

Item 3(k)

Resources Panel – report from Cllr Stephen Castle (Chairman)

1. At the first meeting of the new political cycle in October, the Resources Panel considered the level of LGA membership subscriptions for 2013/14. Members noted that since 2010, there have been major changes in this area with subscriptions being more directly related to the population of member authorities along with a significant reduction in the overall level of subscriptions. At this meeting, members discussed the impact of the 2012 Census data on the subscription calculations and also the possible introduction of a new loyalty discount for those members currently not on notice to withdraw. Final proposals are currently being developed prior to a formal recommendation being made to the LGA's Leadership Board in December.
2. The Panel received a report on the six month performance against the business plan, including financial performance, where there is currently a projected underspend for a number of programme budgets. The Panel will continue to keep the LGA's financial performance under close review in the second half of the year.
3. The Panel reviewed progress with the renegotiation of the Liberata contract for the LGA's back office services, which is currently underway following the completion of an independent benchmarking review.
4. The Panel received an update on progress in managing the LGA's pension deficit and confirmed that the LGA should continue with its current strategy of making additional contributions to the relevant pension schemes for the foreseeable future.
5. The Panel agreed a consistent Scheme of Delegation for the LGA and its associated companies, and also policies for managing risk in relation to grant-funded programmes and strategic and commercial partnerships.

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