

Note of decisions taken and actions required

Title: LGA Leadership Board
Date and Time: 15 May 2013 at 2.00pm
Venue: Smith Square Rooms 1 & 2

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	Robert Gordon CBE DL	Hertfordshire CC
Deputy-chairman	Robert Light	Kirklees Council [by teleconference]
Deputy-chairman	Sharon Taylor OBE	Stevenage BC
Deputy-chairman	Mehboob Khan	Kirklees Council
Deputy-chairman	Mayor Dorothy Thornhill MBE	Watford BC
Deputy-chairman	Mayor Sir Steve Bullock	Lewisham Council

Also attended:

Councillor Peter Fleming (Sevenoaks DC and Chairman of Improvement & Innovation Board).

Apologies:

Councillor Andrew Lewer (Derbyshire CC)

PART 1

1. Neighbourhood Community Budgets

The Leadership Board received a status report on the Neighbourhood Community Budget programme; explaining how it complemented the whole-place community budget approach and outlined possible next steps.

Decision

The Leadership Board

- **noted** the progress made by the neighbourhood community budget pilots;
- **agreed that**
 - *the LGA should continue to work closely with DCLG and other partners on the neighbourhood community budgets programme;*
 - *the LGA should jointly badge with DCLG a guide to neighbourhood community budgets to be produced by DCLG;*
 - *a neighbourhood community budget website to be developed by DCLG should be linked to the whole place community budget website.*

Action

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

Paul Raynes/Clive Harris

2. New Model for Local Government - update

Daniel Goodwin, Executive Director, Finance & Policy, introduced a report updating the Board on the LGA's work to develop a new model for local government. Officers would continue to develop the papers and a final draft would be presented to the Leadership Board meeting on 12 June.

Decision

*The Leadership Board **noted** the update report on the New Model for Local Government.*

Action

Officers to prepare the final draft of the papers for discussion at the Board's meeting on 12 June. **Daniel Goodwin**

3. Full-year performance report: April 2012 – March 2013

Carolyn Downs, Chief Executive, introduced the twelve month performance report on delivery against the 2012-2013 business plan. This had been a successful year during which the LGA had delivered the vast majority of its targets.

The Chief Executive thanked Leadership Board members for their leadership and guidance and LGA staff who worked hard to deliver the LGA's priorities over the last twelve months.

Decision

*The Leadership Board **noted** with satisfaction the LGA's performance in delivering the priorities in the 2012/2013 business plan.*

Action

To inform delivery of the 2013/2014 business plan and performance management in the year ahead.

Helen Platts

4. LGA Annual Conference and exhibition 2013

David Holdstock, Director of Communications, updated the Board on the LGA Annual Conference, taking place in Manchester from 2-4 July 2013. Current delegate numbers were around 700, which was consistent with this time last year. The Deputy Mayor of the Hague had confirmed that he would speak at a workshop on Hidden Talents and the events team were following up Lord Freud's availability.

David Holdstock informed the Board that CAPITA had agreed to provide 250 IPADs for delegate use during the conference, and were currently developing a bespoke conference app

Decision

*The Leadership Board **noted** the update report on the LGA Annual Conference and Exhibition 2013.*

Action

Officers to progress.

David Holdstock/Roberta Henry

5. Local Elections and LGA Political Balance 2013/2014

Claire Holloway, Head of Corporate Governance, introduced a report setting out the revised proportionality for 2013/2014 and its implications for the distribution of seats amongst the political groups on the LGA's governance structures.

Decision

*The Leadership Board **endorsed** proportionality figures for 2013/2014, as the basis for negotiating the allocation of chairs and vice-chairs and populating all member structures.*

Action

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

Group Offices

6. LGA Vice-Presidents 2013-2014

David Holdstock introduced a report detailing those members of the House of Commons, House of Lords and European Parliament that the Political Groups, had nominated for election as Vice-Presidents for 2013/2014 at the forthcoming General Assembly.

Decision

The Leadership Board **approved** the nominations made by the Political Groups.

