

Safer Communities Board Report Back

Meetings and Events, 25th January 05 - 9th March 05

DATE	TITLE	MEMBER ATTENDANCE	OFFICER/ADVISER ATTENDANCE	COMMENTS
18 th January	Crime Reduction Centre Review		Kate Francis, LGA	This meeting discussed the review of the Crime Reduction Centre. It was agreed that the centre would not operate in its current form and resources would be reallocated for alternative training provision.
25 th January	Meeting with Phil Hope MP, Minister with responsibility for Building Regulations	Cllr Caroline Seymour Cllr Graham Brown Cllr Peter Kent Cllr Victor Lyon	Kate Francis, LGA Alan Mason, LGA	Resumption of annual meeting with the Minister which had lapsed recently. Minister very keen to discuss how to improve enforcement and invited formal representations on LGA's proposal for amending legislation to change the current restriction whereby prosecutions can only be taken within 6 months of construction work starting, as in practice this means that many possible prosecutions are never brought. Other issues discussed included encouraging joint working, especially between authorities with small building control teams; fees and charges; and performance indicators
25 th January	Home Office Crime Reduction Delivery Board		Geoff Alltimes, LB of Hammersmith and Fulham	High level officer meeting which prepares and discusses the agenda for Prime Ministers Stakeholder Crime Reduction Group. Key issues discussed at this meeting were knife crime and the Prolific and Priority offenders'

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				scheme.
25 th January	Institute of Economic Affairs – Coffee morning event on Re-offending		Brian Briscoe Nick Easton	Meeting organised by IEA to explore concept of justice reinvestment. Participants agreed to keep each other informed about the issue.
27 th January	Practitioners' Forum	Cllr Les Byrom	Derek Robertson	Fire Community stakeholders meeting – reports to the Minister (Nick Raynsford)
28 th January	New Dimension national seminar	All Fire Authorities invited	Derek Robertson	ODPM seminar for all Fire Authorities to present latest progress in New Dimension programme.
31 st January	LGA Emergency Planning Member Task Group	Cllr Graham Brown (Chair) Cllr John Farrow Cllr Lindsay Wilson Cllr Robert Dutton Cllr Peter Hillman	Tom Griffin, LGA Consultant Ian Shuttleworth, Derbyshire County Council LGA Secretariat	Task Group members signed off LGA response to Cabinet Office consultation on Regulations and Guidance under the Civil Contingencies Act: agreed draft MOU with voluntary sector; recommended the project continue until July 2005 when the exit strategy will be agreed.
31 st January	Inter-Ministerial Group on Domestic Violence		Kate Mulley, LGA Anthony Wills, LGA Consultant	Members of the group received a presentation on the LGA's project.
1 st February	Control Project Sounding Board	Cllr Jerry Willmott	Derek Robertson	LGA-led fire stakeholders meeting to discuss regional control centres project issues.
2 nd February	RMB Chairs meeting	All RMB Chairs	Derek Robertson Suzanne Payne	LGA forum for Chairs of Fire Regional Management Boards
2 nd February	CPS Domestic Violence Policy and Guidelines Launch		Kate Mulley, LGA	LGA rep on external reference group.
3 rd February	LGA Prison Reform Roundtable	Cllr Bryony Rudkin Melvyn Smith JP Chair of Task Group	Brian Briscoe Peter Nash, LB of Merton Kate Francis, LGA	Launch of LGA report "Going straight: Reducing re-offending" – with Paul Goggins MP and national partner organisations.

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			Nick Easton, LGA	
10th February	Hampton Review – Meeting with Philip Hampton	Cllr Sir Sandy Bruce Lockhart	Derek Allen, LACORS Trish O’Flynn, LGA	Meeting to discuss possible recommendations Philip Hampton will make to Treasury re local authority regulation following his review of business red tape arising out of regulation. A range of options including centralising some regulatory services, direct commissioning of local activity and better co-ordination of Government Departments. A follow up letter was sent – circulated to Group Leaders.
10 th February	Fire Control project board	Cllr Jerry Willmott	Derek Robertson	ODPM project board for Regional Fire Control Centres project
12 th February	LGA fringe event on “Reducing Re-offending” at Labour Party Local Govt Conference	Cllr Bryony Rudkin Sir Jeremy Beecham	Brian Briscoe Jeni Bremner, LGA Nick Easton, LGA	The purpose of the event was to raise awareness of the key recommendations within the LGA report “Going straight: Reducing re-offending” launched in February.
17 th February	Home Office Crime Reduction Delivery Board		<i>Geoff Alltimes, LB of Hammersmith and Fulham</i> Apologies	High level officer meeting which prepares and discusses the agenda for Prime Ministers Stakeholder Crime Reduction Group.

