

Planning Advisory Service – Mid year update October 2011

Theme	We Said.....	We Did....	Spend £/k *	Notes and forward look
Understanding and responding to planning reform				
A1. Understanding and responding to planning reforms	<p>3 x Leadership academy (planning) plus contribution to 10 x mainstream leadership academy</p> <p>3 x Ward councillor academy</p> <p>4 x events “Understanding planning reform agenda”</p>	<p>Leadership academies (strategic, local and contribution to main) programmed and designed for delivery Q3-4.</p> <p>Planning session at 7 of the mainstream leadership academies arranged</p> <p>6 events, attended by 250 people from 154 authorities. 97% rated them good or very good.</p> <p>1 event run with LGA on NPPF for councillors</p> <p>8 authority based councillor briefing sessions, for 34 authorities delivered (Epping Forest, Gloucestershire & Districts, LBHF, Leeds & Bradford, Mid-Sussex, West Midlands Councils, Cherwell).</p> <p>Localism and the NPPF – a guide for local government published</p>	£100	<p>Events nearly full (150/175 places booked) Early bookings for leadership academy indicate appetite for understanding.</p> <p>Material (other than the presentations) still to be produced as an output. Events included a wide range of speakers, from Chief Execs to Leaders, plus local authorities sharing experiences</p> <p>Councillor briefings delivered by councillor peers and PAS. A further 4 sessions booked (Craven, Hertsmere, Shepway, Teignbridge)</p>

				Future work needs to focus more on 'responding' rather than 'understanding'. 2 nd round of events being scheduled.
Strong planning				
Theme	We Said	We Did	Spend	Notes
B1. Plans for neighbourhoods	Supporting CLG's front-runners project for 70 neighbourhood plans in 55 local authorities. 8 x events on skills for neighbourhood planning	8 x events with the front runners (waves 1-4), 70 authorities with 125 plans. Events attended by 140 delegates, mostly officers; 98% respondents said good/very good events Publications etc: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ward councillor guide to N Planning • Case study Bookham, Mole Valley • FAQs • Neighbourhood Planning – early practice 	£190	2 x events for councillors being set up Nov/Dec 4 national events planned Q4 on progress from front runners and next steps for everyone

B2. Plans for Local Authorities	<p>Direct support to 100 local authorities to support getting plan in place</p> <p>Revised on line materials and self-assessment toolkit, post NPPF</p>	<p>150 authorities who do not have a plan in place contacted; active engagement going on with 60 authorities, discussions on support with a further 70. Support being well received.</p> <p>Revised materials still in drafting stage</p>	£1,000	<p>Work being scoped up on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NPPF conformity health check • Core strategy/local plan • Strategic policies within local plan
B3. Planning for strategic issues	<p>Event series on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - planning in the larger than local world/duty to co-operate - Technical and procedural issues eg evidence base 	<p>Details of support package scoped up for delivery Q3-4. Agreement from DCLG secured</p>	£60	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Simple guide to strategic planning • Technical guide/toolkit • Events – strategic planning practicalities/duty to co-operate (including working with LEPs) • Case study write ups • Contribution to LGA work on planning for Gypsy and Travelers

<p>B4. Managing growth and assets</p>	<p>CiL – 10 x events to understand charging schedule, monitoring and enforcing</p> <p>Viability for planning councillors briefing Support for CiL front runners</p> <p>Tax Increment Funding for planners pamphlet</p> <p>Moving from S106 to CiL (technical and procedural)</p> <p>Working with LEPS and Enterprise Zones</p>	<p>10 CiL to events delivered to 458 delegates from 226 councils with 98% good or very good satisfaction rating</p> <p>Support to 20 CiL front runner authorities delivered and learning incorporated into FAQs; active CoP for the front runners. All except one of the front runners likely to meet their timetable, partly because of PAS support. PAS expertise contributing to various working groups.</p> <p>TIF for planners – not progressed Moving from S106 to CiL – not progressed Working with LEPS/Enterprise Zones – in part moved to planning for strategic issues</p>	<p>£200</p>	<p>Direct support (similar to front runners) to be offered to other authorities</p>
Making good decisions				
<p>C1. Supporting development</p>	<p>2 x Councillor briefings – publication and delivery of updates and training on site (including shaping development at early stage, negotiating incentives transparently) (x25)</p> <p>Planning performance agreements – refresh and event</p>	<p>2 new councillor modules made and delivered to 2 Councils (Blackburn & Wyre)</p> <p>Compare renewables document published</p> <p>Case study on Stockport published</p>	<p>£40</p>	<p>Sessions arranged for Purbeck and the rest of Dorset</p> <p>PPA event linked to fees and will have own launch event</p> <p>4 housing and planning masterclasses as collaboration with LGA</p>

<p>C2. Operating the system</p>	<p>3 x councillor briefings – publication and delivery of updates and training on site (including good decision making and probity)</p> <p>Planning for new councillors publication</p>	<p>6 on-site sessions delivered to Cambridge, Forest of Dean, Lambeth, Thurrock, Rotherham, Warwick</p> <p>Introductory guide to planning for new councillors published</p>	<p>£30</p>	<p>4 further sessions arranged for Q3-4.</p> <p>5 x planning sessions at new councillor roadshow events planned Nov-Dec (with Leadership team)</p>
<p>C3. Enforcing the system</p>	<p>6 x events on enforcement and managing the cost of non-compliance and conditions</p> <p>Refresh enforcement good practice publication</p>	<p>Enforcement and Planning Reform – thoughts of an officer – article by Vice Chair of NAPE published</p>	<p>£30</p>	<p>4 events Q4</p>

Accountable and value for money planning				
D1. Being accountable and locally relevant	<p>Support to LG Group work on peer challenge and review.</p> <p>New guide to annual performance review and publication. Replacing the AMR (annual monitoring report) with something locally relevant.</p>	<p>1 planning peer challenged completed (Wiltshire)</p> <p>AMR report published</p>	£50	5 peer reviews scheduled (Sandwell, Warrington, Islington, Derby, Cornwall)
D2. Value for money in planning	<p>250 x authorities in local fee setting using national benchmark</p> <p>4 x events on new models of delivery for planning, including outsourcing and sharing services</p>	<p>One round of benchmarking completed (in association with CIPFA); 216 authorities took part.</p> <p>13 benchmarking events held. Planning Portal engaged</p> <p>Improvement support (with Local Partnerships) scoped up based on benchmarking work.</p>	£100	<p>November benchmarking round with additional 40 councils; support events.</p> <p>Final reports to be issued December.</p> <p>Improvement support to be piloted with 4 authorities (Warrington, Swindon, tamworth, Wycombe) to enable development of support and delivery at scale.</p>

** Contingency **	Contingency at 10% to allow for new work or extensions to existing projects, depending on demand and utility.		£200	
Total			£2,000	

* Spend includes VAT, but excludes core salary cost and contribution to LG Group overheads.