

6 June 2018

Chief Executive's Report – June 2018

Purpose

For discussion and direction.

Summary

The LGA business plan for 2018/19 centres on six external priorities:

- Britain's exit from the EU;
- Devolution and funding for local government;
- Inclusive growth, jobs and housing;
- Children, education and schools;
- Adult social care and health; and
- Supporting councils.

Part 1 of the six-weekly Chief Executive's report sets out the LGA's main achievements against those priorities. Part two focusses on our internal priority – *a single voice for local government* - including membership and our media outreach activities.

Recommendation

That the LGA Leadership Board notes the Chief Executive's report for June 2018.

Action

As directed by members.

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Chief Executive's Report – June 2018

Achievements against our external priorities

Priority 1 – Britain's exit from the EU

- 1.1 **European Structural Investment Fund:** Cllr Kevin Bentley, Chairman of the LGA Brexit Task Force presented the Local Government perspective on the share of the UK Shared Prosperity Fund, regional development and the needs of small businesses at ESIF Policy Breakfast aimed focused on support SMEs in London.
- 1.2 **Local government consultative rights following Brexit:** following our successful campaigning MHCLG Minister Lord Bourne has written to members of the House of Lords to tell them that the Government envisages replacement arrangements will include twice-yearly meetings between ministers and the LGA and the equivalent associations in Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland and the opportunity for local government to provide written opinions on proposed legislation and policies, with a guarantee of a Government response before Parliament.
- 1.3 **In Parliament:** we have continued to lobby on the EU (Withdrawal) Bill in the House of Lords, briefed MPs ahead of an Opposition Day Debate and questions on Brexit.

Priority 2 – Devolution and funding for Local Government

- 2.1 **Public Accounts Committee:** we provided evidence to the Public Accounts Committee as part of their [inquiry](#) into the NAO's report on the financial sustainability of local authorities. We were questioned by MPs alongside Martin Reeves, Chief Executive of Coventry City Council representing SOLACE, and colleagues from CIPFA and the Association of Local Authority Treasurers' Societies (ALATS). [During the session](#) I was pleased to be able to praise the amazing work of councils in managing £16 billion of central government funding reductions over this decade. I also highlighted the over £5 billion funding gap facing the sector by 2019/20, alongside the pre-existing pressure to stabilise the adult social care provider market. We know that demand-led pressures facing adult social care, children's services and homelessness are particularly acute, and I called for further business rates retention to be implemented without new duties to allow our funding gaps to be plugged. Going forward, these priorities will be central to our campaigning work on your behalf ahead of the next Spending Review.
- 2.2 **Business Rates Retention:** the Housing, Communities and Local Government Committee published a report into business rates retention, following evidence from our Vice-Chairman, Cllr Simmonds. The positive recommendations included urging the Government to ensure the additional revenue available through further retention is used to meet the funding gap facing local government rather than transferring in grants, to provide additional funding to compensate authorities for significant losses due to appeals, and to devolve further fiscal powers to local government.
- 2.3 **In Parliament:** We briefed MPs and submitted evidence on the Rating (Property in Common Occupation) and Council Tax (Empty Dwellings) Bill 2017-19, which includes measures on the "staircase tax" and empty homes. We also briefed MPs ahead of the debate on concessionary bus passes, focussing on the funding pressures faced by local bus services.

Priority 3 – Inclusive Growth, Jobs and Housing

- 3.1 **Fixed odds betting terminals (FOBTs):** the Government has recently announced its intention to reduce maximum stakes on FOBTs from £100 to £2. The announcement is extremely welcome as this

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has been an issue of concern for many councils and the LGA has been actively campaigning for stakes to be reduced to £2 for several years. Changes are expected to come into force from next year, although an exact timeline has yet to be published.

