

Improvement Board Membership, Terms of Reference and Outside Body Appointments for 2012/13

Purpose of report

To ask the Improvement Board to note its Membership, Terms of Reference and the Outside Bodies appointments for 2012/13 and ask individual members to consider working on one of the Board's five priority areas.

Summary

The Board's Membership (**Appendix A**), Terms of Reference (**Appendix B**) and nominations to Outside Bodies (**Appendix C**) are attached to this report. The amended section of the term of reference is underlined.

Members are invited to consider working on at least one of the Board's five priority areas: Improvement, Transparency, Innovation, Leadership and Productivity. Members' preferences will be canvassed by email after the first Board meeting, with the level of involvement being flexible depending on the individual. Board Members' preferences for 2011/12 are attached at **Appendix D** for information.

Recommendation

That the Improvement Board notes its Membership, Terms of Reference and Outside Bodies appointments for 2012/13.

Action

Officers to canvass Members' preferences regarding working on at least one of the Board's five priority areas.

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Appendix A - Improvement Board - Membership 2012/2013

Councillor	Authority
Conservative (8)	
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
Tony Jackson	East Herts Council
Glen Miller	Bradford City
Substitutes:	
Chris Hayward	Three Rivers DC
Peter Jackson	Northumberland Council
David Mackintosh	Northampton BC
Barry Wood	Cherwell DC
Labour (6)	
Ruth Cadbury [Deputy Chair]	Hounslow LB
Tony McDermott MBE	Halton BC
Tim Cheetham	Barnsley MBC
Helen Holland	Bristol City
Judith Blake	Leeds City
Rory Palmer	Leicester City
Substitutes:	
Theo Blackwell	Camden LB
Liberal Democrat (3)	
Jill Shortland OBE [Vice Chair]	Somerset CC
Edward Lord OBE JP	City of London Corporation
Sir David Williams CBE	Richmond upon Thames LB
Independent (1)	
Jeremy Webb [Deputy Chair]	East Lindsey DC
Substitute	
Angela Lawrence	Vale of White Horse DC

Observers	
Philip Selwood, Chief Executive, Energy Savings Trust	Private Sector
Professor Dominic Shellard, Vice- Chancellor and Chief Executive, De Montfort University	Academic Institutions
Richard Priestman, Managing Director, Corporate Business, Lombard	Financial/Productivity Expertise

Appendix B – Improvement Board Terms of Reference and Remit

1. The purpose of the Improvement Board is to provide strategic oversight of all the Local Government Association's (LGA) policy and improvement activity in relation to councils improving their performance and productivity and in relation to localism - in line with the LGA priorities.
2. In doing so it will work closely with the LGA 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, for example, successor bodies to the regional improvement and efficiency partnerships (RIEPs); the Children's Improvement Board and the Towards Excellence in Adult Social Care board (TEASC).
3. Boards should seek to involve councillors in supporting the delivery of these priorities. This can be through task groups, rural and urban commissions, special interest groups (SIGs), regional networks and other means of wider engagement. They are operating essentially as the centre of a network connecting to all councils and drawing on the expertise of key advisors from the sector.
4. The Improvement Board will be responsible for:
 - 4.1 Developing a thorough understanding of council priorities and performance across the width of councils' responsibilities, using strong networks and robust information.
 - 4.2 Helping to shape the LGA Business plan by ensuring the priorities of the sector are fed into the process.
 - 4.3 Overseeing a programme of work to deliver the strategic priorities set by the LGA Executive, covering lobbying and campaigns, research and or policy, good practice, improvement support and events - as specified in the business plan, taking into account linkages with other policy boards where appropriate.
 - 4.4 Representational and lobbying activities on behalf of the LGA and responsibility for the promulgation of activity through public statements in its areas of responsibility.
 - 4.5 Building and maintaining effective relationships with key stakeholders.
5. The Improvement Board may:
 - 5.1 appoint members to relevant outside bodies in accordance with guidance in the Political Conventions.
 - 5.2 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 and contact with councils.

Appendix C – Improvement Board Outside Body Appointments for 2012/13

Organisation	Background	Representative for 2012/13	Allowances/ Expenses	Previous Member appointment for 2011/12
Urban Commission Steering Committee	The Urban Commission provides a forum LGA for member authorities whose areas are wholly or partly urban. The Urban Commission will act in a way that complements the principals of the LGA as a whole.	Cllr Tony McDermott (Labour)	No expenses or allowance paid	Cllr Tony McDermott (Labour)
Rural Commission	Provides the forum within the Association for member authorities with an interest in rural affairs.	Cllr William Nunn (Conservative)	No expenses or allowance paid.	Cllr William Nunn (Conservative)
LGA Member Champion - Social inclusion and equalities	Advocate and key speaker for social inclusion and equalities issues.	Cllr Edward Lord JP (Liberal Democrat)	No expenses or allowance paid.	Cllr Edward Lord JP (Liberal Democrat)

Appendix D – Improvement Board Priority Areas – Member Preferences for 2011/12

Priority Area	Councillor
Productivity	Ruth Cadbury (Lead)
	Tim Cheetham
	Tony McDermott
Transparency	Tim Cheetham (Lead)
Improvement	Jill Shortland/Jeremy Webb (Lead)
	Teresa O'Neill
	Judith Blake
Innovation	Peter Fleming (Lead)
	Rod Bluh
	William Nunn
	Tony McDermott
	Helen Holland
Leadership	Richard Stay (Lead)
	Rod Bluh
	William Nunn
	Helen Holland