

Appendix A - Excerpt from LGA Performance report - 2011/12 - Environment and Housing team

2011-12 Business Plan	What we delivered	Impact
<p>Campaigning for greater local decision-making in planning and housing through the Localism Bill, National Planning Policy Framework and elsewhere</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lobbying on how CIL is spent locally • Influenced DEFRA consultation on Town and Village Green registration system • Lobbied on local planning fee setting model. PAS led programme with 250 councils to develop evidence base 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Secured appropriate transition arrangements to the new planning system • Secured key changes to NPPF • Secured role for councillors in neighbourhood planning • Secured policy change to a new self financing system and supported transition • Secured the principle of local retention of capital receipts from Right to Buy
<p>Provision, allocation and regulation of social housing</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Delivery of a housing support programme • Influenced new social housing regulatory framework to include role of sector led improvement • Submitted input to CLG Select Committee on the role councils can play to support housing delivery. • Joint publication with HCA • Support for councils to work with private rented sector via masterclasses, briefings etc. • Submissions to Government on institutional investment in private rented sector 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Free masterclasses delivered to over 90 elected members with over 90% satisfaction rating • Principles will underpin new regulatory regime • Good practice and tools available to councils to enable them to promote housing delivery. • Contribution to enhancing reputation of local authorities • Will become a key theme in Housing the Nation campaign
<p>Ensuring a strategic role with adequate resources for councils to act on local energy security, carbon reduction and the low carbon economy</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Key role of councils on the Green Deal acknowledged and acted upon. • Lobbying of the Energy Bill • Conclusion of the Local Carbon Framework Pilots • Lobbying on the Hills Review of Fuel Poverty • Green Deal Conference • Successful lobbying on feed-in tariffs for solar 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council-led finance models for delivery of Green Deal developed • Council-specific questions in consultation on Green Deal. • Local Authorities Green Deal forum. • Committee on Climate Change commissioned by DECC investigate role of councils.

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> energy for councils • Successful lobbying on the Carbon Reduction Commitment (CRC) • Successful lobbying on new EU Energy Efficiency Directive 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Significant references to councils during debate on Energy Bill. The Energy Act retaining HECA but avoiding local carbon budgets. • Learning from local carbon framework pilots shared • Reporting on fuel poverty being reviewed. • Community installation' tariff being proposed for councils and social housing providers • Simplification of CRC. Review into inclusion of schools. • On course to avoid council targets on energy efficiency in EU legislation. • More funding to councils from energy suppliers on energy efficiency measures for domestic properties.
<p>Councils are better prepared for climate adaptation</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Funding from EA and DEFRA to provide web-based support 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Defra continue to offer capacity building programme • Widespread media coverage/MP meetings • National recognition for role of LAs in managing drought and water resources
<p>Powers and flexibility for councils to make local decisions on waste</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interested Party on the Judicial Review of DEFRA into Recycling Regulations • Close working with DCLG on new funding for councils on more frequent waste collection services • Lobbying of DEFRA to retain local powers on the presentation of waste for collection • Lobbying on more funding to councils to manage increased recycling from packaging • Lobbying on improving quality of recycling • Successful conference on Waste • Influencing 'Red Tape Challenge' <p>Consultation response and joint letter with other organisations asking for powers to be retained.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Judicial Review adjourned for 6 months whilst DEFRA re-write regulations • £250 million available to councils to improve collection frequency of waste. LGA influencing meant that the eligibility criteria gave councils greater flexibility to support local decisions. 180 bids received, 5 workshops held, LGA on Technical Advisory Group. • More positive relationship with packaging industry. • LGA involvement in new Responsibility Deal for MRFs and new quality statements.

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Improvement and self-regulation for energy and climate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Memorandum of understanding with DECC • Council secondee into DECC on MOU • Development of Climate Local 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Closer working relationship with DECC • £70K funding from Environment Agency to develop the Climate Local commitment, and support tools
Support to councils to seize the opportunities from the changes to planning, working through PAS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 234 councils in the benchmark club • Events on strategic planning and the duty to co-operate; neighbourhood planning; planning reform • 6 pilots for different models of delivery • Supporting 14 CiL front runners 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supporting deregulation of planning fees • Authorities understand new responsibilities • Supporting authorities with understanding service costs and making informed decisions on service provision (OPS white paper)