

Note of decisions taken and actions required

Title:	LGA Leadership Board
Date and time:	16 May 2012
Venue:	Smith Square Rooms 1 & 2

Attendance

Position	Councillor	Council
Chairman	Sir Merrick Cockell	RB of Kensington & Chelsea
Vice-chairman	David Sparks OBE	Dudley MBC
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	Andrew Lewer	Derbyshire CC
Deputy-chairman	Robert Gordon DL	Hertfordshire CC
Deputy-chairman	Robert Light	Kirklees Council

Apologies

Deputy-chairman	Mayor Dorothy Thornhill MBE	Watford BC
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Also in attendance	Councillor David Rogers OBE	East Sussex CC
	Mayor Sir Steve Bullock	Lewisham LB

Item	Decisions and actions	Action by
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Sir Merrick Cockell, Chairman, welcomed Michael Coughlin, Executive Director, Policy and Development, and David Holdstock, Director of Communications.

- LGA Energy Offer (see part 2)**
- Governance of Cities and the Growth Agenda**

Joe Simpson, Principal Strategic Adviser, introduced a report outlining issues that the LGA might wish to consider in response to the 3 May mayoral referendums and other developments in city governance.

Members stressed the need to ensure that work on this area is

strongly politically led and that the LGA reflects the views and wishes of its membership.

Decision

*The Leadership Board discussed the issues set out in the report; and **agreed***

- *that a further report be prepared for the next meeting;*
- *that the political groups to discuss these issues further before moving on to the next stage.*

Action

Officers to provide a revised paper to the next meeting.

Joe Simpson

3. Independent Local Government

Councillor Robert Light, Kirklees, introduced a report updating members on the Independent Local Government Campaign and proposing next steps to maintain momentum and manage risks.

Decisions

*The Leadership Board **agreed***

- *the process for reaching a view on the Political and Constitutional Reform Select Committee's proposed draft Code on independent local government set out at paragraph 4;*
- *the next steps for taking a view forward, after Conference, set out at paragraph 7;*
- *the outline sketch at paragraphs 8-13 of how the campaign might assert the value of local democratic accountability in a way that complements the Code debate but with wider reach and appeal.*

Action

Officers to follow the Board's steer.

Paul Raynes

4. Proposed changes to LGA Governance structures

The Leadership Board received a report proposing a series of changes to our current governance arrangements, developed by the four Group Leaders, to take forward finance policy work and to increase the number of members actively engaged in the work of the LGA.

Decision

The Leadership Board **agreed** the proposals set out in paragraph 3 of the report.

Action

Officers to include proposed changes in the papers to the General Assembly.

**Claire
Holloway**

5. Local Elections and LGA Political Balance 2012-2013

The Leadership Board received a report which set out the revised LGA proportionality for 2012-2013 and its implications for the distribution of seats amongst the political groups on the LGA's governance structures.

Decision

The Leadership Board **endorsed** the proportionality figures for 2012/2013, as the basis for negotiating the allocation of chairs and vice-chairs and populating member structures.

Action

Political Groups to agree the allocation of places across all LGA structures.

6. Annual Conference and exhibition 2012

Roberta Henry, Senior Events Organiser, updated the Board on the LGA Annual Conference, taking place in Birmingham from 26-28 June 2012.

Members made some detailed comments which were noted by officers.

Decision

The Leadership Board **noted** the report.

Action

Officers to take forward in line with the Board's comments.

Roberta Henry

7. LGA Vice-Presidents

The Leadership Board received the Political Groups' nominations for Vice-Presidents of the LGA for 2012/2013, to be formally appointed at the Annual Meeting of the General Assembly on 26 June.

Decision

*The Leadership Board **approved** the nominations made by the Political Groups, subject to the nomination at 5.9 being corrected to read 'Earl Cathcart (new nomination for 2012/13).'*

Action

The agreed nominations to be formally appointed by the General Assembly, subject to the correction set out above.

Tom Coales

8. Future of the Leadership Centre for Local Government

Joe Simpson, Principal Strategic Adviser, introduced a report which set out options for the future of the Leadership Centre for Local Government for the Board's consideration.

Decisions

*The Board **agreed***

- *that, in principle, the proposals set out in paragraph 8 of the report, are the best way forward for the future of the Leadership Centre;*
- *that the LGA Leadership Board should act as the commissioning body;*
- *to receive detailed proposals in due course.*

Action

Officers to take forward in accordance with the Leadership Board's decisions.

Joe Simpson

9. LGA Campaigns for 2012-2013 – update on the securing the Future of Adult Social Care campaign

Councillor David Rogers OBE, Chairman of the Community Wellbeing Board, introduced a progress report on the Future of Adult Social Care campaign.

