Proposed amendments to the LGA Political Conventions (made under Article 4.4 of the Constitution)

(1) Insert a new paragraph 2(iv):

2 (iv)   Emergency Situations

In situations which threaten the organisation, the reputation of local government or the well-being of communities that the LGA represents, the LGA's Chairman and Group Leaders will constitute an Emergency Group to lead the Association's response. The Group may supplement its membership as it considers appropriate to the circumstances of the emergency."

(2) Amend paragraph 5(ii) to read as follows:

5(ii)   Delegations

The purpose of delegations from the LGA is to have the maximum effect in representing the interests of local government to other bodies. It will be important to balance the interests of effectiveness (which will often imply small, tightly focused delegations) and representativeness, which implies larger numbers. The Chairman or the Chair of the relevant Board, in consultation with officers, will agree the most appropriate structure and representation for the meeting. Where small delegations are preferred, the Association will not necessarily be represented by the Chair and / or office holders of the body concerned, and political balance will not be an overriding factor in deciding representation. Members nominated to represent the Association will recognise their responsibility to represent the views of the LGA as a whole. As a general rule, every effort will be made to have politically balanced delegations where larger numbers are appropriate for formal meetings which the Association has with Ministers and other organisations. In any event, the relevant Board or Panel will be informed of the meeting and advised of the composition of the delegation. They will receive copies of briefing and feedback from the meeting. It is recognised that there will be private, informal or party political meetings where it is inappropriate to have politically balanced delegations, and they may be briefed or attended by non-political staff for technical support. "