

Work programme for Policy Consultant, Community Cohesion, 2007 (as at 26 Feb 07)

<b>Aim/medium term goal:</b> To promote the role of local authorities in building and maintaining cohesive communities, and to provide appropriate advice and guidance to support them in this role <sup>1</sup> .			<b>Resources:</b> 40% of 1FTE.
Outcomes	Initiatives	Activities/Deliverables	Milestones
<i>Promoting the role of local authorities</i>			
The LGA has a robust work programme for its community cohesion workstream	Develop work programme	➤ Liaise with IDeA and PD, consult at roundtables and with COIC	By end Feb 07
LGA has provided high quality and timely input into the Commission on Integration and Cohesion (CoIC) and influenced its recommendations towards support for local authorities in building cohesive communities.	Direct engagement with the Commission to understand the input it would find valuable.	➤ Scoping session with CoIC about how LGA can best support its work. ➤ Meeting with Darra Singh	Early Dec 06  18 Jan 07
	LGA response to the CoIC consultation “Your chance to tell us what you think”.	➤ Engage with IDeA around developing a response. ➤ Submit LGA response to the CoIC consultation.	21 Dec 06  1 February 07
	Provide and support further input into the Commission as opportunities arise.	➤ Attend IDeA consultation meeting with CEs ➤ Attend IDeA consultation meeting with LA members ➤ Ensure input to the Commission transmitted from LGA cohesion and integration conference April 07 ➤ Other input as opportunities arise	19 January 07  2 February 07  20 April 07  Til end June 07

<sup>1</sup> Handover notes. Note that capacity building work in this area is being led by IDeA.

	<p>Work with the Commission to develop options for the way ahead</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Engage with Commission when interim report published.</li> <li>➤ Develop LGA response to interim findings</li> <li>➤ Develop LGA response to final findings</li> <li>➤ Support Commission with dissemination of findings</li> </ul>	<p>Late Feb 07</p> <p>March 2007</p> <p>July 2007</p> <p>June 2007</p>
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Outcomes	Initiatives	Activities/Deliverables	Milestones
<p>LGA has provided high quality and timely input into central government policy development on community cohesion, social exclusion and racial equality.</p>	<p>Engage with government departments to ensure local authorities' needs and perspectives are reflected in their work.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Careful mapping of all of the relevant elements of government that should be engaged with</li> <li>➤ Provide informal advice and comments to DCLG and Audit Commission if redrafting guidance on measuring cohesion proceeds.</li> <li>➤ Forge relationships with officials at DCLG's Race Cohesion and Faiths Directorate and other departments working on relevant new policy</li> <li>➤ Maintain watch over relevant new national policies and regulations on equalities and cohesion and provide feedback to departments.</li> </ul>	<p>By mid March 07</p> <p>Ongoing until complete</p> <p>Ongoing</p> <p>Ongoing</p>
	<p>Facilitate political leadership by LGA to gain Ministerial support for a direction of travel in policy towards supporting local authorities' roles in building cohesive communities</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Support the development of press releases asserting the LGA's position at appropriate times (e.g. after community crises).</li> <li>➤ Support facilitating meetings between group leaders and Ministers around the development of relevant new policy</li> <li>➤ Support political dialogue with Ministers on setting appropriate boundaries for LAs' role in tackling violent extremism</li> </ul>	<p>Ongoing</p> <p>Ongoing</p> <p>Ongoing</p>

<b>Outcomes</b>	<b>Initiatives</b>	<b>Activities/Deliverables</b>	<b>Milestones</b>
The central government, private and third sectors understand the importance of working with local authorities to build cohesion and integration and reduce extremism	Roundtable with sector leaders held to agree cross-sector actions that can be taken and a communications strategy for promoting a strategic approach.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Roundtable held</li> <li>➤ Communications disseminated across sectors</li> </ul>	July / August 07 Ongoing
	Direct engagement with NGOs to encourage their engagement with LAs	➤ Meet with and support FaithAction, Inter Faith Network and other NGOs to engage with local authorities to promote good practice in local provision of service delivery and community cohesion work	Ongoing as required
	Liaison with key bodies undertaking equalities work to ensure their work supports local authority equalities and cohesion advisors	➤ Explore opportunities for cross-fertilising ideas between key bodies and LAs.	Ongoing
	Ensure the media supports local authorities through constructive reporting	➤ Work with ICoCo and LGA Media and Public Affairs to ensure resources distributed and training available	Ongoing
<b><i>Providing advice and guidance</i></b>			
Local authorities have access to good information about how to build cohesion and integration and respond to disturbances	<b>Resource</b> on the role of members in enhancing community cohesion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Approach IDeA about developing a joint resource with LGA</li> <li>➤ Gather information and write up case studies to contribute to the resource</li> <li>➤ Resource published</li> </ul>	By end May 07
	<b>Resource</b> on myth busting and how to handle the media.	➤ Approach ICoCo, LGA Media and Public Affairs and IDeA about	By end Aug 07

		developing a joint resource ➤Gather information and write up case studies to contribute to the resource ➤Resource published	
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<b>Outcomes</b>	<b>Initiatives</b>	<b>Activities/Deliverables</b>	<b>Milestones</b>
	Refreshed resource on how LAs can best engage with faith groups	➤ Refresh resource on how LAs can best engage with faith group	By end Nov 07
	LGA conference on integration and cohesion	➤ One day conference held.	April 07
Local authorities are promptly supported by the LGA after any disturbances	LGA Alerts, press releases and statements are issued to highlight resources available, encourage them to work with partners, and reassure communities	➤ As required	Ongoing
	LGA officers meet with partners to ensure they support local authorities post disturbances	➤ Build relationships with the Inter Faith Network, CRE, Association of Chief Police Officers, etc as appropriate	Ongoing
<b><i>Other - internal</i></b>			
Political support is demonstrated for the approach proposed in this workplan	Garnering political support	➤ Approach LGA exec and group leaders to seek their support for the proposed LGA approach to the community cohesion workstream	By mid March 07
All of LGA's work supports strategies aimed at community cohesion.	Assessing LGA's work to ensure it is consistent with supporting strategies aimed at community cohesion	➤ Develop checklist for assessing LGA Board workplans for cohesion implications. ➤ Facilitate assessment of LGA Board workplans for their consistency with good practice for building community cohesion.	By end Sept 07  By end Dec 07
Group leaders, LGAX and the CWB (esp. Cllr Margaret Eaton), CYP and SCB Boards are kept well informed of the progress of this work and consulted	Briefings and reports	➤ Update briefings to Cllr Margaret Eaton on work programme ➤ Update reports to LGAX ➤ Board reports	Monthly  Monthly As required

appropriately.			
Central 'family' policy work properly reflects cross-cutting issues	Support political leadership on the importance of cohesion within the central 'family' to ensure cross-cutting issues are properly reflected in policy work	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤Align work programme with IDeA</li> <li>➤Investigate linkages to and align with any other related central family work streams.</li> </ul>	<p>By end Mar 07</p> <p>By end May 07</p>