on the Tenant Fees Bill. The session focused specifically on how local authorities will regulate the ban. I emphasised councils' support for the ban, but called for local flexibility on how the ban is regulated and highlighted the resource pressures trading standards are experiencing.

### **Police and Crime Panels Workshop**

20. Last week, Cllr Clive Woodbridge hosted an LGA workshop for members and support officers of police and crime panels. The meeting discussed the impact of the Policing and Crime Act, and increasing role of some Police and Crime Commissioners in fire governance, as well as the new LGA Special Interest Group for PCPs.

### **Media Roundup**

21. Since the last Forum, I have given comments in the following press releases on behalf of the Board:
  - 21.1 A press release regarding the [delay in cutting FOBT stakes](#).
  - 21.2 Commenting on [fake football memorabilia](#) in the wake of the World Cup.
  - 21.3 Raising awareness of [domestic abuse ahead of the World Cup](#), alongside Women's Aid.
  - 21.4 An LGA [response to the introduction of medical examiners](#).

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19 July 2018

## Note of last Councillors' Forum meeting

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<b>Title:</b>	Councillors' Forum
<b>Date:</b>	Thursday 7 June 2018
<b>Venue:</b>	Westminster Room, 8th Floor, 18 Smith Square, London, SW1P 3HZ

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### Attendance

An attendance list is attached as **Appendix A** to this note

### Item Decisions and actions

#### 1 Welcome, apologies and declarations of interest

The LGA Senior Vice-Chair, in the Chair for the meeting, welcomed Members and noted the apologies set out at **Appendix A**.

There were no declarations of interest.

#### 2 Minister of State for Apprenticeships and Skills, The Rt Hon Anne Milton MP

The Senior Vice-Chair welcomed The Rt Hon Anne Milton MP, Minister of State for Apprenticeships and Skills, to the meeting.

The Minister thanked Members and the Senior Vice-Chair for the invitation to speak to them about apprenticeships and post-16 education. She commented that Councils were excellent agents for positive change in many ways, and had excellent knowledge and means to push forward Further Education options in their areas.

She explained the key reforms which had arisen as part of Lord Sainsbury's review of post-16 technical education, and the new T Levels, the most significant reform in technical education in the previous decade which would include work experience and rival the traditional academic options. The first T Levels would be construction, digital, education, and childcare.

The Minister also set out the work which the Government was undertaking to refresh apprenticeship programmes across the country. They would enable employers to design the standards and end points of apprenticeships, and make them much more attractive for individuals as they would get paid, in some cases gain a degree, have no student debt, and undertake work experience. The new arrangements had been delivered in partnership with the Institute of Apprenticeships.

Members also noted that the Government had developed a National Retraining Scheme, which was a collaboration between the Government, the CBI and the TUC. 49% of the adult population had numeracy skills below what was expected. 25% had literacy skills of an 11 year old or less. Many people did not have basic digital skills. Persuading people to retrain was difficult, and a number of options were being piloted.

In the discussion which followed the following points were raised by Members:

- Regarding work experience, the Minister set out that children should have 7 meaningful experiences of work before they left school. Work experience should be about skills which would be beneficial across multiple sectors.
- In response to a question on barriers to young people entering apprenticeships, the Minister stated that the Government were considering this issue, and that local authorities should look at apprenticeships fairs for children and older people looking to retrain to encourage them to join a scheme. The apprenticeship minimum wage was appealing to many young people.
- Regarding quality assessment of apprenticeships, the Minister set out that the Institute of Apprenticeships would monitor quality, and would look at the rate of uptake and retention of learners. It was important that the frameworks were right, and people received a real qualification.
- In response to a question on local accountability of FE colleges, the Minister advised that local authorities should be on the Boards of FE colleges to ensure that local priorities were joined up.
- It was noted that the first T Levels which had been developed were not the areas the Government considered to be top priorities, but simply the first three which had been finalised. It was anticipated that there would shortly be a T Level in Social Care.

The Minister agreed to follow up on some Members' specific issues which had arisen following the meeting. The Senior Vice-Chair thanked the Minister for attending.

