

Improvement and Innovation Board – from Cllr Peter Fleming (Chairman)

Sector-led improvement 2018/19

1. After extensive negotiations by LGA officers, I signed the [memorandum of understanding](#) with the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government for the LGA to receive a grant of £19.2 million to deliver sector-led improvement in 2019/20. In addition to delivering the ongoing programme of improvement, this funding will support:
 - 1.1. The launch of the Transformation and Innovation Exchange
 - 1.2. The development of local digital leadership to maximise the benefits of digital transformation
 - 1.3. A further roll-out of the highly successful Housing Advisers programme.

Transformation and Innovation Exchange

2. I launched the [Transformation and Innovation Exchange](#) at annual conference. The beta version of this new resource brings into one place a range of case studies, guidance and other resources about transformation, innovation and efficiency. It also includes a self-assessment tool for councils to help identify areas for further improvement.

Innovation Zone

3. We ran our seventh successful **Innovation Zone** at our Annual Conference this year involving over 70 speakers, representing innovative work from 37 organisations. The Zone with the theme of 'Taking the Plunge' was opened by the Design Council's Chief Executive and featured a huge array of interaction sessions, including robotics, care dogs and a silent disco. Hundreds of delegates visited the Zone and case studies will be uploaded to the LGA website to further share learning with others.
4. Cllrs Judi Billing, Vince Maple, Alice Perry, Neil Prior and I helped compere the Zone programme and speak in the new 'open mic' session. The 'open mic' session covered topics including change of control, climate emergency, LGBT+ support, transformational change and customer focus.

LGA Leadership Academy

5. We hosted the graduation event for the LGA Leadership Academy at the end of June in Warwick. Almost 100 councillors from English and Welsh local authorities attended for the closing event of the LGA's flagship development programme for councillors in leadership positions. Lord Gary Porter CBE was the pre-dinner speaker at the graduation, and talked about the work of the LGA and answered attendees' questions.

18 July 2019

Shared Services Map

6. The LGA has updated its interactive [map](#) of shared services for 2019, detailing collaborative service delivery across the local government sector. It indicates who is sharing what and the efficiency savings and service delivery benefits that are being achieved.
7. Local government continues to lead the way in the public sector with collaborative service delivery and implementation through shared service arrangements, saving the taxpayer over £1.34bn in cumulative efficiency savings from 626 partnerships. The LGA's Shared Service Map also benchmarked nearly £200m in efficiency savings during 2018/2019 alone, cementing councils' reputation as the most efficient part of the public sector.

Public notes

8. We as a Board are asking the Government to look again at the issue of Public Notices. As part of this work, we will be assessing the impact of this requirement and investigating how it could be done better.

Press and external communications

9. Vice-Chair Mayor Dave Hodgson introduced the Innovation Zone in ['First' magazine](#), detailing the many innovative and inspiring new ideas being developed by councils to improve lives for local residents.
10. Board member Cllr Joy Allen wrote in ['First' magazine](#) about profit with a purpose, and how local government can use commercial approaches to meet local challenges head on.
11. 'First' magazine also featured an article about [peer support](#), explaining the role of the LGA in delivering sector-led improvement and telling stories of how it has helped councillors.

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