

Local Government Group Improvement Programme Board Membership, Terms of Reference and Appointments 2011 – 12

Purpose of report

For decision.

Summary

This report sets out the membership and terms of reference for the Improvement Programme Board for the 2011 / 12 meeting cycle and invites the Board to appoint representatives.

Recommendations

The Board is asked to:

1. formally note the membership and terms of reference for the LG Group Improvement Programme Board (attached as **Appendix A** and **B** respectively);
2. and to:
 - 2.1 appoint a representative to the Urban Commission Steering Committee;
 - 2.2 appoint a representative to the Rural Commission;
 - 2.3 appoint to the role of social inclusion and equalities representative.

Action

As agreed by the Board.

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Local Government Group Improvement Programme Board Membership, Terms of Reference and Appointments 2011 – 12

Membership and Terms of Reference

1. Members are invited to formally note the membership and to confirm the Board's Lead Members for 2011 -12 (as detailed in **Appendix A**). Members are also invited to agree the Board's revised terms of reference for this year (attached as **Appendix B**). The revisions, marked within the Appendix, are made to reflect the LG Group Executive's leadership of the work on localism and that funding for current Regional Improvement and Efficiency Partnerships has ceased.

Outside bodies appointments

2. The Local Government Group currently benefits from a wide network of member representatives on outside bodies across a wide range of the LG Group member structures. These appointments are reviewed on an annual basis across the Group to ensure that the aims and activities of those outside bodies remain pertinent to the LG Group.
3. Members are asked to consider and agree one nomination each from this Board to the following bodies:
 - 3.1 Urban Commission Steering Committee
 - 3.2 Rural Commission
4. The Board's nominations for the year 2010 / 11 were Cllr Tim Cheetham (Labour) for the Urban Commission Steering Committee and Cllr Peter Goldsworthy (Conservative) for rural activities.
5. In addition, the Board has historically appointed to the position of social inclusion and equalities representative. Cllr Edward Lord (Liberal Democrat) took this position for 2010 / 11. The Board are asked to agree a nomination to this position for the forthcoming year.

Financial Implications

6. There are no financial implications arising directly from this report. Reasonable travel and subsistence costs will be paid by the LG Group for expenses incurred by a member appointee, whilst carrying out a representative role on behalf of the LG Group.

Improvement Programme Board - Membership 2011/2012

Councillor	Authority
Conservative (6)	
Peter Fleming [Chair]	Sevenoaks DC
Rod Bluh	Swindon BC
Michael White	Havering LB
Richard Stay	Central Bedfordshire Council
William Nunn	Breckland Council
Teresa O'Neill	Bexley LB
Substitutes:	
Tony Jackson	East Herts Council
Jonathan Owen	East Riding of Yorkshire
Peter Britcliffe	Hyndburn DC
Labour (5)	
Ruth Cadbury [Deputy Chair]	Hounslow LB
Tony McDermott MBE	Halton BC
Tim Cheetham	Barnsley MBC
Helen Holland	Bristol City
Judith Blake	Leeds City
Substitutes:	
Theo Blackwell	Camden LB
Russell Roberts	Rhondda Cynon Taff CBC
Liberal Democrat (2)	
Jill Shortland OBE [Vice Chair]	Somerset CC
Edward Lord OBE JP	City of London Corporation
Substitute:	
Sir David Williams CBE	Richmond upon Thames LB
Independent (1)	
Jeremy Webb [Deputy Chair]	East Lindsey DC

LG Group Improvement Programme Board Terms of Reference

The purpose of the Improvement Programme Board is to provide strategic oversight of all the LG Group's policy and improvement activity in relation to councils improving their performance and productivity ~~and in relation to localism~~ – in line with the LG Group priorities.

In doing so it will work closely with the LG Group Programme Boards on the performance of the sector in their subject areas and the arrangements they are putting in place to provide improvement support. The Board will provide strategic direction to the sector's own improvement architecture. ~~(e.g. Regional Improvement and Efficiency partnerships and the RIEP Member Forum) and receive progress reports from them.~~

Programme Boards should seek to involve councillors in supporting the delivery of these priorities (through task groups, Rural and Urban Commissions, Special Interest Groups (SIGs), regional networks and other means of wider engagement); essentially operating as the centre of a network connecting to all councils and drawing on the expertise of key advisors from the sector.

The Improvement Programme Board will be responsible for:

1. Developing a thorough understanding of council priorities and performance across the width of councils' responsibilities, using strong networks and robust information.
2. Helping to shape the LG Group Business Plan by ensuring the priorities of the sector are fed into the process.
3. Overseeing a programme of work to deliver the strategic priorities set by the LG Group Executive, covering lobbying/campaigns, research/policy, good practice, improvement support and events – as specified in the business plan, taking into account linkages with other policy boards where appropriate.
4. Representational and lobbying activities on behalf of the LG Group and responsibility for the promulgation of activity through public statements in its areas of responsibility.
5. Building and maintaining effective relationships with key stakeholders.

8 September 2011

Item 1

The Improvement Programme Board may:

- Appoint members to relevant outside bodies in accordance with guidance in the Political Conventions.
- Appoint member champions where appropriate (who must be a current member of the Board) on key issues, with responsibility for liaising with portfolio holders on key issues that require rapid response/contact with councils.