#### **Decision**

Members **noted** the Minister's presentation.

### **3 Chairman's Update**

Members **noted** the Chairman's update.

### **4 LGA Boards Chair's Reports**

Members **noted** the LGA Board Chair's reports.

### **5 Digest of the last meeting**

Members **agreed** the minutes as an accurate summary of the discussion at the previous meeting on 8 March 2018.



**Appendix A -Attendance**

Position/Role	Councillor	Authority
Senior Vice-Chair (in the Chair)	Cllr Nick Forbes	Newcastle City Council
Members	Cllr David Simmonds CBE	Hillingdon London Borough Council
	Cllr Paul Carter CBE	Kent County Council
	Cllr Peter Fleming OBE	Sevenoaks District Council
	Cllr Izzi Seccombe OBE	Warwickshire County Council
	Cllr Nigel Ashton	North Somerset Council
	Cllr John Beesley	Bournemouth Borough Council
	Cllr Paul Bettison OBE	Bracknell Forest Borough Council
	Cllr Gillian Brown OBE	Arun District Council
	Cllr Tom Fitzpatrick	North Norfolk District Council
	Cllr Keith Glazier	East Sussex County Council
	Cllr Peter Golds	Tower Hamlets Council
	Cllr John Hart	Devon County Council
	Cllr James Jamieson	Central Bedfordshire Council
	Cllr Donna Jones JP	Portsmouth City Council
	Cllr Robert Light	Kirklees Metropolitan Council
	Cllr Rory Love	Shepway District Council
	Cllr Colin Noble	Suffolk County Council
	Cllr Roy Perry	Hampshire County Council
	Cllr Martin Tett	Buckinghamshire County Council
	Cllr Colin Riley	Castle Point Borough Council
	Cllr Alan Rhodes	Nottinghamshire County Council
	Cllr John Merry CBE	Salford City Council
	Cllr Kate Haigh	Gloucester City Council
	Cllr Sue Woodward	Staffordshire County Council
	Cllr Graham Chapman	Nottingham City Council
	Cllr Helen Holland	Bristol City Council
	Cllr Linda Thomas	Bolton Council
	Cllr Anne Western CBE	Derbyshire County Council
	Cllr Judith Blake CBE	Leeds City Council
	Cllr Roger Lawrence	Wolverhampton City Council
	Cllr Susan Hinchcliffe	Bradford Metropolitan District Council
	Cllr Amy Cross	Blackpool Council
	Cllr Debbie Wilcox	Newport City Council
	Cllr Tudor Evans OBE	Plymouth City Council
	Cllr Howard Sykes MBE	Oldham Metropolitan Borough Council
	Cllr Heather Kidd	Shropshire Council
	Cllr Alan Connett	Devon County Council
	Cllr Jon Hubbard	Wiltshire Council
	Cllr Colin Mann	Caerphilly County Borough Council
	Cllr Alan Seldon	Herefordshire Council
	Cllr Chris Townsend	Surrey County Council
	Cllr Robert Bucke	Tendring District Council
	Cllr Jo Beavis	Braintree District Council
	Cllr Nicholas Rushton	Leicestershire County Council
	Cllr Michael Wilcox	Lichfield District Council
	Cllr Samantha Dixon	Cheshire West and Chester Council
	Cllr Shabir Pandor	Kirklees Metropolitan Council
	Cllr Gerald Vernon-	Portsmouth City Council

