

LGA General Assembly: Motions for Annual Meeting

Purpose of report

For decision.

Summary

The LGA's General Assembly meets once a year and acts as the 'parliament' for local government. This year, the meeting will be held on Tuesday 2 July 2019 at Bournemouth International Centre.

The LGA's Governance Framework provides for Motions to be moved at any meeting of the LGA General Assembly. The deadline for submitting Notices of Motions has now passed, and one Motion has been received from Bristol City Council: *UN Sustainable Development Goals*. (**Appendix A**).

It is in the remit of the LGA Leadership Board to determine whether Motion should:

- a) receive consideration by the General Assembly on 2 July; or
- b) be remitted to a relevant LGA Board (or Boards) for consideration instead.

Should it be agreed that the Motion be debated at the General Assembly the Leadership Board are asked to consider who should respond to the Motion on behalf of the LGA, and which Board(s) should take forward any associated work following the debate of the Motion.

Recommendations

That the LGA Leadership Board:

1. Refers the Motion for debate at the General Assembly on 2 July 2019;
2. Agrees which LGA Board(s) should take forward any work following debate of the Motion – this could potentially be City Regions and People and Places Boards; and
3. Agrees which Member should formally respond to the Motion on behalf of the LGA.

Action

Officers to add the Motion to the agenda for the General Assembly as appropriate, and any associated work to be added to the work programmes of LGA Policy Boards.

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Appendix A

Sustainable Development Goals

Proposer: Mayor Marvin Rees, Bristol City Council, Mayor

Role Seconders: Cllr Judith Blake, Leader, Leeds City Council
Mayor Joe Anderson, Liverpool City Council

Proposes that:

The Association values the importance of the UN's 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) that address the global challenges we face including poverty, inequality, climate, environmental degradation and prosperity. We welcome the work being done ahead of the upcoming Voluntary National Review (VNR) in July that will consider how the UK's programmes and policies are contributing to achieving these Global Goals. The Association also welcomes the importance placed by HM Government that all levels of government work together and that its partnership with local government is a key component to successful domestic implementation of the SDGs.

Local government has a vital role to play in terms of the planning, implementation and monitoring in local areas, work that will be key in delivering the UK's progress on meeting the ambitions of the Agenda 2030. If implemented properly, each of the SDGs has the potential to be transformative in moving our areas toward a more sustainable society with many of the Goals best supported by local co-ordination and delivery through local government and its partners. Our role can also help raise awareness of these challenges by engaging our areas through local partnerships and with our citizens.

Whilst the Association agrees with Government that such partnerships are a vital component and members have supported work on developing models that engage local stakeholders as effectively as possible, this engagement needs sustainable funding and support in order for councils to effectively share research and engagement with our networks, partners and citizens, particularly given our sector's continuing funding pressures.

The benefits of exploring SDG partnership co-ordinators would be to provide a focal point for activity in our areas and demonstrate the need for local perspectives to be embedded in the delivery of the SDGs, as well as improve the capacity for councils to deliver on the Goals. Supporting such positions would also provide a common language and common roles across different areas, would facilitate the sharing of best practice and further enable the delivery of global and local priorities at the same time.

This Association therefore:

- Calls upon Her Majesty's Government to explore supporting domestic implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals through funded partnership roles within each local authority area; and
- Encourages councils to continue their work on linking their local priorities with the overall ambitions of the SDGs"

Criteria to be met	Local authority checklist
1. The motion calls upon the Association to change its own Constitution or the way it relates to and provides services to its membership.	NA
2. The motion raises issues of national importance to local government: i) on which the Association does not have a policy and is not already taking action in accordance with that policy; and ii) asks the Association to pursue a course of action rather than just express a view on an issue.	<p>The motion is focused on the global Sustainable Development Goals that are nationally important and an area where local government has a strategic role to play in their implementation and through raising awareness with our local partners and citizens.</p> <p>It proposes the Association call on HM Government to recognise the challenge of local authorities supporting the domestic implementation of the SDGs without funded partnership roles in each authority area.</p>
3. The motion has already received the support of several local authorities e.g. have been agreed by a regional grouping are the most likely to be selected.	<p>The motion has support from:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leeds City Council • Liverpool City Council