

Safer Communities Board work programme update:

Appendix 2

Activity	Aim	March - June	Progress/outcomes	Lead officer
Fire Modernisation Project	<p>Ensuring that fire authorities successfully implement fire service modernisation.</p> <p>Continuing to develop policies that will lead to continuous improvement and modernisation of the fire service, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Establish regional control rooms</li> <li>• Move fire service personnel from ‘rank to role’</li> <li>• Encouraging the wider use of sprinklers</li> <li>• Develop core values for the Fire Service</li> <li>• Establish new Pension arrangements</li> </ul> <p>Assistance with communications strategy for the outcome of CPA results</p>	<p>Work continues on supporting fire authorities in the ODPM FiReControl project, New Dimension civil resilience programme, implementing integrated risk management system, integrated personal development system and the development of a communications strategy for the outcome of CPA results.</p>	<p>Effective representation of fire authorities during modernisation process, particularly in relation to development of regional control rooms; and the introduction of Integrated Risk Management Planning, Integrated Personal Development System and the development of a communications strategy for the outcome of CPA results.</p>	<p>Derek Robertson</p>

Activity	Aim	March - June	Progress/outcomes	Lead officer
Reducing (re)-offending in local communities project	Developing local government capacity to reduce offending and re-offending	<p><b>22March</b> LGA/Smith Institute Seminar ‘Tackling Re-offending: The role of Local Government’</p> <p><b>March - June</b> Officers developing the second phase of the project which will build on and raise the profile of the key recommendations of the LGA’s ‘Going Straight’ report including the development of an Adult Offending Team Model and lobbying strategy. A project scoping document will be circulated to Board Office Holders, for agreement.</p> <p><b>March - June</b> Encouraging the commitment by local/ central government to the councils role in reducing offending and re-offending by discussions with senior civil servants of development of supported local government programme and the organisation of regional events (details tbc)</p>	<p>Government welcome of local government commitment to working to reduce re-offending, following publication of ‘Going Straight’.</p> <p>Development of the second phase of the project, including an Adult Offender Team Model, lobbying Strategy and regional events to disseminate key messages. Contact is being made with authorities interested in running pilot projects. Meetings with NOMS officials have also taken place.</p>	Jeni Bremner

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Reducing youth crime	Developing policies that will assist local authorities to support the reduction of youth crime through positive prevention action. Project being developed in collaboration with children and young people team	<p><b>1 June</b> ‘What’s on Offer’ services for young people conference held. 130 delegates attended presentation on the LGA’s vision for young people announced.</p> <p><b>End of June</b> Possible publication of Youth Green Paper and start of Consultation period on Youth Green Paper</p> <p><b>6 July</b> - LGA Annual Conference - session on Youth Green Paper, Chair of Children and Young People’s Board speaking</p> <p><b>6 July</b>- Second member task group for young people’s project meet</p>	<p><b>End of July</b> - aim to publish LGA’s vision on services for young people.</p> <p>Develop work plan of all IDeA, LGA, NYA and EO work which supports local authorities in helping young people.</p> <p><b>End September</b> - compile LGA response to Youth Green Paper. Pull together plan of key lobbying activity for inclusion in any Youth White Paper or legislation</p> <p><b>October</b> - LGA/ADSS Annual Conference - session on Youth</p>	Kate Francis/Suzanne Payne

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<p>Police Reform Project</p>	<p>To participate effectively in the review of crime and disorder reduction partnerships</p> <p>To demonstrate how local authorities can contribute to improvements in local accountability arrangements and the effectiveness of local policing and community safety activity. This work will build upon the proposals of the white paper 'Building Communities: Beating Crime' and will seek to encourage the government to bring forward the necessary legislation.</p>	<p><b>March - June</b> Development of plans for the next phase of the project. Continued joint work with APA</p> <p><b>June/July</b> Meeting with Centre for Public Scrutiny, APA and IDeA, to discuss potential for development of scrutiny role in community safety.</p> <p>Second member meeting (LGA and APA) on police reform</p> <p>Expect publication of draft National Community Safety Strategy by Home Office.</p>	<p>Agreement of common principles with APA.</p> <p>Development of key LGA messages - local government should play a lead role in crime reduction and local communities should set policing priorities.</p> <p>Submission of a LGA and joint LGA/APA response to the Home Office 'Building Communities: Beating Crime' white Paper.</p> <p>Joint LGA-APA workshop to discuss key issues in police reform and future areas of joint working.</p> <p>Officer meeting with Home Office on specific aspects of White Paper, inc. councillor membership of police authorities and proposed single emergency number</p> <p>LGA and IDeA officer meeting with Home Office to outline existing work with councillors around community safety issues.</p>	<p>John Ransford</p>

