

As approved at the Leadership Board – 13 February 2013

New Model for Local Government – Programme Plan

Purpose of report

To seek Leadership Board's comments and endorsement of the planned programme of activities underpinning the development of the LGA's New Model for Local Government .

Summary

In line with earlier discussions with the Leadership Board, this report outlines work to date on the New Model for Local Government and sets out a forward programme. An initial draft project outline is attached.

Recommendation

Members are asked to review the **attached** project outline, comment on progress to date and planned actions and agree to the proposed future actions, subject to any amendments arising at the meeting.

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New Model for Local Government – Programme Plan

1. At its meeting on 9 January, Leadership Board considered a report setting out a proposal for a New Model for Local Government. The proposal's purpose was threefold:
 - 1.1 Developing a clear case for the future national role of local government in order to inform party manifestos in the run-up to the next general election.
 - 1.2 Setting out Local Government's offer in order to inform the expected 2015 spending review immediately after the election.
 - 1.3 Providing the LGA national conference with a practical explanation of the above and informing its longer term planning processes.
2. Leadership Board agreed with the proposed work in broad terms and asked that it be developed further. It saw value in wide national communication of the work before conference in order to ensure that voices across the sector could be heard.
3. Leadership Board agreed that there should be a number of specific in-depth discussions about the various themes set out in the paper and that initial drafts of policy papers should be developed to provide the foundation for the work. It asked Group Leaders to nominate a members' group to review them. At present policy papers are planned to be on the following subjects:
 - 3.1 Independent Local Government;
 - 3.2 Growth;
 - 3.3 Good adult social care;
 - 3.4 Future children's services;
 - 3.5 Welfare reform;
 - 3.6 Sustainable future funding.
4. There has been good progress to date on the arrangements for the national events and in-depth policy discussions. Initial drafts of the policy papers are being finalised at the time of writing and will be sent to the member reference group shortly. Further work is needed on the products for conference, communication and lobbying material, however this is to be expected because much of the work is still in development. The programme is being carefully considered by the LGA senior management team and project co-ordination is in place.

5. The key milestones for the work are set out in the project plan which follows this report. Some planning is still under way and a revised table will be circulated at the Leadership Board meeting. The following Regional Roadshows have been arranged, the Chairman or a Group Leader will introduce them and senior members from across the groups will be invited:

Nottingham (East Midlands)	27/02/2013
London (South East Region)	04/03/2013
London (London Councils)	11/03/2013
Taunton (West of England)	12/03/2013
Cambridge (East of England)	15/03/2013
Preston (North West)	19/03/2013
Birmingham (West Midlands)	22/03/2013
York (Yorkshire & Humber)	25/03/2013
Durham (North East)	26/03/2013
Liverpool – yet to confirm lead members' availability	TBC

6. A verbal update on further progress will be provided at the meeting and Leadership Board will be asked to give its thoughts on the process so far. A more detailed discussion on the content of the policy papers is planned for the Leadership Board meeting of 13 March 2013.

New Model for Local Government - Project Plan

Activities	Date/ Deadline
Core document setting out the model - production	
Initial collation of policy think pieces (See below)	25/01/2013
Discussions with members' review group/ Leaders	18/02/2013
First draft to March Leadership Board	27/02/2013
Revisions and review with members' review group/ Leaders	TBC
Alignment with Conference requirements	TBC
Second draft to April Leadership Board	TBC
Publication linked to communications strategy	TBC
Production for Conference	07/06/2013
Development and production of policy think pieces - see generic timetable below	
<i>Independent Local Government</i>	
<i>Good Social Care</i>	
<i>Growth</i>	
<i>Comprehensive Spending Review</i>	
<i>Welfare reform</i>	
<i>Each of the policy think-pieces will be developed to the following timetable:</i>	
Initial outline to SMT	18/01/2013
Working draft to SMT	25/01/2013
SMT discussion	30/01/2013
Revisions and discussions	26/02/2013
Discussion with members' review group	18/02/2013
Discussion with relevant Board/Panel Chair(s)	18/02/2013
Initial draft to Leadership Board	27/02/2013
Leadership Board discussion	13/03/2013
Discussion with members' review group	TBC
<i>'Deep dive' discussion members, officers, external specialists (during April)</i>	
Deep dive session 1 - Independent Local Government	TBC
Deep dive session 2 - Growth	TBC
Deep dive session 3 - Finance and funding	TBC
Deep dive session 4 - Welfare reform	TBC
Deep dive session 5 - Social Care	TBC
Discussion with relevant Board/Panel Chair(s)	TBC
Final draft to Leadership Board	TBC
Roadshows (to enable first one to be on 26/02/2013)	
<i>Dates (Chairman attending all, along with senior members from groups)</i>	
Nottingham (East Midlands)	27/02/2013
London (South East Region)	04/03/2013
London (London Councils)	11/03/2013
Taunton (West of England)	12/03/2013
Cambridge (East of England)	15/03/2013
Preston (Nort West)	19/03/2013
Birmingham (West Midlands)	22/03/2013
York (Yorkshire & Humber)	25/03/2013

	Date/ Deadline
Activities	
Durham (North East)	26/03/2013
Liverpool - awaiting David Sparks' availability	TBC
Agree SMT coverage	
Agree generic programme	
Agree specific programmes	
Identify speakers	
Influencing production of manifestos in 2015	
DG and David to discuss and set out elements	
Clearance of draft by leadership board	
Agreement of key messages and actions	
Further items	
Production of material for conference	
Draft list of potential speakers	
External communication products	
DG and DH to discuss and set out elements	
Public affairs and lobbying	
DG and DH to discuss and set out elements	
Internal communication	
Initial discussion by SMT	09/01/2013
Floating with CLT	14/01/2013
Daniel and David to discuss remainder	TBC
Key Board and Panel reports	
Leadership Board report on project plan 13/2/13	30/01/2013
Executive Board report on project plan 14/2/13	30/01/2013
Leadership Board report on draft policy papers and other content 13/3/13	27/02/2013
Executive Board report on draft policy papers and other content 13/3/13	27/02/2013
Develop remainder of governance calendar	