- 3.2 **Building Safety:** the government announced that £400 million would be made available to councils and housing associations to fund the removal of dangerous cladding from high-rise buildings. This funding may be coming from the current Affordable Homes Programme. We are seeking clarification on this.
- 3.3 **Hackitt Review:** in responding to the publication of the final report from the Hackitt review of building regulations and fire safety the government announced it will consult on banning the use of combustible materials in cladding on high-rise residential buildings – the position the LGA has been lobbying for. The Hackitt review’s final report agreed with the LGA’s view that the current regulatory system is not fit for purpose and fundamental reform is needed to improve building safety.
- 3.4 **Housing First and Rough Sleeping:** the Government have [launched](#) three Housing First pilots in Greater Manchester, the West Midlands, and the Liverpool City Region. The programme will be allocated £28 million of funding and include an evaluation to help inform any expansion of the programme. This project forms part of the Government’s effort to end rough sleeping by 2027, further details of which will be set out in a Rough Sleeping Strategy in July. We continue to support MHCLG as they develop this strategy, and I am using my role on the Advisory Panel to push councils’ priorities.
- 3.5 **Private Rented Sector:** the Housing, Communities and Local Government Committee published their report into the private rented sector. This included positive recommendations for local government, including giving councils greater flexibility to introduce selective landlord licensing.
- 3.6 **Land Value Capture:** as part of the Housing, Communities and Local Government Committee’s inquiry into land value capture, we provided written evidence and the Chairman of our Environment, Economy, Housing and Transport Board, Cllr Tett, provided oral evidence to the committee.
- 3.7 **Serious Violence:** the Home Secretary has [announced](#) a coalition of Government Ministers, cross-party MPs, police leaders, local government and the voluntary sector will make up the new Serious Violence Taskforce to ensure sustained, swift and decisive action against violent crime. The Chair of our Safer and Stronger Communities Board, Cllr Simon Blackburn, attended the first meeting of the Taskforce, and agreed to work with partners to take forward the Strategy’s commitments to tackle serious violence.
- 3.8 **In Parliament:** we provided written evidence for the Work and Pensions Committee’s inquiry into Universal Support and we briefed MPs ahead of the debate on the Government’s skills strategy and the Second Reading of the Tenant Fees Bill in the House of Commons.

Priority 4 – Children, education and schools

- 4.1 **Bright Futures:** LGA Vice-President Wera Hobhouse MP (Liberal Democrat, Bath) hosted a parliamentary exhibition to engage MPs and Peers in our Bright Futures campaign. Council representatives and external stakeholders visited throughout the week. Speakers at the launch included our Chairman Lord Porter, Children and Families Minister Nadhim Zahawi MP, and mental health campaigner Hope Virgo.
- 4.2 **Early years peer review programme:** we are pleased that the Department for Education has announced £8.5 million for a new Early Years Social Mobility Peer Review programme. This is part of the Government’s plans to improve social mobility through education, and will see councils working together to improve outcomes for disadvantaged children.
- 4.3 **Special guardianship orders:** the Local Government and Social Care Ombudsman [published](#) a report relating to special guardianship orders. The Ombudsman’s work provides a valuable opportunity for councils across the country to consider their own local practice. Special guardians are a vital part of the

care system and, as we said in our [response](#), we have long argued for stronger national oversight of the needs of this group of children and carers. It is therefore positive that the Government heeded this call and recently extended the remit of the Adoption Leadership Board, the adoption support fund and virtual school head support to also cover special guardianship orders.

- 4.4 **Special Educational Needs and Disability:** Cllr Richard Watts, Children and Young People Board Chairman attended a roundtable organised by the Children's Minister, Nadim Zahawi, to discuss Special Educational Needs and Disability. Discussions focused on the progress of councils to date in implementing reforms set out in the Children and Families Act, tackling rising demand and the need for additional funding.
- 4.5 **Apprenticeships:** the Public Sector Target reporting period is now open following the end of the first year of the Apprenticeship Levy and Target – our current estimates suggest there will be between 10,000 and 12,000 apprenticeship starts in local government, up from 6,000 last year but well short of the 31,500 target for the sector.
- 4.6 **Apprenticeship Support Offer:** we have launched our support offer for the sector for 2018/19. We will provide a general support offer to all councils, including webinars, workshops, guidance and a 'queryline' in addition to a bespoke offer for up to 20 councils, who will receive two days of consultancy support to help grow their apprenticeship programmes. This builds on the Apprenticeships Maturity Model self-assessment tool we launched in January.
- 4.7 **In Parliament:** we provided a briefing to MPs for the Opposition Day Debate on schools, briefed MPs on children's services funding and submitted written evidence to the Education Committee's inquiry on schools and college funding and their inquiry on life chances.

