

## **LGA Vision and Priorities - Draft Business Plan 2012/13**

### **Purpose of report**

For decision.

### **Summary**

1. The LGA's draft Business Plan for 2012/13 is presented for initial review in **Appendix A**. It has been developed by an iterative process with members, in discussions at Leadership Board and through the political group offices. These have informed the statement of our vision for local government and, given this, initial proposals as to where the LGA can have most impact over the coming year. Through this work, six priorities have emerged as the focus for the LGA's work – members are now asked to agree these.
2. The six priorities provide the framework for the draft business plan which also include proposals for each programme area, fed in by Heads of Programmes. Programme Boards are being asked to review these in the January round of meetings to inform the final business plan.
3. Further work will be undertaken over the coming weeks to ensure that the business plan is specific and clear about the impact we are seeking to achieve, and this will be reflected in the final business plan that will be presented for sign-off to the LGA Executive in March.
4. Discussions are also underway with regional local government representatives to ensure effective co-ordination of national and regional support.

### **Recommendation**

To agree the high level priorities for the LGA for 2012/13.

### **Action**

The final 2012/13 business plan and budget to be presented to Executive in March.

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## **LGA Vision and Priorities - Draft Business Plan 2012/13**

### **Introduction**

1. The LGA's draft Business Plan for 2012/13 is presented for initial review. It has been developed by an iterative process with members, in discussions at Leadership Board and through the political group offices. These have informed the statement of our vision for local government and, given this, initial proposals as to where the LGA can have most impact over the coming year.

### **LGA Priorities 2012/13**

2. Through this work, six priorities have emerged as the focus for the LGA in the coming financial year – members are now asked to agree these to enable further work to be carried out in developing specific proposals for our work programme for 2012/13.
3. It is proposed that in 2012/13 we will focus on delivering the following outcomes:
  - 3.1. **Public Service Reform** – councils are the centre, and are seen to be at the centre, of public sector reform and delivering more effective services for local people.
  - 3.2. **Growth and Prosperity** – councils are recognised as central to economic growth.
  - 3.3. **Funding for local government** – reform of the public sector finance system so councils raise more of their funds locally, have confidence their financing is sustainable and greater ability to co-ordinate local public services.
  - 3.4. **Efficiency and Productivity** – councils dramatically reduce costs in ways which minimise the impact on the quality of life for their residents.
  - 3.5. **Sector-led Improvement** – councils are the most improved part of the public sector; local politicians and senior managers lead the transformation of local places.
  - 3.6. **The LGA's efficiency and effectiveness** – the LGA is the single voice of local government, representing every local authority across England and Wales along with elected police and crime commissioners, operating ever more efficiently and driving down the cost of membership.

**Item 6**

4. These provide the framework for the draft business plan which also includes the proposals for each programme area. These have been fed in by Heads of Programmes in the light recent discussions at Programme Boards.

**Next steps**

5. Programme Boards are being asked to review their proposals in the January round of meetings to inform the final business plan.
6. Further work will be undertaken over the coming weeks to develop a work programme which is specific and clear about the impact we are seeking to achieve, and this will be reflected in the final business plan that will be presented for sign-off to the LGA Executive in March.
7. Discussions are also underway with regional local government representatives to ensure effective co-ordination of national and regional support.
8. The outline budget has been reviewed by the Resources Panel. Final budget proposals will be presented to the February Resources Panel, to enable it to make a recommendation to the March Executive on the 2012/13 budget.