

Progress made in meeting the Board's agreed objectives 2005-6

Objective	Progress
Safe neighbourhoods	
<i>Develop model on BCU accountability and submit to Home Office</i>	<i>Achieved. Following discussions with Home Office and partner organisations it was agreed that the CDRPs and overview and scrutiny committees would be the primary vehicles for strengthening strengthen accountability. Agreed by SCB on 16 January</i>
<i>Produce a rough guide and parliamentary briefings for the Police and Justice Bill and implementing lobbying strategy</i>	<i>Done - the Bill is now in the House of Lords and will not receive Royal Assent until the autumn.</i>
<i>Plan and hold a one day conference</i>	<i>The conference was held on 12 July</i>
<i>Crime and Disorder Act review: lobby on the Board's objectives agreed at meeting of 15 May</i>	<i>Being progressed through LGA participation in CDA Review bodies and included in our response to the consultation</i>
<i>Neighbourhood policing: Ensure that Home Office commitment to develop neighbourhood policing reflects LGA objective of recognising local authorities as taking the lead in reducing crime and anti-social behaviour and that costs are covered.</i>	<i>The Guide was published in May 2006</i>
<i>Establish an advisory group from the neighbourhood policing pilot authorities</i>	<i>Established May 2006 from representatives of the Pathfinder pilots</i>
<i>Single Non Emergency Number (101): ensure a fair balance of risk between all local partners involved and gain clarity on long term funding</i>	<i>LGA represented on main Home Office groups and advisory group of LA officers established May 2006</i>
Reducing reoffending	
<i>Establish a powerful inter-agency coalition in support of LGA sponsored approach</i>	<i>Coalition has been established and meetings held. Participating organisations include: Prison Reform Trust, Clink, Probation Board Association</i>
<i>Produce a short publication putting across coalition message and outlining how the relationship between local authorities/NOMS/LAAs would work in practice</i>	<i>Work in progress. Publication expected shortly</i>

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<i>Seminar with Charles Clarke and Home Office Ministers agrees approach on joint LGA/NOMS work programme; follow up meeting held on 22 June with Baroness Scotland and Gerry Sutcliffe</i>	<i>Seminar held on 1 March; subsequent meeting with Helen Edwards, Head of the National Offender Management Service and draft joint workplan drawn up. Further agreement at 22 June meeting to look at profile, outcome focused targets and costs.</i>
<i>Approach to be tested with authorities and partners in the East Midlands and other areas</i>	<i>The East Midlands demonstration project has begun and is being monitored by the LGA. Discussions are proceeding with other areas, including the North West and North East to gather information on current experience and potential examples of good practice.</i>
<i>Development of joint LGA/NOMS/Government Civic Alliance Action plan that puts local authorities at the heart of reducing re-offending work using LSPs and CDRPs as the mechanism</i>	<i>This will be progressed as part of the joint programme of work agreed with NOMS. The LGA played a leading role in the Civic Society Board in May.</i>
Modernising Regulation (led by LACORS, joint with LG Employers)	
<i>Local government retains responsibility for regulatory services</i>	<i>The LGA/LACORS have successfully lobbied for the retention by local government of responsibility for trading standards. This objective is now being pursued through participation in the Local Better Regulation Office (LBRO) which has superseded the Local Authority Better Regulation Group. DEFRA are currently making noises about centralising pollution control.</i>
<i>Government promotes a single set of regulatory priorities that recognises the need for local initiatives</i>	<i>Achieved in principle but the central LBRO mechanism may not be sufficiently robust to deliver this.</i>
<i>LGA/LACORS represented on all relevant working groups with the objective of promoting the LGA/LACORS' key messages in relation to regulatory services.</i>	<i>Achieved. The LGA/LACORS is represented on the LBRO and its sub groups</i>
<i>Raising the profile of regulatory services</i>	<i>Partly achieved through closer working with media team and Reputation campaign.</i>
<i>Building workforce capacity and skills</i>	<i>Partly achieved through take up of capacity building funding but this has now ceased. Alternative proposals are being considered developed with LGE</i>
Licensing (jointly with LACORS)	

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<i>Secretary of State to agree to an early review of the new licensing regime</i>	<i>Achieved. Supplementary guidance published in June. Further review, including legislation, has commenced. Evidence submitted to ODFM Select Committee and Better Regulation Commission's investigation.</i>
<i>Influence the review of fees to achieve the LGA/LACORS' objective that fee income should cover local authorities' licensing costs</i>	<i>The LGA/LACORS are working with the Eton review to ensure that evidence of the costs to councils is robust. High level lobbying has resulted in Ministerial statements that costs will be recovered. We are supportive of the review's interim recommendations of December 2005 but the government has yet to respond. An alternative fees model has been shared with the review. The review's final report is due in November.</i>
<i>Councils receive adequate support through the transitional period</i>	<i>Achieved. LACORS has provided this support.</i>
Domestic Violence (currently funded by the Home Office to end December 2006)	
<i>Identify and promote guidance to, and good practice of, councils and partner organisations in addressing domestic violence</i>	<i>Published research examining the programme of support to ten local partnerships along with a checklist for self assessment.</i>
	<i>A second programme of consultancy with a greater number of partnerships is now underway and will be completed by the end of the year with an event planned for December.</i>
	<i>Our February 2006 conference on domestic homicide reviews has informed the current Home Office public consultation on the review process. The consultation will run till September.</i>
	<i>Developed commissioning guidance designed to help meet the varied needs of children affected by domestic violence within the context of Every Child Matters; stakeholder meetings to take forward issues raised in the guidance being considered. Multi-agency expert workshop to be held in October.</i>

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	<i>A new publication 'Options on setting up and running a Sanctuary Scheme for victims of domestic violence' jointly with the DCLG should be published this summer.</i>
	<i>Web based resource demonstrating how LAA's relate to work to tackle domestic abuse to be launched in autumn; raising awareness of the costs of domestic violence and promoting the role of the local authority.</i>
<i>Engage with Ministers</i>	<i>The LGA is represented on the Corporate Alliance Against Domestic Violence by Cllr Ann Lucas. Cllr Lucas and the project lead will attend a Downing Street reception with the Prime Minister and Mrs Blair in appreciation of those working in the domestic violence sector on 11 September.</i>
Ahead of the Game (Prostitution)	
<i>Promote the role of local authorities in tackling prostitution</i>	<i>Achieved. A five point plan aimed at tackling prostitution was published in January 2006 to good media coverage</i>
<i>Influence Home Office review</i>	<i>Achieved. The Home Office strategy emphasises the role of councils in tackling prostitution</i>
<i>The final report of the task group has been circulated to members of the Board.</i>	