Priority 5 – Adult Social Care and health

- 5.1 **Adult Social Care Green paper:** Ahead of the green paper on the future of adult social care, we are publishing a series of think pieces where sector experts address issues at the heart of the debate to help define what a system fit for future generations might look like. In the first of series we start with first principles and answer the question, 'Why does adult social care matter?'. The think pieces are available on our [website](#).
- 5.2 **Health and social care funding:** there has been a great deal of parliamentary and media activity on health and social care funding in the run up to NHS70 and the publication of the green paper on adult social care this summer. The LGA has been very active in promoting our messages. Cllr Izzi Seccombe wrote to all Portfolio holders for adult social care to highlight the LGA's policy messages on adult social care funding with a request that they use every opportunity to promote them with parliamentarians and other key stakeholders. We are also seeking our members views on the policy messages to ensure that they resonate with local government.
- 5.3 **Housing, Communities and Local Government Committee & Health and Social Care Committee:** On 24 April Sarah Pickup gave evidence to the joint HCLG and HSC committee on adult social care funding and followed this up with a Citizens' Assembly discussion on 29 April. The focus of Sarah's evidence was calling on the Government to give adult social care with the same parity as the health service.
- 5.4 **Darzi Review:** On 25 April the Institute for Public Policy Research published the interim report of Lord Darzi's review of health and social care, which forecasts a £10 billion shortfall for adult social care funding by 2030. The LGA are co-sponsors of Lord Darzi's review and Cllr Izzi Seccombe and I are members of the Advisory Panel for the review.
- 5.5 **Dementia 2020 Conference:** On 17 April Sarah Pickup spoke on local authorities role in providing Post Diagnosis Support for people with Dementia at the Dementia 2020 Conference.

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- 5.6 **Prime Ministers Challenge on Dementia 2020:** we contributed to the stocktake review of the Prime Ministers Challenge on Dementia 2020.
- 5.7 **Dementia: Post Diagnosis Support. Guide for councils:** we, in collaboration with the Dementia Action Alliance, have published 'Dementia: Post Diagnosis Support. Guide for councils'. This showcases a number of good practice case studies by councils and partners.
- 5.8 **Care and Support Alliance survey response:** we have responded to the Care and Support Alliance survey into the standard and quality of care and support. The response can be found [here](#).
- 5.9 **Public Accounts Committee:** On 9 May the LGA responded to a Public Accounts Committee report on adult social care workforce, the response can be found [here](#).
- 5.10 **Voluntary Organisations Disability Group survey response:** On 8 May the LGA responded to a VODG survey on sleep-in costs, the response can be found [here](#).
- 5.11 **Care Market Information:** work is underway to capture local care market information on the provision of care for older people and those with learning disabilities. The resulting national dataset will inform thematic and trend identification. It will allow local and regional analysis and, along with bespoke support packages, will support councils to improve their social care commissioning, market position statements and plans for dealing with provider failure.
- 5.12 **Social Care Digital Innovation Programme:** we have secured a further three years' funding from NHS Digital to continue the [Social Care Digital Innovation Programme](#) into 2020/21. A prospectus inviting expressions of interest is available. Designed to help councils develop local digital solutions to improve social care by providing up to £100,000 of support. The first wave of the programme in 2017/18 provided support to 19 successful bidders.
- 5.13 **In Parliament:** the Deputy Chair of Community Wellbeing Board, Cllr Kemp, provided evidence to the Health and Social Care Committee's inquiry on childhood obesity. We also briefed Peers on the reforms that are needed to help local government tackle childhood obesity and briefed MPs ahead of the Opposition day Debate on social care.

Priority 6 – Supporting Councils

- 6.1 **Allied Healthcare:** we have supported councils to put in place contingency plans to ensure the continuity of care, following the financial restructuring of Allied Healthcare who provide home care services to over 90 councils and around 13,500 people
- 6.2 **Post local elections support:** we are providing our usual support to new and other councillors, and councils undergoing change of control, eg our councillor [training](#), mentoring for new leaders and portfolio holders, our updated [guide for new councillors](#) and other support via councils' [Principal Adviser](#).
- 6.3 **Highlighting Political Leadership:** our 2018/2019 Highlighting Political Leadership programmes information and dates are now available on our [website](#). One of this year's new programmes is the [Women Councillor's Development Day](#) taking place on 22 June 2018 at Warwick Conferences. Our Be a Councillor campaign's Women's Network brings together female councillors and women considering standing for election to provide support in achieving their political aspirations, and create new resources. Email becouncillor@local.gov.uk to join. Our new [workbook](#) helps councillors understand the signs of stress, develop coping strategies and build up personal resilience in their role. [Another](#) provides insight and help with key, necessary facilitation and conflict resolution skills to be effective councillors.
- 6.4 **ngdp council registrations:** a record number of 59 councils have signed up for Cohort 20 to take graduates in 2018/19, an increase of six on last year. We are already working to increase numbers for

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Cohort 21 with councils who have never taken part already expressing an interest.

