

## **LGA Constitution**

### **Purpose of report**

For decision.

### **Summary**

This report seeks the Executive's endorsement for a series of amendments to the LGA Constitution arising from decisions taken during the year and from changes to the company structure of the former LG Group.

### **Recommendation**

That the LGA Executive agrees the amendments to the Constitution set out in the report, for recommendation to the LGA General Assembly on 2 July.

### **Action**

Officers to submit report to General Assembly.

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## **LGA Constitution**

### **Background**

1. Under clause 24.1, the General Assembly has the power to amend the Constitution. This report sets out a series of amendments arising from decisions taken during the year and from changes to the company structure of the former central bodies.

### **Proposed amendments**

2. *Delete clause 1.6 – corporate membership scheme for Association of Police & Crime Commissioners.*

The Association of Police & Crime Commissioners (APCC) has since indicated that it does not wish to pursue a corporate membership of the LGA.

3. *Clause 2.1 and throughout - delete references to LACORS and Local Government Employers and to the “central bodies”.*

The business of the two companies has been formally transferred to the LGA and IDeA respectively and both companies are in the process of being wound up.

4. *Insert new clause 4.4 - Councillors serving on the LGA’s member structures, or otherwise representing or undertaking business on behalf of the LGA, are required to operate in accordance with the member code of conduct of the local authority they are representing.*

Formalises existing process agreed by LGA Executive in 2008.

5. *Insert new clause 8.2. - Vice-Presidents shall be appointed annually by the leaders of the Association’s political groups and be reported at the Annual Meeting of the Association.*

Amendment to current process whereby Vice-Presidents are nominated by Groups for election by General Assembly. The revised process will enable political groups to respond immediately to issues of conduct of Vice-Presidents without seeking General Assembly endorsement. Agreed by Leadership Board 15 May 2013.

6. *Insert new clause 8.4. - the LGA President and Vice-Presidents are required to operate in accordance with the Code of Conduct for Members of Parliament/for Members of the House of Lords/for MEPs/for Welsh Assembly Members.*

Agreed by Leadership Board 15 May 2013.

**Item 5**

7. *Amend clause 9.3.2 – agendas of General Assembly to be circulated 10 working days before meeting in place of current 15.*

Revised timescale will allow sufficient time for audited accounts to be received and approved by Leadership Board at their June meeting.

8. *Delete clause 12.3 - One or more representatives of local authorities in Northern Ireland may be appointed to the European and International Board.*

Northern Ireland have stopped subscribing to the LGA for support on European and International issues and therefore no longer require a place on the Board.

9. *Clause 21 – replace all references to the “Resources Panel” with the “Leadership Board”*

In the light of the streamlining of the LGA company structure, there is no longer a need for a separate Resources Panel. From 1 September 2013, the responsibilities of the Resources Panel will pass to the Leadership Board. Agreed by Leadership Board 15 May 2013.

10. *Annexe 1 – LGA Governance structures – delete references to Resources Panel, LGE Board and LACORS Board.*

**Conclusion and next steps**

11. Subject to the agreement of the Executive, the proposed changes will be presented to the General Assembly for approval on 2 July and an updated Constitution published on the website from 1 September 2013.