

## Digest of Meeting

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<b>Title:</b>	Councillors' Forum
<b>Date and time:</b>	16 September 2010, 12.30pm
<b>Venue:</b>	The Westminster Suite, Local Government House, Smith Square

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Item	Action by
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### Welcome and Introductions

Baroness Eaton welcomed Members to the first meeting of the Councillors' Forum.

### 1 Membership

Members noted the Membership for the current year and were reminded that attendance was not exclusive and others were welcome to participate.

Baroness Eaton reminded them that a recording of each meeting would be available on the Local Government channel at <http://www.localgovernmentchannel.com/>

#### **Decision**

*Members agreed the Membership.*

### 2 Localism and Decentralisation Bill

The Forum received a presentation by Jo Miller, Deputy Chief Executive of the LGA (**Annex A**).

Members discussed issues around the proposed reforms including those regarding referendums on council tax increases and the Government's approach to planning and housing.

Concerns about how these would reflect on their particular local areas were raised. Members were reminded to communicate these to their own Group representatives on the Environment & Housing Programme Board.

Councillors agreed opposition to the Bill and emphasised that all

members should be consulted on the effects of the Bill and allowed the opportunity to raise their own area issues. Members were assured that lobbying would continue for greater involvement from local government and that the debate would continue.

Jo Miller said that the Bill would be a regular issue in the LG Group's First Magazine and Members were thanked for their contribution to the discussion.

***Decision***

Councillors noted the presentation.

**Action**

Officers to take forward Members' comments in future lobbying around the Decentralisation and Localism Bill.

LG Group  
Officers

**3 Chairman's Report**

Members noted the report.

**4 Chief Executive's Report**

Members noted the report.

**5 Programme Board Chairs' Reports**

Members received updates from each of the LG Group's Programme Board Chairs.

**Date of next meeting: 14 October 2010**