- 6.5 **Cyber security:** having secured funding, we are commissioning a stocktake of councils' arrangements from governance and leadership to information and incidence management, after which, councils can bid for funding to address issues they identify. Further information is [available](#).
- 6.6 **Capita PLC:** we have facilitated a discussion between Capita's CEO and some of their larger council clients to explore ways to improve service delivery for councils.
- 6.7 **Productivity experts programme:** in 2017/18, programme experts worked with 25 councils on efficiency savings and/or income generation of nearly £40 million. Further information including how to apply for expertise to skill councils to realise ambitious efficiency savings and income generation is [available](#).
- 6.8 **Housing advisers programme:** this programme supports councils seeking to innovate in meeting the housing needs of their communities. This year's [programme](#) is now open and will accept applications until 26 June 2018.
- 6.9 **General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) support:** LG Inform Plus now offers enhanced data and tools to enable users to meet the GDPR to maintain a Record of Processing Activity (RoPA) via our [RoPA File Exchange](#).
- 6.10 **My Local Metrics service:** this newly launched [service](#) lets LG Inform Plus subscribers add their local data to LG Inform, LG Inform Plus or the API (direct data feed). This can be data relevant to a range of geographies, such as local authority, ward and defined neighbourhood levels.
- 6.11 **JNC for Youth & Community Workers:** the National Employers have received a pay and conditions claim from the Youth and Community Trade Unions for 2018 and 2019. Local authorities will be consulted on the claim during May and June.
- 6.12 **Gender Pay Gap:** we are supporting councils in dealing with the gender pay gap by providing an analysis of recently published [data](#) and access to individual council data for benchmarking through [LG Inform](#)
- 6.13 **Communications and Parliamentary Network:** we hosted a Communications and Parliamentary Network to share best practice with council communications officers and update on the work of the LGA.
- 6.14 **Overview and Scrutiny:** we briefed MPs ahead of a debate on the Communities and Local Government Committee's report on overview and scrutiny committees. We previously provided written and oral evidence to this inquiry, and our briefing highlights the LGA's support offer to councils.
- 6.15 **Town centres:** At a fully packed conference for member councils on 14 May, we launched a [good practice handbook](#) for council leadership on town centre revitalisation. The handbook provides advice how to approach town centre challenges and signposting to expert resources. A more extensive online resource will follow.
- 6.16 **Future transport:** we published "[Clean, connected and in-control – what tomorrow's transport technology could mean for councils](#)" on 14 May. It summarises the main trends in transport technology and challenges members to think about the implications that this technology could have on their areas. We call for evidence on councils' experiences of trialling these new technologies and overcoming barriers to their development.

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Internal Priority – A single voice for local government

LGA Membership

7. The total number of councils on notice to leave the LGA on 31 March 2019 is six. These are;
 - East Staffordshire Borough Council
 - London Borough of Richmond
 - Leicestershire County Council
 - Lincolnshire County Council
 - Southend Borough Council
 - West Sussex County Council
8. Four councils remain out of membership – the London Boroughs of Bromley, Wandsworth and Barnet and Gosport Borough Council.
9. As a result of local government reorganisation, we have been informed by a further fifteen authorities that they wish to give notice to leave LGA membership on 31 March 2019 as these councils will cease to exist. These are;
 - Poole Borough Council
 - Bournemouth Borough Council
 - Christchurch Borough Council
 - North Dorset District Council
 - West Dorset District Council
 - Weymouth & Portland Borough Council
 - Purbeck District Council
 - East Dorset District Council
 - Dorset County Council
 - Forest Heath District Council
 - St Edmundsbury Borough Council
 - Suffolk Coastal District Council
 - Waveney District Council
 - West Somerset District Council
 - Taunton Deane Borough Council
10. We have been informed that their successor authorities intend to take up LGA membership on 1 April 2019.

New LGA Company

11. Further to the meeting of the Board of Directors of the LGA company on 7 March 2018, and the Special Resolution passed by the first General Meeting of the company on the same day, the Articles of Association were lodged with Companies House, directors' details submitted and the accounting date changed to 31 March. The new LGA came into effect on 1 April 2018.

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12. All member authorities have been sent an application for admission as a member authority to the new LGA. At the time of writing 303 completed applications have been received. We continue to work with the remaining authorities to ensure full membership. A verbal update will be provided to Leadership Board.

