

## Note of decisions taken and actions required

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<b>Title:</b>	<b>LG Group European and International Programme Board</b>
<b>Date and time:</b>	14.00, 26 November 2010
<b>Venue:</b>	The Millbank Room, Local Government House, LONDON.

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### Attendance

Position	Councillor	Council
Chairman	Dave Wilcox	Derbyshire CC
Vice Chair	Richard Kemp	Liverpool City
Deputy Chair	Sandra Barnes MBE	South Northamptonshire DC
Deputy Chair	Linda Gillham	Runnymede BC
Members	Roger Phillips	Herefordshire
	David Lloyd	Hertfordshire CC
	Liz Eyre	Worcestershire CC
	Sir Albert Bore	Birmingham City
Substitutes	Clare Whelan	Lambeth LB
	John Commons	Manchester City
	Steve Comer	Bristol City
In attendance	Martin Candler	Stockport City
Apologies	Gordon Keymer CBE	Tandridge DC
	Dr Andrew Povey	Surrey CC
	Peter Box CBE	Wakefield City
	Nilgun Canver	Haringey LB
	Lord Tope CBE	Sutton LB
	Paula Baker	Basingstoke & Deane BC

**Officers:** Ian Hughes, Richard Kitt, James Beadle, Jasbir Jhas, Karen Esser, Paul Johnston, Stephen Cooper (LG Group).

Item	Decisions and actions	Action by
1	<p><b>European and International Programme Board in 2010 - 11</b></p> <p>Members welcomed the creation of the European and International Programme Board, and said that this would lead to European and International issues being more integrated in all Programme Board activity.</p> <p>In discussing ways of working for the Board, Members suggested that the Board have an away-day event in due course. Members agreed that Local Government Employers present at a future Board on workforce issues and that, with the introduction of Local Enterprise Partnerships, that the Board could consider the issue of inward investment in due course.</p> <p><b>Decision</b></p> <p>Members agreed the remit and ways of working for the new European and International Programme Board.</p> <p>Members agreed that there be a further meeting of the Board in March to meet outside London.</p> <p>Members agreed that an expanded Directory be available to Board Members to include all LGA representation at the EU and other international bodies.</p> <p><b>Action</b></p> <p>Officers to make arrangements for a further Board meeting in March 2011.</p> <p>Officers to circulate an expanded Directory all LGA representation at the EU and other international bodies.</p>	<p><b>Paul Johnston</b></p> <p><b>Ian Hughes / Karen Esser</b></p>
2	<p><b>LGA service to Councils</b></p> <p>Officers informed Members on current LGA services to Councils on European and International issues, and said that the LGA had been approached by a number of Councils to consider joint location in Brussels to save costs as regions' ability to fund separate offices diminished.</p>	

Members said that it was important for the LGA to be taking a coordinating role on this issue, and to work collaboratively with councils and businesses. Members agreed that it was important that there be further updates on progress at future meetings.

***Decision***

*Members noted the report and agreed that further updates on LGA European and International services to Councils be brought to future meetings.*

**Action**

Officers to update Members on LGA European and International services to Councils at the January 2011 Board meeting.

**Ian Hughes**

**3 The EU trackers service**

Officers explained the principles of the European and International Unit's trackers service, and said that the service had to date been well received.

Officers said that they would ensure that all Board Members receive the service.

***Decision***

*Member noted the report*

**Action**

Officers to add all Members of the Board to the distribution list for the EU trackers service.

**Jasbir  
Jhas**

**4 EU lobbying programme**

Officers outlined the European and International Unit's current lobbying priorities and methods.

Members said that the lobbying priorities identified in the report had a significant impact on a number of Programme Boards' remits and on member Councils. Members asked specifically about shared services, to which officers replied that this was a key priority and that discussions had been held with the Improvement Programme Board on this issue.

Members asked over lobbying methods, and how the Local Government Group was ensuring its voice was heard in the European arena. Officers said that a number of networks were in place across European institutions, such as the Council of European and Municipalities and Regions (CEMR) and the Committee of the Regions (CoR), and that further work was being done to bolster relationships with domestic and international governmental teams.

### ***Decision***

*Members approved the LGA's suggested EU lobbying priorities and endorsed the LGA's lobbying methods.*

### **Action**

Officers to prepare a further paper of the impact on EU legislation on shared services.

**Jasbir  
Jhas**

Officers to ensure that the Chair's report to Councillors' Forum be circulated to Board Members.

**Paul  
Johnston**

## **5 The LGA's international work**

Officers introduced the report, noting the work that the LGA's European and International Unit was doing on developing current partnerships with the developing world in providing local government expertise on governance projects.

Members said that there was an important role for the LGA to play in providing the skills and expertise of the UK local government sector from councils to developing nations.

## **6 Council of European Municipalities and Regions (CEMR – European LGA)**

Members agreed that Cllr Gordon Keymer be the English nomination for the Leader of the UK delegation to the CEMR.

Members agreed that that Cllr Steve Comer be nominated as Chair of the CEMR Employers' Platform.

Members agreed the suggested strategy on the CEMR budget.

**Action**

Officers to progress the nominations of Cllr Keymer and Cllr Comer with CEMR.

**Richard  
Kitt**

CEMR representatives to pursue the budget strategy at the next CEMR meeting

**Cllr Wilcox**