

LGA Local Government White Paper

Update report
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White Paper Consultation

- Positioning the sector for the next or returning government (whilst continuing to lobby on current issues)
- Specific work undertaken with political group offices to influence national manifesto processes
- Conversations in every region with Leaders (+160) and CeXs (+120) and partners/think tanks
- What did the sector say?
 - Want to reset the relationship with national government
 - Tell the story about who we are and what we do
 - Convenors of the complex
 - Core services to the most vulnerable people
 - We understand our place and have a democratic mandate
 - Remind them we have delivered in difficult times
 - Offers not just asks

Range of issues flagged up

- Key **service issues** driving the current agenda:
 - Financial stability (immediate and long term)
 - Housing crisis (impact of asylum and immigration, homelessness)
 - Children's social care (SEND transport, complex care)
- Emerging **cross cutting themes** to look at:
 - Financial sustainability (quantum and reform)
 - Meaningful devolution (infrastructure)
 - Accountability, transparency and assurance
 - Statutory duties and role in prevention
 - Placeshaping (partnership working/convening powers)
 - Leadership, trust and hope – parity of esteem

White paper proposition

Our offer a **joint endeavour** to deliver on the most challenging “wicked issues” you will face as the next/returning government. We are convenors of complex solutions.

- We can make a realistic **offer** on:
 - Economic growth (housing, climate change, skills, transport)
 - Delivering better life opportunities (focus on prevention)
 - Place shaping to improve public services (we are the leaders of place)
- The **change** needed is:
 - Stability: Financial, workforce
 - Empowerment: Place based approach
 - Investment in the future: Prevention and integration
- We have to **offer** more: Assurance, Citizen empowerment, Public sector reform

Our Top 5 Asks

1. Significant and sustained increase in funding to cover essential services
2. Multiyear and timely settlements
3. Clear constitutional settlement to establish a partnership between local government and central government
4. Power to convene national public services in place
5. Prevention transformation fund

Delivery time scale

Month	White Paper Timetable		LGA Core Business	Board Led Projects
	May election	Autumn election		
January	Draft content		New LGA chief executive Parliamentary reception LGA Finance Conf	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • International standards of local self-governance • Climate action collaboration models • Five-year housing deals
February	Challenge sessions			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Creating growth and prosperity • Tackling economic inactivity
March	Member sign off Ready to launch by end of month WP board projects starting to report back		Budget	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Financially sustainable SEND • Health and devo(NHS Confed) • Local Gvt Finance Reform • Community safety & policing • Fire services governance • Assurance framework
April	Purdah			
May	Potential GE	Broader lobbying on white paper		
June	First 100 days		End of board cycle	
July	Draft legislative programme to influence		LGA conference July	
August	King's Speech			
September	Potential fiscal event (SR, mini budget, AS)	Purdah	Party conferences	
Autumn		Potential GE	NCASC	

General election lobbying plan

Pre-election

- Budget submission
- White paper launch document
- Series of board led research projects published
- Members to lead on briefing senior figures within national parties
- Invite senior figure in next/returning government to receive our WP on the steps of Smith Square

Purdah

- Work on products for post-election delivery
- Consider coalition government options

Post election

- Deliver First 100 Days campaign
- Service specific briefings for new ministers
- Launch King's speech influencing campaign
- Spending review submission

Next steps & Recommendations

Next Steps

- Incorporate feedback from Executive Advisory Board
- Draft content for WP product
- Deliver a series of WP challenge sessions in February
- Develop WP communications plan
- Bring WP product and communications plan to March Executive Advisory Board for clearance

Recommendation

- Members endorse the outlined approach subject to any changes they have requested