

ANNEX

Member Arrangements for the LGA

Consequential Amendments to the Constitution, Standing Orders and Political Conventions

The Constitution

The proposed amendments to the member structure of the LGA require certain consequential amendments to the provisions of the LGA Constitution, to reflect the new structure. These relate primarily to section 9 (General Provisions) where changes in terminology will be needed to substitute references to “Boards and other decision-making bodies”, or “Panels” for “Executives”, where appropriate. Similar terminological changes will be necessary in sections 14, and 17.

Other amendments required are:

Section 9.5 : Provides that political balance of *Executives* may be maintained by the attendance of substitutes. It is recommended that this provision continue under the new structure in relation to boards, panels and the LGA Executive. In relation to the LGA Executive, substitutes for chairs of boards from the same political party will be permitted, but in addition, in the absence of the chair of a board, the vice chair of that board will be able to attend to speak, but not vote, on items within that board’s remit.

Section 14.3 refers to the Urban and Rural Commissions each establishing an executive. It is recommended that these executives be renamed “steering committees”.

Section 22.5 refers to the purchase and sale etc of land and buildings “on such terms and in such manner as the Management Executive considers suitable” . This should now refer to the Resources Panel.

Standing Orders

Parts 1 and 2 of the Standing Orders of the Association, relating to the conduct of meetings of the General Assembly and Executives respectively, will also need amendment to the terminology to substitute reference to “Boards and Panels” for reference to “Executives”.

LGA Political Conventions

Amendments are needed to the terminology, substituting reference to boards and panels, for executives, as appropriate.

The following additional amendments are recommended:

Section 2. (iv) Task Groups

The LGA Executive agreed certain principles for the establishment and operation of Task Groups, but also agreed that the remit of any task group, as set out in the project plan should be clear as to the extent to which the Task Group should have freedom of action to achieve the objectives of the project; and that the Executive should agree the establishment of any new Task Groups, on the recommendation of a Board. In the light of this approach, it is recommended that the existing provision on Task groups in the political conventions be revised as follows:

Task Groups may be appointed by the LGA Executive or a Board, with the approval of the LGA Executive. Task Groups are expected to provide member oversight of specific business plan projects, and should include members with relevant experience or expertise. They should be small enough (normally no more than 8 members) to enable effective working. Individual task groups need not achieve precise political balance as between the groups, although the overall principles of proportionality will be reflected. Task groups should normally include a Board member, but that person need not be the chair of the task group. Chairs of Task Groups may be appointed from any political group, given their role and purpose. Proportionality will be observed in the appointment of Task Group Chairs, but not so as to inhibit the appointment of the most appropriate chair to any particular Task Group. Substitutes will not be allowed.

Task groups will generally have delegated authority to oversee a project, within a remit approved by the sponsoring Board. Normally, there should be no need for the task group to seek further approval from a sponsoring Board unless they propose a significant departure from the original objectives or design of the project.

Section 2 (xi) Substitutes

Appropriate amendments are needed to reflect the substitute arrangements being recommended in relation to section 9(5) of the constitution above.