17 th February	LGA Community Safety Advisers Group		LGA Community Safety Advisers LGA Secretariat	This was the regular meeting of the community safety advisers to the LGA. The meeting received presentations on the Safer and Stronger communities' strand of the CPA (Audit Commission), Prolific and Priority offenders (Home Office), and the LGA youth project. Police reform, mini local area agreements, and the National community safety network were also discussed.
18 th February	LGA Fire Forum	LGA Fire Forum Members Chaired by Cllr Liz Barron	LGA Fire Forum Members LGA Secretariat LGA Fire Advisers Derek Robertson	Meets every two months to update, brief and debate any major issues of importance to the Fire & Rescue Authorities.
19 th February	Anti-Social Behaviour Unit – Together Academy for councillors	Cllr Bryony Rudkin		With the support of the LGA, the Home Office ASBU delivered this specialist training event for councillors. Its aim was to help councillors to respond to problems of anti-social behaviour in their communities.
21st February	LGA Prostitution Task Group meeting	Cllr Ann Lucas (Chair) Cllr Sue John Cllr Richard Marbrow Cllr Frances Mallowan Cllr Tony Swendell	LGA Secretariat	Site visit to residential project for people involved in street prostitution in Lambeth; meeting with Chief Executive of LB Lambeth; Task group agreed approach to launch of LGA research and LGA annual Conference session, discussed next stages of the project.
21st February	Fire Modernisation Task Group	Val Shawcross AM Cllr Jerry Willmott Cllr Les Byrom Cllr Anne Gallop Cllr Christina Jebb	Derek Robertson	Internal LGA cross-party committee to manage the Fire Modernisation Programme.

		Cllr Graham Jackson Cllr John Tompson Cllr James Ashton Cllr Liz Barron		
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22 nd February	Home Office Prolific and Priority Offenders (PPO) Programme Board	Cllr Chris Clarke	Noel Towe, LGA	The meeting discussed the PPO future programme and agreed that a joint LGA/PPOB seminar would be held in September 2005 (date to be confirmed) to mark the anniversary of the PPO project
23 rd February	New Dimension Sounding Board	Cllr Anne Gallop	Derek Robertson	CFOA-led fire stakeholders meeting to discuss civil resilience issues.
24 th February	LGA Emergency Planning Advisers Group		LGA Emergency Planning Consultant and Advisers LGA Secretariat	Regular meeting. Issues discussed included: LGA's response to the Government consultation on the draft Regulations and Guidance supporting the Civil Contingencies Act 2004; Emergency Planning funding issues; Environment Agency guidance for older people on flooding; and the LGA/voluntary sector MoU on joint working on emergency planning. The key issue flagged up was the need for LGA to undertake work on funding to monitor how much of the funding in SR2004 for civil contingencies work (included in the RSG for the first time in 2005-6) was actually allocated by authorities to their emergency planning teams and, at the end of the financial year, how much was actually spent – all of this to try to ensure that at least the same level of funding is secured for the next and following years.
24 th February	Home Office Vehicle Crime Reduction Action Team		David Sloggins, LB of Tower Hamlets Deborah Meakings, LGA	Key issues discussed included the NAO report on vehicle crime and the theft of blue badges from vehicles.

24 th February	HSE/DWP Construction and Health and Safety Summit	Cllr Peter Kent Cllr Caroline Seymour	Derek Allen, LACORS Kate Francis, LGA	High level summit, to look at how to achieve further progress following on from 2001 summit which had led to a considerable reduction in no. of accidents in construction. Attendance was by personal invitation, from list of nominations submitted by construction companies, LGA and others. Mostly directed at industry (DTI Minister, Nigel Griffiths called for a commitment to eliminating all deaths in construction) but key issue for local authorities will be looking at the client side aspects – e.g. ensuring wherever possible procurement criteria (e.g. in tendering procedures) include firms’ commitment to high standards of health and safety.
28 th February	All Party Parliamentary Group on Domestic Violence		Kate Mulley, LGA	Opportunity to discuss the Government response and explore the benefit of an integrated response.
28 th February	Building Control – debriefing meeting from Ministerial meeting and Construction Health and Safety Summit	Cllr Peter Kent	Kate Francis, LGA Susan Power, LGA Alan Mason, Wycombe DC	Flagged up key issues to take forward from both meetings.
28 th February	Harmonisation of Building Regulations across the UK and Republic of Ireland	Cllr Peter Kent	Susan Power, LGA Alan Mason, Wycombe DC	Scoping meeting for a mini-summit this Summer to explore cross-boarder harmonisation issues.
28 th February	Building Control meeting with the retiring and incoming Heads of ODPM’s Building Control Division	Cllr Peter Kent	Kate Francis, LGA Susan Power, LGA Alan Mason, Wycombe DC	Main purpose of the meeting from LGA’s perspective was to highlight the benefits that have accrued from the good relationship fostered between LGA and ODPM on

				building control in recent years under the outgoing Head of the Buildings Division and to secure a commitment to a continuation of that relationship under his successor. Also discussed how best to take forward issues arising from the meeting with the Minister.
3 rd March	ACPO Safer Parking Scheme Steering Group		Barry Nelms, LB of Camden Deborah Meakings, LGA	A key issue for the scheme is the need to encourage greater local authority (and public sector) membership. The NAO report on vehicle crime noted that this scheme is a 'significant achievement' but made some recommendations for the future.
3 rd March	e-Transformation co-ordination group		Derek Robertson	A key issue for the scheme is the need to encourage greater local authority (and public sector) membership. The NAO report on vehicle crime noted that this scheme is a 'significant achievement' but made some recommendations for the future.
5 th March	LGA fringe event on Local Leadership and Crime Reduction at Liberal Democrat Local Government Conference	Cllr Chris Clarke		
9 th March	e-Learning Stakeholders Group Meeting		Derek Robertson	