

Portfolio Holders on the Environment and Housing board

Background

1. The Environment and Housing Board previously operated a system of portfolio holders to cover key areas of the Board's work. Given the diversity and breadth of policy and improvement work that the Environment and Housing Board covers, it is proposed that the Board appoints portfolio holders across the four main areas of the Board's remit. The portfolios outlined below will allow members to further develop their experience and knowledge in specific areas, and also allow the Board to better meet commitments with a variety of Departmental and third sector working groups, and other event invitations.
2. The portfolio holders will not decide LGA policy positions, work programmes or projects in their areas. The Board and Lead Members) will remain the forum for collective decisions regarding the LGA's policy positions and objectives.

Role of portfolio holder

3. The portfolio holders will have a variety of roles, all of which are an extension of the role of members of the board:
 - 3.1 Develop or share expertise in a specific area(s) of the Board's work;
 - 3.2 Represent the LGA and the Environment and Housing Board at meetings, working groups and events;
 - 3.3 Engage at a national level with key stakeholders;
 - 3.4 Provide feedback to the Board and officers on engagement activity;
 - 3.5 Represent agreed Board lines rather than personal or party opinions; and,
 - 3.6 Develop awareness of practice in other authorities.
4. It is proposed that Board members can hold more than one portfolio. We welcome members' expressions of interest for the areas outlined below – a number of suggestions have already been put forward by the Groups.

The Board Lead members will retain responsibility for:

5. As the leaders of their respective political parties on the Board, Lead Members will retain responsibility for:
 - 5.1 Setting policy direction
 - 5.2 Setting the Board Meeting agendas (following wider member feedback)
 - 5.3 Agreeing media lines and policy responses to issues that arise between Boards
 - 5.4 Clearing policy positions, publications and submissions
 - 5.5 Select Committee evidence sessions
 - 5.6 Representing the Board at high-level meetings and events

Proposed Areas for Portfolio Holders:

6. The attached document contains the names of those board members who volunteered for areas last year, along with new members of the board who have expressed an interest in certain areas.

Portfolio	Conservative	Labour	Liberal Democrat	Independent
Growth - Housing	Frances Roden	Tony Newman	Terry Stacy	Andrew Cooper
Growth - Planning	Eddy Poll	Ed Turner	Simon Galton	Andrew Cooper
Waste (including the Local Waste Review)	Clare Whelan	Clyde Loakes	To be confirmed by the Lib Dem Lead member	To be confirmed by the LGA Independent group
Sustainability and Carbon Reduction		Tim Moore	Keith House	Andrew Cooper