

## **Special Interest Groups (SIGs) - 2012 Annual Reports**

### **Purpose**

For information and discussion.

### **Summary**

All Special Interest Groups are required, under the LGA Constitution, to submit a full report to the LGA Leadership Board each year. The LGA requires that these reports should feature the key aims and objectives of the group, its current membership and lead authority and a description of key activities and outcomes of any work undertaken during the past year.

Copies of SIGs' 2012 annual reports will be available at the Leadership Board meeting.

A copy of the LGA's Statement for Special Interest Groups is **attached** at **Appendix A**, for information.

### **Recommendations**

The LGA Leadership Board is asked to consider this report and indicate

- whether it has any future requirements in respect of Special Interest Groups (SIGs);
- whether it wishes to invite any special interest groups to a future LGA Executive meeting to discuss their work.

### **Action**

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

**Contact officer:** Cathy Boyle  
**Position:** Manager, Member Services  
**Phone no:** 020 7664 3205  
**E-mail:** [cathy.boyle@local.gov.uk](mailto:cathy.boyle@local.gov.uk)

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### **Background**

1. The LGA Constitution provides for member authorities with common characteristics or interests to form Special Interest Groups. A list of the current groupings, which have been approved by the LGA Executive and established as Special Interest Groups since the LGA was formed in April 1997, is **attached at Appendix B**.

### **2012 Annual Reports**

2. Sixteen Special Interest Groups have submitted Annual Reports this year. The remaining Special Interest Groups who have not yet submitted theirs are:

Fourth Option SIG  
New Nuclear Authorities SIG  
Research SIG

3. We have been informed by the Affordable Loans SIG that as Government has stopped all funding for Private Sector Renewal they have met on only one occasion. To date this SIG has nothing to report.

### **SIG Presentations to LGA Executive**

4. Councillor Mark Dowd OBE, Chair of the Integrated Transport Authorities SIG (ITA SIG), together with Councillor Peter Box CBE, Chair of the LGA's Economy & Transport Board, made a presentation to the LGA Executive on 10 November 2011 on their work on transport policy and how greater localisation of decision making in transport could help contribute national economic growth.
5. SIGOMA, Coastal SIG and SPARSE Rural have also made presentations to the LGA Executive over the past two years. The Executive may wish to consider whether it wishes to invite representatives from any of the other Special Interest Groups to future Executive meetings to discuss their work.

### **Financial/Resource Implications**

6. Special Interest Groups are encouraged to raise their own resources from their membership and administer these resources themselves. However, the LGA does offer limited administrative support and the use of meeting rooms, free of charge. The LGA does not pay any allowances or travel and subsistence costs to members attending SIG meetings.