

## Note of decisions taken and actions required

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| <b>Title:</b>         | <b>LGA Leadership Board</b> |
| <b>Date and time:</b> | 11 April 2012               |
| <b>Venue:</b>         | Smith Square Rooms 1 & 2    |

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### Attendance

| Position        | Councillor                                 | Council                    |
|-----------------|--|----------------------------|
| Chairman        | Sir Merrick Cockell                        | RB of Kensington & Chelsea |
| Vice-chairman   | Gary Porter                                | South Holland DC           |
| Vice-chairman   | Gerald Vernon-Jackson                      | Portsmouth City            |
| Vice-chairman   | Marianne Overton                           | Lincolnshire CC            |
| Deputy-chairman | Sharon Taylor                              | Stevenage BC               |
| Deputy-chairman | Steve Reed                                 | Lambeth LB                 |
| Deputy-chairman | Mayor Dorothy Thornhill MBE                | Watford BC                 |
| Deputy-chairman | Andrew Lewer                               | Derbyshire CC              |
| Deputy-chairman | Robert Gordon DL                           | Hertfordshire CC           |
| Deputy-chairman | Robert Light <b>by<br/>videoconference</b> | Kirklees Council           |

### Apologies

|               |                  |            |
|---------------|------------------|------------|
| Vice-chairman | David Sparks OBE | Dudley MBC |
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|-----------------|----------------|--------------|
| <b>Observer</b> | Catherine West | Islington LB |
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| Item | Decisions and actions | Action by |
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### PART 1

#### 1. LGA Adult Social Care Campaign

Councillor Marianne Overton, Leadership Board sponsor for the Adult Social Care Campaign, introduced the proposed adult social care campaign plan.

Councillor Overton referred to a recent meeting between LGA members and officers and Peter Hay, President of ADASS, when it was agreed that reform of adult social care must involve fairer and increased funding, simplification and integration if meaningful change is to be secured.

Members made a number of detailed comments on the campaign plan which were noted by officers. In particular, members emphasised the need for clarity and a simple framework for care and support, which makes the system easier to understand and to navigate. Members expressed the view that the Dilnot model is the right starting point and that the LGA could develop an offer to government to make this model affordable and achievable.

### Decision

#### *The Leadership Board*

- **endorsed** the Adult Social Care Campaign plan as set out in the report, subject to their comments;
- **agreed** that a letter be sent to the Prime Minister, Deputy Prime Minister and Leader of the Opposition, stating the sector's support for the specifics of Dilnot and introducing the concept of a sector offer to work with Government on Areas such as prevention, productivity and integration with the NHS.

### Action

Officers to action in accordance with the Board's discussion.

**Sandy Dunne/  
Matt Hibberd**

## **2. HM Government Consultation on introducing a statutory register of lobbyists**

Joe Simpson, Principal Strategic Adviser, introduced a report summarising the key issues for the LGA in the Government's consultation on policy options that would underpin a statutory register of lobbyists.

### Decision

*The Leadership Board **agreed** that the LGA pursue the concerns raised in this report and in particular that:*

- *The LGA seek assurance that for these purposes the LGA should be seen as an integral part of local government, and therefore not considered as requiring registration.*
- *The definition of lobbyists should not be so widely drawn as to create additional difficulties for local government in engaging with key stakeholders such as charities.*

### Action

Officers to prepare a response to the consultation in line with Members' steer.

**Joe Simpson**

3. **Update on police and crime commissioners' membership body – CONFIDENTIAL**

4 **LGA Proportionality for 2012-203**

Claire Holloway, Head of Corporate Governance, summarised the proposed timetable for confirming changes to LGA proportionality, and agreeing the allocation of seats and distribution of chairs and vice-chairs, following the 2012 local government elections on 3 May.

The Chairman proposed that Group Leaders and the Chairman meet on **10 May at 12.00** to discuss the implications for the Groups of the new proportionality figures.

Decision

*The Leadership Board **agreed** the proposed process and timetable as set out in paragraphs 6 to 10 of the report.*

Action

Officers and LGA Leadership Board to take forward in line with the timetable, including arrangements for the Chairman and Group Leaders to meet on Thursday, 10 May.

**Cathy Boyle**

5. **Public Affairs Review and Forward Plan**

Tim Hamilton, Interim Head of Public Affairs, summarised the forthcoming events, legislation and announcements, up to June 2012, for review by the Board.

Councillor Catherine West (Islington) reported on the Finance Task Group's recent discussions on reform of the Council Tax Benefit system. Task Group members had highlighted concerns about implementation of the new localisation system and the difficulties that local authorities will face in putting the new arrangements into place quickly.

Decision

*The Leadership Board **noted** the content of the Public Affairs and Campaigns Forward plan.*

Action

Officers to provide a monthly report to the Board.

**Tim Hamilton**

Officers to prepare a draft template letter for member councils to send to their local MPs and peers on the implications of Council Tax Benefit localisation.

**Stephen Jones**

## 6. General Assembly – 26 June 2012 - Outline

Claire Holloway, Head of Corporate Governance, introduced the proposed format and draft agenda for the Annual Meeting of the General Assembly on 26 June. The lead government speaker had not yet been confirmed.

Members endorsed the importance of one or more serious motions to debate and invited Heads of Group Office to consider some possible topics.

### Decisions

#### *The Leadership Board*

- **endorsed** the proposed format and agenda for the 2012 General Assembly;

### Action

HGOs to meet to discuss possible motions for debate at this year's General Assembly

**Heads of  
Group Offices**

## 7. Chief Executive's Monthly Report – April 2012

Carolyn Downs, Chief Executive, introduced the Chief Executive's April report. The report summarised the main achievements over the past month of each of the nine Boards and the LGA Executive against the business plan priorities, along with performance against key indicators.

Carolyn highlighted the risk to the LGA of the increasing number of member authorities who roll forward their notice from year to year, especially where councils share a Chief Executive/Chief Officers.

### Decision

#### *The Leadership Board*

- **received** the Chief Executive's report for March 2012.
- **agreed** the need to consider incentives that discourage councils from rolling forward membership.

### Action

Officers to take forward in accordance with the Board's decisions. **Carolyn Downs**

## **8. LGA Forward Plan**

The Leadership Board considered the forward plan of future items to be considered by the Leadership Board, the LGA Executive and the Councillors' Forum.

### Decision

*The Leadership Board **agreed** that the LG Select Committee's investigation in the Role of Councillors should be added as a topic for debate at the 14 June meeting of the Councillors' Forum.*

### Action

Officers to update the forward plan.

**Cathy Boyle**

## **PART 2 - CONFIDENTIAL**

- 9. Note of decisions taken and actions required [CONFIDENTIAL]**
- 10. Lead Member Peers [CONFIDENTIAL]**
- 11. Queen's Speech – LGA Priority Bills [CONFIDENTIAL]**
- 12. Liberata contract renegotiation [CONFIDENTIAL]**
- 13. Financial Contribution to the Early Intervention Foundation [CONFIDENTIAL]**
- 14. Integrating the LGA [CONFIDENTIAL]**

**The next meeting will be held at 2.00pm on Wednesday, 16 May 2012.**