

ANNEX B : EU LOBBYING PRIORITIES

EU proposal and expected impact on LGA member authorities, Mainstreamed LGA Programme Board Level of response (priority or watching brief)	Launch of EU proposal	Brussels decision makers	Whitehall decision makers
LGA Executive			
EU financial sanctions (Localism Act): discretionary powers for Ministers to pass all, or part of, an EU fine for failing to comply with a ECJ ruling for non compliance with EU law. <i>Priority</i>	Live	-	Communities and Local Government (CLG)
Review of Markets in Financial Instruments Directive (MIFID): Reclassification of UK councils as ‘non-professional’ investors, harming ability to invest public funds. <i>Priority</i>	Live COM(2011) 656	ECON (EP) ECOS (CoR)	HM Treasury
VAT affecting public authorities: councils’ ability to claim back VAT from government for goods/services they buy for the public sector (crèches etc) may be threatened by common EU approach for public bodies in the EU. <i>Watching brief</i>	<i>In 2011 plan, but not published</i>	ECON (EP) ECOS (CoR)	HM Treasury
Regulation on prudential requirements of credit institutions (“BASEL III”) Greater capital requirements introduced by the regulation on prudential requirements for credit institutions may affect the lending (loan) activities of local authorities, credit unions, and public banks. <i>Watching brief</i>	Live COM(2011) 452	ECON (EP) ECOS (CoR)	HM Treasury
LGA Children and Young People Board			
Child poverty: common principles of intervention on support to families (labour market, income support) and childcare, education, healthcare, housing, social services. <i>Watching brief</i>	June 2012	EMPL (EP) ECOS (CoR)	Dept for Education Dept for Work and Pensions (DWP)

LGA Economy and Transport Board			
EU Budget review (2014-2020) incl. structural funds: UK councils benefit from £9bn EU skills and regeneration funding. We seek a coherent, locally responsive and accessible future funding package. <i>Priority</i>	Live COM(2011) 398 COM(2011) 607 COM(2011) 612 COM(2011) 614 COM(2011) 615	BUDG+REGI (EP) AdHoc+COTER (CoR)	Dept for Business Innovation and Skills (BIS) Dept For Env, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA) CLG, DWP
CO2 from cars and vans: new targets for manufacturers, but may affect procurement of local authority fleet. <i>Watching brief</i>	Dec 2012	TRAN (EP) COTER (CoR)	Dept for Energy and Climate Change (DECC) Dept for Transport (DfT)
Revisions to regional aid guidelines will affect the UK 'assisted areas' map + levels of grant support councils can offer to business. <i>Priority</i>	Sept 2012	REGI (EP) COTER (CoR)	BIS
Revisions to 'block exemption' & de minimis state aid regulations could make it easier for councils to award state aid to companies without having to notify the EU. <i>Watching brief</i>	July 2012	IMCO (EP) ECOS (CoR)	BIS
Revisions to state aid rules for broadband may make it easier for councils to provide support schemes locally. <i>Watching brief</i>		IMCO (EP) EDUC (EP)	BIS
LGA Environment and Housing Board			