General Assembly – 3 July 2018

13. The General Assembly is Member Authorities' opportunity to consider strategic policies of national significance to local government by submitting a Motion for debate by the Assembly. All Authorities in membership were invited to submit Motions for consideration, but none were received this year. Other agenda items for the General Assembly were approved by the Leadership Board at the previous meeting, and the agenda will be circulated to Members in due course.

Membership engagement by the Strategic Management Team

11 April – 6 June

Chief Executive	
12 April	Cambridge City Council
17 April	Luton Council
19 April	District Councils Chief Executives
26/27 April	MJ Spring Forum
30 April	Brighton and Hove Council
3/4 May	Association of County Chief Executives Spring Seminar
23 May	Brent Council
24 May	Capita Roundtable
<i>Forward plan</i>	
11 June	NE Regional Chief Executives
13 June	LGA Parliamentary Reception
19 June	Barking and Dagenham Council
20 June	LGA finance workshop
21 June	District Councils Chief Executives
22 June	Dorset Chief Executives
22 June	Poole Council
Deputy Chief Executive	
12/13 April	ADASS Spring Seminar
19 April	Health and Care Chief Executive call
29 April	Citizen's Assembly on Social Care
15 May	Future of Adult Social Care Conference
24 May	Digital Government Conference 2018
Director of Communications	
27 April	National Communications Academy 2018
5 June	Manchester City Council

Media

Britain's Exit from the EU
Need to speed up UK's registration process to appoint nominees to EU's Committee of the Regions, ahead of Brexit (BBC Online)
Devolution and funding for local government
Council tax increases for 2018/19 (FT, Times, Mail, Express, i paper, Sun, Star, Metro, Telegraph Online, Guardian Online, BBC Online)
Resources Board Vice Chairman Cllr John Fuller on BBC Radio 4's You and Yours about council investment in shopping and town centres
Cllr Martin Tett on BBC Radio 4's iPM programme on funding needed for local roads repairs following harsh winter (Telegraph, Times, Mail, Mail Online, Mirror Online)
Government should invest portion of existing road duty into local roads (Times, Sky News, Talk Radio)
Tackle disparity in funding between national and local roads (Telegraph, Express, Mail Online)
LGA support for 49 local authorities involved in business rates legal challenge with NHS hospitals (Express, Mail Online)
Almost 60p out of every £1 of council tax collected in 2020 will be spent on social care (Sunday Times)
Call for Treasury to consider changing borrowing rules to lessen pressure on councils (Times)
Inclusive growth, jobs and housing
Lord Porter on BBC Victoria Derbyshire Show, Sky News, ITV News, BBC News with response to Hackitt Report into building regulations (BBC Radio 4's Today programme, BBC Radio 4 news bulletins, LBC, Guardian, FT, Mail, Mail Online, Independent, Independent Online, Mirror Online, Sky News Online, Huffington Post)
Response to government funding £400 million cost of replacing dangerous cladding (Guardian, Sun, Mirror Online, Independent Online, Huffington Post)
EEHT Chairman Cllr Martin Tett on BBC Radio 5 Live's Breakfast and on BBC Radio 2 news bulletins about work of councils to tackle potholes (Times, Mirror, Independent Online, Mail Online, Express Online, BBC Online, Sky News Online, ITV Online, LBC Online, BBC local radio)
Cllr Martin Tett interviewed on LBC about Homelessness Reduction Act (Guardian, Huffington Post)
Cllr Marianne Overton on Talk Radio about response to annual Homelessness Monitor
Drivers spend 'one million years' on the road highlighting need for more investment in local roads (Sun, Star, Express Online, Sky News, BBC Radio 2 news bulletins, Talk Radio)
Response to Housing, Communities and Local Government Committee report on the draft Tenant Fees Bill (Telegraph Online)
Warning about entire communities may not get connected to high speed broadband (Telegraph)
Response to £30 million fund to tackle homelessness (Sun)
Call for adoption of Fibre to the Premises Kitemark for new builds (Sun, Mail Online)
Councils enforcing the law on bus lane fines to ensure smooth running of services (Mail, Telegraph, Times, Express, ITV Online)
14 years to fill nation's potholes, £9.3 billion local roads repair backlog (Times, Mail, Sun, Mirror)
Call to change rules so cladding has to be non-combustible (Guardian, BBC Radio 5 Live)
Response to proposals to help shale fracking projects through planning system (Telegraph, Guardian Online)

