

Sector Led Improvement: Performance Report

Purpose

For discussion

Summary

This report presents an update of performance against the Memorandum of Understanding the LGA/IDeA have with MHCLG about the use of grant. It covers the period April 2018 to end of December 2018.

Recommendation

That the meeting considers the report and agrees any follow-up action.

Action

Officers to initiate any required action.

Contact officer: Dennis Skinner
Position: Head of Improvement
Phone no: 020 7664 3017
Email: dennis.skinner@local.gov.uk

Sector Led Improvement: Performance Report

INTRODUCTION

1. This report presents an update on performance against the key deliverables set out in the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) that is in place between the IDeA and DCLG (now MHCLG) about use of the grant allocated for 2018/19. It covers the period April 2018 to end of December 2018.

PERFORMANCE SUMMARY

2. Key highlights to date include:

2.2. 669 councillors already attended our leadership courses with a further 194 registered to attend programmes in Q4;

2.3. 104 peer challenges now delivered, with a further 41 confirmed or in discussion;

2.4. tailored peer support through the use of member or officer peers provided for a total of 59 councils;

2.5. provided support to 60 councils as part of the new housing experts programme.

2.6. productivity experts deployed to date in 38 councils, helping them to save in excess of £39.9m;

2.7. maintained the shared services map which identifies cumulative efficiency savings in excess of £971m;

2.8. provided support to 17 councils to improve the way they engage and communicate with their communities;

2.9. held a very successful Innovation Zone at the LGA conference

2.10. launched a series of new officer development programmes in conjunction with SOLACE

2.11. delivered savings of 23% in audit fees for councils for 18/19, saving councils over £6m

2.12. identified 14 councils to work with through the “Design in public sector” programme on using design skills to address public health challenges

2.14. provided financial advice to 33 councils through our Finance Advisers and other means

2.15. Recruited 123 graduates as part of cohort 20 of the ngdp.

3. There is a full report on the evaluation of our sector led improvement programmes earlier in the agenda, but in summary, in terms of progress in achieving MoU outcomes as a result of the work:

3.1. 99% of responding participants in our Leadership Essentials and Leadership Academy programmes said they feel more confident in their role as a result of participation in the programme;

3.2. nearly three quarters (70 per cent) of a basket of performance indicators commonly used by councils to assess their own performance across a wide range of services have continued to improve;

3.3. levels of public trust and satisfaction in local government remain high. 57% of responding residents trust their council either a great deal or fair amount. Resident satisfaction with the way councils run things is high at around 60%. (Although this represents the majority of respondents, it is the lowest level of satisfaction observed across all 21 surveys).

3.4. Finally 96 per cent of leaders and 95 per cent of chief executives say the LGA support has had a positive impact on their authority.

FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE

4. The grant agreed for 2018/19 totals £20m. As at end of December 2018, the forecast is for full spend.

IMPROVEMENT PROGRAMME - PRIORITIES FOR 19/20 ONWARDS

5. Discussions with MHCLG about the shape of the improvement programme for 19/20 have continued since the last Board meeting. Officers have shared with them the priorities that the Improvement and Innovation Board and the IDeA have highlighted, following the consultation with the sector during the autumn.

6. This included continuing with the key themes within the current grant agreement around peer support, leadership development and efficiency and productivity.