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Ahead of the Game (Prostitution) Project	Development of LGA policy on prostitution. Encourage debate on this important issue within local government.	<p><b>June</b> – LGA research to be published; next stage of project to be agreed by Task Group</p> <p><b>July</b> – annual conference session; presentation to ACPO Vice Conference</p> <p><b>Post Election</b> – Government to publish results of ‘Paying the Price’ consultation.</p>	<p>Adoption of LGA policy on prostitution; response submitted to Home Office consultation; conference with Minister; commissioning of research to inform next stage of project.</p> <p>Raising awareness of issues surrounding prostitution and relevance for local government services.</p>	Trish O’Flynn

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<p>A New Deal for Emergency Planning project</p>	<p>Ensure an effective LGA influence in the Civil Contingencies Bill Acceptance by the government of a new baseline figure for emergency planning funding at the current level of service, and of the new for new burdens to be adequately funded.</p> <p>Improve resilience and emergency preparedness across all local authorities</p>	<p><b>March</b> Facilitate development of support programme for LAs to assist with implementation and respond to consultation on draft regulations &amp; guidance</p> <p><b>April/May</b> Finalise draft concordat with voluntary sector etc to be launched at LGA Annual Conference</p> <p><b>April/May</b> Obtain details from LAs of money for emergency planning /civil contingencies (as opposed to that identified in the RSG) to inform LGA's work on SR2006.</p> <p><b>May</b> Final drafts of regulations &amp; statutory guidance: "Emergency Preparedness" published. Further comments will be given to CSS.</p>	<p>Additional £40m funding for civil contingencies responsibilities Raising standards in the provision of the emergency planning service</p> <p>Improved relationship between local government (and other Category 1 responders who sign up to the concordat) and the voluntary sector</p> <p>Ensuring that LAs' emergency planning / civil contingencies funding at least remains at the same level for future years as for 2005-06</p> <p>Representation of local government view in response to draft regulations and guidance consultations</p>	<p>Trish O'Flynn</p>

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Domestic Violence project	Support the development of effective domestic violence partnerships and disseminate good practice.	<p><b>April:</b> completion of the LGA's programme of engagement with 10 domestic violence partnerships.</p> <p><b>15 June:</b> publication of research findings.</p> <p><b>May/June:</b> arrangements for the second stage of the consultancy programme agreed with the Home Office.</p>	<p>The LGA's year-long programme of engagement and support to domestic violence partnerships was successfully completed.</p> <p>Findings of the LGA's work with partnerships launched and disseminated. Research undertaken by the Tavistock Institute, who produced a report and self-assessment tool.</p> <p>A second year long programme of work with local domestic violence partnerships has been agreed with the Home Office. This will hook into national developments, reaching a greater number of partnerships for shorter and more focused interventions based on the findings from the first programme</p>	Kate Mulley



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Domestic Violence Project	Influence domestic violence targets and performance indicators and provide members with information and guidance	<p><b>April:</b> Implementing the new domestic violence performance indicator, new LGA publication</p> <p><b>May/June:</b> work with members on developing domestic violence targets for second generation Local PSA's and LAA's. Liaison with Home Office, ODPM and Government Offices for the Regions.</p>	The LGA published guidance on the new domestic violence BVPI spelling out the details of the new indicator, setting out our position and concerns, and, listing extensive case material. Input to Local PSA.Net seminar and subsequent consultation with LGA advisers. Produce advice on domestic violence targets.	Kate Mulley
Domestic Violence Project	Input into the development of the domestic homicide review process	<b>April - June:</b> respond to initial Home Office consultation and on-going representation on steering group to develop guidance.	Ensure that the guidance for the new domestic homicide reviews brought in under the Domestic Violence, Crime and Victims Act is: built upon existing statutory partnerships, flexible, costed and feeds into a strategic mechanism for learning the lessons.	Kate Mulley

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Domestic Violence Project	Develop a framework for services for children affected by domestic violence.	<b>March - June:</b> set up and attend a children and domestic violence inter-agency group to develop and consult on a framework for services.	Children are affected by witnessing abuse, even where they do not suffer direct violence. Domestic violence will impact on across the range of outcomes for children identified in Every Child Matters. The inter-agency group has started work on drawing up a realistic framework for service provision. Input into the SCF publication on schools and domestic violence.	Kate Mulley
Domestic Violence Project	Highlighting local government's role in tackling domestic violence.	<b>May:</b> presentations at regional seminars  <b>15 June:</b> joint LGA/Home Office one day conference 'Local government's role in tackling domestic violence'	One-day conference: local government's role in tackling domestic violence. Bi-monthly domestic violence information bulletins. Presentations at the Domestic Violence Regional Forum and various regional events. Presentations at each of the Home Office/Women's Aid regional seminars considering the national plan and advocacy services. Representation on CPS domestic violence project reference group.	Kate Mulley