Councillor Rogers drew attention to the Chairman's recent letter to the Prime Minister, Deputy Prime Minister and Leader of the Opposition, highlighting the sector's support for urgent reform in line with the principles outlined by Dilnot, and calling for cross party support.

Councillor Marianne Overton highlighted the importance of involving more people in the campaign.

Decision

*The Leadership Board **noted** the current status of the securing the future of adult social care campaign.*

Action

Officers to provide further updates in due course.

**David
Holdstock**

10. Getting Vocal 2012

The Leadership Board received a report of the 2012 LGA Employee Survey results.

Councillor Robert Light drew particular attention to the response on management of change.

The Chief Executive assured the Board that all issues highlighted by the survey results would be fully addressed by the LGA's senior management team.

Decision

*The Leadership Board **noted** the content of the report.*

Action

Management to take action on the areas for improvement.

SMT/CLT

11. LGA Forward Plan

The Leadership Board received the draft forward plan for the LGA Leadership Board, LGA Executive and the Councillors' Forum.

Decision

The Leadership Board

- ***noted** the topics set out in the Forward Plan;*

- **agreed** to invite representatives from the NHS Commissioning Board to the Leadership Board's next meeting to discuss the compact between the LGA and the NHS.

Action

Officers to invite NHS Commissioning Board representatives to the next Leadership Board meeting.

Sandie Dunne

12. LGA Executive agenda for 17 May

Decision

The Executive **noted** the Leadership Board agenda for the following day.

13. Note of the last meeting - 11 April 2012

Decision

The Leadership Board **agreed** the note of the last meeting.

14. Local Government Pay Reform (see part 2)

15. Liberata Contract Renegotiation (see part 2)

16. Early intervention Foundation (see part 2)

17. Chief Executive's Monthly Report – May 2012

The Leadership Board received the Chief Executive's May report.

Decisions

The Leadership Board **noted** the Chief Executive's report for May 2012

Action

Chief Executive to provide monthly updates to the Board

Claire Holloway

18. LGA Membership – National Parks Authorities

The Leadership Board received a report seeking confirmation of its continued commitment to a single corporate membership for National Parks Authorities.

Decision

The Leadership Board **agreed** in principal to the establishment of a corporate NPA membership Scheme through the English National Park Authorities Association (ENPAA) and to the relocation of ENPAA to Local Government House.

Action

Officers to continue negotiating detail and bring back a final report in due course.

Part 2 - CONFIDENTIAL

1. LGA Energy Offer

Members received a presentation on the potential benefits of “collective switching” which outlined how this was currently working in Holland, Belgium and Germany.

DECC are leading work on collective switching, with the LGA represented on the Working Group.

Members discussed the potential membership benefits of further involvement and asked officers to investigate further and to bring back a further report in due course.

Decisions

The Leadership Board

- supported in principle the concept of LGA involvement in collective purchasing in order to provide savings for local residents and businesses;
- requested clarity on the legal issues involved should the LGA wish to undertake a role in enabling councils to set up collective switching schemes.;
- requested a further report exploring the proposals in more detail

Action

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

14. Local Government Pay Reform

Mayor Sir Steve Bullock, Chair of the Workforce Board, introduced a report setting the proposed approach to pay reform.

Decision

The Leadership Board

- endorsed the proposed reforms set out in paragraphs 6-8 of the report; and
- noted the options currently being considered if agreement with the unions is not reached;
- agreed to receive further progress reports in due course.

Action

Officers to provide further progress reports.

**Sarah
Messenger**

15. Liberata Contract Renegotiation

The Leadership Board received an update report on the Liberata contract renegotiation, following an update in April.

Decision

The Leadership Board

- noted progress with the renegotiation of the Liberata contract;
- agreed to receive a further progress report to its July meeting.

Action

Officers to submit a further update report to the Board's July meeting.

**Stephen Jones
Helen Platts**

16. Early intervention Foundation

In response to the Board's request at their last meeting, the Chairman introduced report clarifying the funding and governance arrangements for the Early Intervention Foundation.

Decisions

*The Leadership Board **agreed***

- *in principle, to support a bid to the Department of Education for £3.5m;*
- *to nominate an elected Member to represent the LGA on the Board of Trustees of the Early Intervention Foundation;*

- *to that the LGA should offer in-kind support to the Foundation, as set out in the report.*
- *to give further consideration to making a financial contribution if the bid is successful and once the Foundation has been established.*

Action

Officers to take forward as set out in the decisions above.

**Cassandra
Harrison**