Action

Nominations to be formally appointed by the General Assembly.

7. Communities and Local Government: RSG Topslice – update report

Councillor Gerald Vernon-Jackson declared a personal non-prejudicial interest in this item, as a former employee of IDeA.

Michael Coughlin, Executive Director, introduced the summary RSG topslice report. The full report setting out the achievements, delivery and outcomes secured with the support of RSG topslice funding over the last two years had been submitted to CLG at the end of April, in line with CLG's deadline.

Decision

The Leadership Board **noted** the submission of the report to CLG.

Action

No further action necessary.

Michael Coughlin

8. LGA political appointments – code of conduct

Claire Holloway, Head of Corporate Governance, introduced a report outlining the current process for handling issues of conduct or complaints in relation to LGA members and proposing two options for managing issues relating to the president/vice-presidents.

Decision

The Leadership Board

- **endorsed** the approach for handling issues relating to the conduct of LGA elected members;
- **agreed** to recommend an amendment to the LGA Constitution to give Group Leaders responsibility for appointment of vice presidents (Option 2 - paragraphs 18-19); and
- **agreed** a process for managing issues of conduct in relation to the president of the LGA. (Option 1 - paragraphs 16-17)

Action

Officers to draft an amendment to the Constitution for consideration by the General Assembly on 2 July.

Claire Holloway

9. General Assembly Annual Meeting: Motions

The Leadership Board was invited to consider the handling of four motions received by the LGA and recommend to the LGA Executive which should be debated by the General Assembly on 2 July.

Decision

*The Leadership Board **agreed***

- *the following two motions for debate at the General Assembly, for recommendation to the LGA Executive on 16 May:*
 - *Welfare Reform (Stevenage Council)*
 - *Independent Local Government (London Borough of Sutton)*
- *that the issue of Voting Age be scheduled for a future Smith Square Debate;*
- *that a workshop on the 'Role of Councillors' be included in this year's Annual Conference programme.*

10. Forward Plan

The Leadership Board received the Forward Plan for the Board, the LGA Executive and the Councillors' Forum.

Decision

*The Leadership Board **requested** a report on Health Integration be brought to the June meeting of the LGA Executive and that a senior Department of Health Minister/civil servant be invited to attend for the discussion.*

The Chief Executive asked that members give further consideration to items for discussion at LGA Executive and Councillors' Forum.

Action

Members to advise their group offices of any further items for the Executive and Councillors' Forum.

All Leadership Board members

Officers to update the Forward Plan.

Cathy Boyle

11. LGA Executive agenda

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

12. Chief Executive's Report – May 2013

Decision

*The Leadership Board **noted** the Chief Executive's report for May 2013.*

13. Note of the Last Meeting

Decision

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

14. Council of Europe Review of UK Local Democracy

The Leadership Board **deferred** consideration of this item. The Independent Report on UK compliance with the Charter would be circulated to members by email.

Action

Officers to circulate the Independent Report by email.

Ian Hughes

Chairs of Boards and Panels/Leadership Dinner

The Chief Executive informed the Board that the next Chairs of Boards and Panels/LGA Leadership Board Dinner would be held at 6.30pm for 7.00pm on Monday 10 June 2013, in the Westminster Suite (7th Floor).

PART 2 - CONFIDENTIAL

15. Overview of the LGA's financial position

The Leadership Board considered a report on the overall financial position of the LGA and its associated organisations.

Decision

The Leadership Board **agreed** the recommendation at paragraph 13.

16. RSG Implications for the LGA

The Leadership Board considered proposals for budget reductions in 2013/14 and 2014/15.

Decision

The Leadership Board **agreed** the recommendations set out in paragraph 11 of the report.

17. LGA Governance Arrangements

The Leadership Board considered a report on current governance arrangements in the context of budget reductions.

Decision

The Leadership Board **agreed** the recommendations set out in the report.

Date of Next Meeting: Wednesday, 12 June 2013 at 2.00pm, LGH.