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Licensing Act	Represent local authorities to ensure smooth implementation of Licensing Act. Ensure that fees are set at a level that will allow local authorities to cover their costs.	<p><b>Ongoing:</b> DCMS to set up Independent Review Panel to take forward the fees review. Monitoring progress of implementation.</p> <p><b>May:</b> Report to LGAX with action plan; meeting with new Minister to be set up.</p>	Effective representation of local authorities in relation to licensing fees. Co-operation with DCMS in assessing realistic fee level. Advising Councils on implementation matters, particularly the lack of applications. Co-ordinating lobbying activities on transitional problems.	Trish O’Flynn / Mark Du Val (LACORS)

Activity	Aim	March - June	Progress/outcomes	Lead officer
<p>Raising the profile of regulatory services. Priority work area</p>	<p>Ensuring a more coherent approach to regulatory services by central government.</p> <p>Raising the profile of regulatory services</p> <p>Participating into the Hampton Review of the administrative costs of regulatory services</p>	<p><b>March:</b> final Hampton report published with Budget</p> <p><b>March-April</b> - Agreement by LGA Executive and Safer Communities Board of a creation of a project for raising the profile of regulatory services, supported by a Member Task Group. The project will take forward the work arising from the Hampton Review of regulation, and incorporating the ongoing work to tackle the recruitment and retention crisis in Environmental Health and Trading Standards and to raise the profile of regulatory services.</p> <p><b>May-June</b> Project Scoping. Discussions with Cabinet Office re detail of regulatory reform proposals.</p> <p><b>July:</b> consultation on Better Regulation Bill.</p>	<p>Development of case for continuing local government control of regulatory services in response to Hampton Review.</p> <p>Immediate response to Hampton announcement and in the longer term to the government's response</p> <p>Developing details of the project and the creation of a Member Task Group.</p>	<p>Trish O'Flynn/Wendy Martin (LACORS)</p>

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Gambling Act	Lobbying during passage of Bill through parliament to ensure maximum local discretion over the number of casinos and gambling premises and freedom for authorities to determine processes and fees.	<p><b>Ongoing:</b> Discussions with DCMS and Gaming Board re detail of secondary legislation and guidance</p> <p><b>April</b> – Gambling Act received Royal Assent</p> <p><b>June</b> – information on the Act to be produced for member authorities.</p>	Not all LGA issues were addressed in the Act and focus moves to developments in relation to secondary legislation and guidance.	Trish O’Flynn/Mark Du Vall (LACORS)
Anti Social Behaviour (formerly Safer and Stronger Communities Shared Priority)	This work has been carried out as part of the safer and stronger communities shared priority project. This project has now ended. Lobbying work relating to anti-social behaviour will continue as necessary. The project has worked successfully to represent the LGA during the development of the CPA process. A small amount of work on this will continue in the early months of the year.	<p><b>March to June</b></p> <p>Watching brief for CPA consultation process.</p> <p><b>March onwards</b> Maintaining liaison with Anti-Social Behaviour Unit including representations at ASBU event for Councillors (19 February)</p>	<p>Successful delivery of message that preventative action must take priority in tackling anti social behaviour.</p> <p>Continuing dialogue and liaison with Anti-social behaviour unit.</p>	Noel Towe

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Introduction of the Safer and Stronger Communities Fund and mini-Local Area Agreements	Working to ensure that the Fund meets the needs of local government for more flexible funding for work designed to meet local priorities	<p><b>April</b> Introduction of Safer and Stronger Communities Fund by the Home Office</p> <p><b>April - on going</b> Regular consultation with members and advisers on progress with the introduction of the fund.</p> <p>Monitoring experience of local authorities during introduction of the new arrangements, paying particular attention to two tier areas.</p>	<p>Representation of the interests of local authorities/Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnerships during introduction of the new arrangements.</p> <p>Ensuring that arrangements work successfully in two tier areas</p>	Simon Edwards/Deborah Meakings

Activity	Aim	March - June	Progress/outcomes	Lead officer
Building regulation	Representing local government on a continuing basis on the development of government policy for building control	<p><b>March-May</b> Drafting of revisions to LGA Model Scheme for Building Regulations Charges to take account of increased time taken to inspect domestic work as a result of recent changes to the Regulations and circulation to LA building control officers.</p> <p><b>Ongoing</b> Participation in ODPM Charges Working Party</p> <p><b>May onwards</b> Arrange joint LGA/ODPM conference for the Autumn on future of building regulations and sustainability</p> <p><b>May</b> Seek meeting with new Minister</p> <p><b>June</b> Preparations for 6-monthly regular meeting with Head of Buildings Division, ODPM</p> <p><b>June</b> Arrange meeting with new Chief Executive of the DSA</p>	<p>Ensuring that LAs are able to recover their costs across this area of work</p> <p>Achieving sufficient flexibility in the charging regime to allow LAs to develop equitable pricing structures for all work</p> <p>Setting the agenda for mapping the future of building regulations, particularly in relation to sustainability (energy conservation) and climate change.</p> <p>Maintaining the strong partnership with ODPM at both Minister/ elected member and officer level</p> <p>Developing new relationship with DSA in anticipation of its merger with LABC Services Summer 2005</p>	Kate Francis

20 June 2005