	Jackson CBE Cllr Ron Woodley	Southend-on-Sea Borough Council
Apologies	Lord Porter of Spalding CBE Cllr Sean Anstee Cllr Philip Atkins OBE Cllr Kevin Bentley Cllr Morris Bright MBE Cllr Vanessa Churchman Cllr Neil Clarke MBE Cllr Simon Cooke Cllr Deborah Croney Cllr John Fuller Cllr Mark Hawthorne MBE Cllr Martin Hill OBE Cllr Rebecca Knox Cllr Teresa O'Neill OBE Cllr Jonathan Owen Cllr Stephen Parnaby OBE Cllr Roger Phillips Cllr David Renard Cllr Glen Sanderson JP Cllr Geoffrey Theobald OBE Cllr Barry Lewis Cllr Catherine Rankin Mayor Tim Bowles Mayor James Palmer  Cllr Lib Peck Cllr Michael Payne Cllr Peter Box CBE Cllr Sue Murphy CBE Sir Richard Leese CBE Cllr Simon Blackburn Cllr Richard Watts Cllr Simon Henig CBE Cllr Rishi Shori Cllr Alice Perry Cllr Clare Coghill Cllr Sabia Hussain Cllr Aaron Shotton Cllr Timothy Swift MBE Sir Stephen Houghton CBE Cllr Bryony Rudkin Cllr Judi Billing MBE Ms Fiona Twycross AM  Cllr Vince Maple Cllr Sharon Taylor OBE Cllr Iain Malcolm Cllr Richard Henry Cllr Paul Tilsley CBE	South Holland District Council  Trafford Metropolitan Borough Council Staffordshire County Council Essex County Council Hertsmere Borough Council Isle of Wight Council Rushcliffe Borough Council Bradford Metropolitan District Council Dorset County Council South Norfolk District Council Gloucestershire County Council Lincolnshire County Council Dorset County Council Bexley Council East Riding of Yorkshire Council East Riding of Yorkshire Council  Herefordshire Council Swindon Borough Council Northumberland Council  Derbyshire County Council Tunbridge Wells Borough Council West of England Combined Authority Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority Lambeth London Borough Council Gedling Borough Council Wakefield Metropolitan District Council Manchester City Council Manchester City Council Blackpool Council Islington Council Durham County Council Bury Metropolitan Borough Council Islington Council Waltham Forest London Borough Council Slough Borough Council Flintshire County Council Calderdale Metropolitan Borough Council Barnsley Metropolitan Borough Council  Ipswich Borough Council North Hertfordshire District Council London Fire and Emergency Planning Authority (LFEPA) Medway Council Stevenage Borough Council South Tyneside Council Stevenage Borough Council Birmingham City Council

Cllr Richard Kemp CBE	Liverpool City Council
Cllr Claire Hudson	Mendip District Council
Cllr Abigail Bell	Hull City Council
Cllr Keith Aspden	North Yorkshire Fire & Rescue Service
Cllr Chris White	Hertfordshire County Council
Cllr Wayne Davies	Redcar & Cleveland Borough Council
Cllr Carolyn Rule	Cornwall Council



# LGA location map

## Local Government Association

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## Public transport

18 Smith Square is well served by public transport. The nearest mainline stations are: Victoria and Waterloo: the local underground stations are

**St James's Park** (Circle and District Lines), **Westminster** (Circle, District and Jubilee Lines), and **Pimlico** (Victoria Line) - all about 10 minutes walk away.

Buses 3 and 87 travel along Millbank, and the 507 between Victoria and Waterloo stops in Horseferry Road close to Dean Bradley Street.

## Bus routes – Horseferry Road

- 507** Waterloo - Victoria
- C10** Canada Water - Pimlico - Victoria
- 88** Camden Town - Whitehall - Westminster - Pimlico - Clapham Common

## Bus routes – Millbank

- 87** Wandsworth - Aldwych
- 3** Crystal Palace - Brixton - Oxford Circus

For further information, visit the Transport for London website at [www.tfl.gov.uk](http://www.tfl.gov.uk)

## Cycling facilities

The nearest Barclays cycle hire racks are in Smith Square. Cycle racks are also available at 18 Smith Square. Please telephone the LGA on 020 7664 3131.

## Central London Congestion Charging Zone

18 Smith Square is located within the congestion charging zone.

For further details, please call 0845 900 1234 or visit the website at [www.cclondon.com](http://www.cclondon.com)

## Car parks

Abingdon Street Car Park (off Great College Street)

Horseferry Road Car Park  
 Horseferry Road/Arneway Street. Visit the website at [www.westminster.gov.uk/parking](http://www.westminster.gov.uk/parking)