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Directive on energy efficiency: LGA opposes inflexible annual 3% binding renovation target for buildings by 2014. Priority	Live COM(2011) 370	ITRE (EP) ENVE (CoR)	DEFRA, DECC, CLG
Initiative on radio spectrum policy for more efficient energy production and distribution: harmonisation of smart energy grids / metering. <i>Watching brief</i>	Autumn 2012	ITRE (EP) ENVE (CoR)	DEFRA, DECC, CLG
Revision of EU Greenhouse Gas: fluorinated greenhouse gases (led to fridge mountains). <i>Watching brief</i>	June 2012	ITRE (EP) ENVE (CoR)	DEFRA, DECC, CLG
Review of Environmental Impact Assessment Directive will seek to improve councils' implementation of EU laws. Priority	July 2012	ENVI (EP) ENVE (CoR)	DEFRA, DECC, CLG
Seventh environmental action programme: sets general framework and priorities for future agenda. <i>Watching brief</i>	Oct 2012	ENVI (EP) ENVE (CoR)	DEFRA, DECC, CLG
Potential review of Environmental Liability Directive <i>Watching brief</i>	2014	ENVI (EP) ENVE (CoR)	DEFRA, DECC, CLG
Revision of Waste Framework and Waste Stream Directives must not add to existing duties.			DEFRA, DECC, CLG
New diversion targets from other waste streams may be added to Landfill Directive (zero land fill by 2050.) Priority	2014		DEFRA, DECC, CLG
Directive on water efficiency in buildings: as part of a wider "blueprint" for future water policy, a new Directive may set binding targets and incur a significant cost to councils as owners of municipal buildings and social housing. Priority	Dec 2012	ENVI (EP) ENVE (CoR)	DEFRA, DECC, CLG

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Air Quality Directive: review may set new air quality management standards. 2013 is European air quality year Priority	2013	ENVI (EP) ENVE (CoR)	DEFRA, DECC, CLG
LGA Improvement Board			
Major review of EU public procurement rules. LGA is lobbying to ensure a simpler and lighter regime overall, and a more flexible approach to shared services. Priority	Live COM(2011) 896	IMCO (EP) ECOS (CoR)	Cabinet Office
Award of concession contracts: LGA is lobbying for light touch regulation on councils' franchise arrangements: toll bridges car parks, leisure centres, waste, school canteens Priority	Live COM(2011) 897	IMCO (EP) ECOS (CoR)	
Data protection: re-use of public sector information: proposals may affect how councils store and share personal data. <i>Watching brief</i>	Live COM(2011) 877	LIBE (EP) ECOS (CoR)	
LGA European and International Board			
Role of civil society and local authorities in development. <i>Watching brief</i>	Oct 2012	DEVE (EP) CIVEX (CoR)	Dept for International Development (DFID)
European Neighbourhood Policy and Eastern Partnership <i>Watching brief</i>	2012	AFET (EP) CIVEX (CoR)	Foreign and Commonwealth Office (FCO)
LGA Stronger and Safer Communities Board			

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Proposals to review EU Directives/regulations on organic food, tobacco sales, general product safety, animal health, and official food chain controls may affect councils' trading standards and environmental health teams. <i>Watching brief</i>	During 2012-13	ENVI+IMCO (EP) Various CoR	
European consumer agenda: consumer safety, rights redress and access to justice, enforcement, information. <i>Watching brief</i>	Summer 2012	IMCO (EP) EDUC (CoR)	
LGA Culture Tourism & Sport Board			
European tourism label sector: legislation to bring quality evaluation of the sector. <i>Watching brief</i>	2012	TRAN (EP) NAT (CoR)	Dept for Culture Media and Sport (DCMS)
LGA Workforce Board LGA Fire Services Management Committee			
Working Time Directive Review: may affect care homes and fire services. Lobbying to keep 48 hour opt-out; ensure not all on-call time is working time; and compensatory rest is taken flexibly. Priority	Ongoing	EMPL (EP) ECOS (CoR)	CLG, BIS
Freedom of movement for workers within the EU may establish certain obligations on employers, including councils. It is envisaged to apply to EU nationals moving/working within the EU rather than migration to/from third countries <i>Watching brief</i>	Late 2012	EMPL (EP) ECOS (CoR)	CLG, BIS
Green Paper on restructuring: good practice in employment restructuring promoting employment/growth. <i>Watching brief</i>	Live COM(2012) 007	EMPL (EP) ECOS (CoR)	CLG, BIS

Protection of workers from the risks related to carcinogens and mutagens at work <i>Watching brief</i>	Oct 2012	EMPL (EP) ECOS (CoR)	CLG, BIS
Work/family and private life - measures to increase female employment rates and tackle demographic change <i>Watching brief</i>	2012	EMPL (EP) ECOS (CoR)	CLG, BIS