

# LGA Leadership Board

## Agenda

Thursday, 11 December 2014  
11.00 am

Smith Square 1&2, Ground Floor, Local  
Government House, Smith Square, London,  
SW1P 3HZ

**To:** Members of the LGA Leadership Board  
**cc:** Named officers for briefing purposes

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**Please don't forget to sign out at reception and return your badge when you depart.**

**LGA Leadership Board**  
11 December 2014

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There will be a meeting of the LGA Leadership Board at **11.00 am on Thursday, 11 December 2014** in Smith Square 1&2, Ground Floor, Local Government House, Smith Square, London, SW1P 3HZ.

The Leadership Board will be followed by a meeting of the LGA Executive at 1.15pm. Lunch will be available in the Westminster Suite Annex (8<sup>TH</sup> floor) from 12.30pm.

**Attendance Sheet:**

Please ensure that you sign the attendance register, which will be available in the meeting room. It is the only record of your presence at the meeting.

**Apologies:**

Please notify your political group office (see contact telephone numbers below) if you are unable to attend this meeting.

<b>Labour:</b>	Aicha Less: 020 7664 3263	email: <a href="mailto:aicha.less@local.gov.uk">aicha.less@local.gov.uk</a>
<b>Conservative:</b>	Luke Taylor: 020 7664 3264	email: <a href="mailto:luke.taylor@local.gov.uk">luke.taylor@local.gov.uk</a>
<b>Liberal Democrat:</b>	Group Office: 020 7664 3235	email: <a href="mailto:libdem@local.gov.uk">libdem@local.gov.uk</a>
<b>Independent:</b>	Group Office: 020 7664 3224	email: <a href="mailto:Vanessa.Chagas@local.gov.uk">Vanessa.Chagas@local.gov.uk</a>

**Location:**

A map showing the location of Local Government House is printed on the back cover.

**LGA Contact:**

Cathy Boyle  
0207 664 3205 / [cathy.boyle@local.gov.uk](mailto:cathy.boyle@local.gov.uk)

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## LGA Leadership Board – Membership 2014/2015

Councillor	Authority
<b>Labour ( 5)</b>	
Cllr David Sparks OBE (Chair)	Dudley Metropolitan Borough Council
Cllr Jim McMahon (Vice-Chair)	Oldham Metropolitan Borough Council
Cllr Sharon Taylor OBE (Deputy Chair)	Stevenage Borough Council
Mayor Sir Steve Bullock (Deputy Chair)	Lewisham London Borough Council
Cllr Keith Wakefield (Deputy Chair)	Leeds City Council
<b>Conservative ( 5)</b>	
Cllr Gary Porter (Vice-Chair)	South Holland District Council
Cllr Mike Jones (Deputy Chair)	Cheshire West and Chester Council
Cllr Philippa Roe (Deputy Chair)	Westminster City Council
Cllr David Hodge (Deputy Chair)	Surrey County Council
Cllr Neil Clarke MBE (Deputy Chair)	Rushcliffe Borough Council
<b>Liberal Democrat ( 2)</b>	
Cllr Gerald Vernon-Jackson (Vice-Chair)	Portsmouth City Council
Mayor Dorothy Thornhill MBE (Deputy Chair)	Watford Borough Council
<b>Independent ( 1)</b>	
Cllr Marianne Overton MBE (Vice-Chair)	Lincolnshire County Council

LGA Leadership Board  
Attendance 2014-15

	16.07.14	10.09.14	22.10.14			
<b>Councillors</b>						
<b>Labour</b>						
David Sparks OBE	Yes	No	Yes			
Jim McMahon	Via video	Via video	No			
Sharon Taylor OBE	Yes	Yes	Yes			
Mayor Sir Steve Bullock	Yes	Yes	Yes			
Keith Wakefield	No	No	Yes			
<b>Conservative</b>						
Gary Porter	Yes	Yes	Yes			
Mike Jones	No	Yes	Via video			
Philippa Roe	No	Yes	Yes			
David Hodge	Yes	No	No			
Neil Clarke MBE	Yes	Yes	Yes			
<b>Liberal Democrat</b>						
Gerald Vernon-Jackson	Yes	Yes	Yes			
Mayor Dorothy Thornhill MBE	Yes	Yes	Yes			
<b>Independent</b>						
Marianne Overton MBE	Yes	Yes	Yes			
<b>Observer / In attendance</b>						
Peter Fleming (Chairman, Improvement & Innovation Board)	n/a	Yes				

## Agenda

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### LGA Leadership Board

Thursday 11 December 2014

11.00 am

Smith Square 1&2, Ground Floor, Local Government House, Smith Square, London, SW1P 3HZ