Call for councils to be able to borrow to build new homes and keep 100 per cent of Right to Buy receipts (Mail)
Rise in online shopping increasing congestion and wear-and-tear on our roads (Star)
Call for common sentencing guidelines for rogue landlords and improve standards (Times, Mail Online)
More than 55,000 homes sold under Right to Buy over the last five years (Independent)
Increased cost of waste disposal facing local authorities (BBC Radio 4's You and Yours)
Centrepont report on homelessness (Mirror Online)
Calls for freedom and flexibility for councils to establish landlord licensing schemes (Mirror Online)
Desktop studies to be banned for approving compliance for high rise buildings (Mail Online)
Government funding key to resolving housing shortage, ahead of NPPF consultation closing (Sunday Times)
Call for junk food advertisements near schools, nurseries and children's centres to be banned (Independent Online)
Minimum stakes on FOBTs to be cut (LBC)
LGA figures on 30,575 homes created from offices without having to go through the planning system (Telegraph)
Children, education and schools
Call for increased planning powers to curb rise in fast food outlets (Telegraph, Independent, Talk Radio)
Support for councils to open new schools (BBC Online, Mail Online, ITV Online)
ONS report on loneliness more likely to affect young people (Times, BBC Online, i paper online)
Call for councils to have powers and funding to enter premises to check child's schooling (Times, BBC Online)
A child is referred to a local authority's children's service every 49 seconds (Independent, ITV Online)
Children's teeth rotting because of sugar, need for urgent investment in oral health education (Guardian, Telegraph, Times)
Educational support for deaf children (BBC Online, Guardian Online, Independent Online)
Response to the Government's Serious Violence Strategy, youth justice grant allocations for councils (BBC Online, Guardian Online)
Quarter of five-year-olds have signs of tooth decay (Mail, Express)
Extra 600,000 primary school places created by councils in recent years (Telegraph Online)
Temporary accommodation for children has tripled in last three years (i paper online)
LGA's joint running of National FGM Centre (Mail Online)
Need for greater funding for SEN children (Mirror)
Half of council areas could be unable to meet rising demand for secondary school places (Guardian)
Adult social care and health
Care home businesses entering insolvency, £2 billion social care funding gap (Express, BBC Radio 5 Live's Wake up to Money, BBC local radio)
Robust contingency plans in place following Allied Healthcare's application for Company Voluntary Arrangement (Guardian, Times, People, FT Online, BBC Online)
Rise in potentially unnecessary hospital admissions among dementia patients due to lack of social care (i paper, Express, Independent Online)
£1.3 billion gap between what councils can afford to pay and the true cost of social care (Telegraph)
LGA's submission to the joint parliamentary committee into future of social care (Guardian Online)
Inadequate housing for elderly and disabled, greater planning powers and resources needed (Telegraph)

Response to Darzi review into health and social care (Mirror Online)
Public health programmes spending (Independent, Independent Online, Sun)
Disability care sector threatened by sleep-in costs liability (Times)
Public Accounts Committee report on adult social care workforce (Express Online)
New LGA guidance calling for drug addicts to be given anti-overdose medication to keep at home (Sunday Express)
Supporting councils
Lord Porter live on Sky News and BBC News channel with reaction to local elections results (Guardian Online)
Cllr Martin Tett on BBC News, ITV News, Sky News Radio about fly-tipping crisis (Sky News, BBC Radio 2, BBC Radio 4, BBC Radio 5 Live, LBC, BBC local radio news bulletins, Telegraph, Express, Sun, Mirror, Star, Independent, Mail Online, ITV Online)
Cllr Marianne Overton interviewed live on BBC Radio 4's Women's Hour about role of women in local government
Cllr Marianne Overton interviewed on Sky News about gender pay gap published by councils
Cllr Peter Fleming interviewed on BBC News in response to voluntary scheme by manufacturers to reduce the amount of plastic used in products entering the environment
EEHT Chairman Cllr Martin Tett on BBC Radio 2 about new, increased on-the-spot fines up to £150 for littering (Independent on Sunday, Mirror Online, Express Online, BBC Online)
Councils switching to LED streetlights to help environment and manage funding pressures (Telegraph, Times, Mail, Mirror, Express Online)
Response to government plans to introduce refundable deposit scheme to tackle litter and boost recycling (Telegraph, ITV Online)
Pavement parking fines could increase and powers expanded outside of London (Sun, i paper online)
Councils use fines to ensure the most effective waste collection process (Telegraph, Express Online)
Previous call for mandatory traffic light labelling on food products (BBC Radio 4's Farming Today)
Best practice example of running local library services (i paper)
LGA's response to Public Accounts Committee report on modern slavery (Independent)