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PART 1: LGA BUSINESS		Page
1.	<b>The Local Government Finance Settlement for 2015/16</b>	1 - 4
2.	<b>LGA Political Balance - City of London and Isles of Scilly</b>	5 - 8
3.	<b>LGA Associate Membership Scheme</b>	9 - 12
4.	<b>Chief Executive's Monthly Report - December 2014</b>	13 - 18
5.	<b>LGA Executive Agenda</b>	
6.	<b>LGA Forward Plan</b>	19 - 22
PART 2: CONFIDENTIAL		Page
7.	<b>Note of the Last Meeting</b>	23 - 30
8.	<b>LGA Banking Services Contract</b>	31 - 34
9.	<b>LGA Corporate Peer Challenge - self assessment [to follow]</b>	35 - 83

**Date of Next Meeting:** Wednesday, 21 January 2015, 2.00 pm, Smith Square 1&2, Ground Floor, Local Government House, Smith Square, London, SW1P 3HZ

## **The Local Government Finance Settlement for 2015-16**

### **Purpose of report**

For information and direction.

### **Summary**

The 2015-16 consultation on the Local Government Finance Settlement is due to be published in December. This report covers briefly what officers expect to see in the forthcoming Settlement and seeks agreement on the proposed approach for responding to the settlement. Leadership Board will be given a verbal update on 11 December if any announcement, as part of the Autumn Statement, is likely to impact on the 2015-16 settlement.

### **Recommendation**

Members are asked to agree:

- the main areas to be included in the response; and
- that lead members of the Resources Board will sign off the LGA's response to the 2015-16 Local Government Finance Settlement.

### **Action**

Officers to proceed as directed.

**Contact officer:**

Nicola Morton

Mike Heiser

**Position:**

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Senior Advisor (Finance)

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## **Local Government Finance Settlement 2015-16**

1. The 2015-16 Local Government Finance Settlement is currently expected to be announced in the week commencing 15<sup>th</sup> December 2014.
2. In December last year, as part of a two year settlement, illustrative figures for 2015-16 were issued. However, as settlements are not fixed at this stage this could change.

### **The 2015-16 illustrative settlement**

3. The 2015-16 illustrative settlement published in December 2013 confirmed local government would continue to face significant spending reductions to April 2016, with the Settlement Funding Assessment, (which consists of funding from both the local share of business rates and revenue support grant) for 2015-16 falling by 13.2%. This reduction was 5% greater than the figures announced in the June 2013 Spending Round, the difference being largely explained by larger top-slices for the business rates safety net and New Homes Bonus.
4. The Revenue Spending Power figures for 2015-16 showed a reduction of 1.8%; but this was on the basis that the entire Better Care Fund was counted as part of local government revenue spending power.
5. The Government's technical consultation on the 2015-16 settlement, published in July 2014, suggested that the key national totals for the 2015-16 settlement would be unchanged from those announced in December last year; the consultation itself was largely about the government paying some small grants previously paid separately through the settlement so significant change was not signalled.

### **Key issues for the 2015-16 settlement and potential LGA response**

6. Key issues to be included in a response to the settlement will be subject to what is in the announcement but are likely to include:
  - 6.1 **Timing of the settlement** and the difficulties this creates for local authorities.
  - 6.2 **A call for multi-year settlements** to give greater certainty to local government.
  - 6.3 **Any changes to the overall total of funding** and the impact funding reductions have had on local government. Leadership Board will be given a verbal update on 11 December if any announcement as part of the Autumn Statement is likely to impact on the 2015-16 settlement.
  - 6.4 **Any changes to the top-slices for New Homes Bonus and the business rates safety net.** In its response to the technical consultation, the LGA called for an additional £343m of funding that had been top sliced for the New Homes Bonus and the safety net, to be put back into the settlement.
  - 6.5 The calculation of **Revenue Spending Power** figures and the appropriate treatment of funding. For example, the Better Care Fund (£3.5bn), money paid to the NHS rather than local government, the effect of the £200m cut in Education Services Grant for 15-16 and the shift of New Homes Bonus of £70m from London Boroughs to the GLA.



- 6.6 **The impact of business rate appeals** on local authorities which is unfair and not in local authority control.
  - 6.7 Identifying and protecting the amounts in the settlement for **Council tax support** in a similar way to council tax freeze grant; this is something we called for in our response to the technical consultation.
  - 6.8 Any news on **Care Act** implementation; in particular whether the figures for the New Burdens payment as consulted on in July 2014 are confirmed. In our response to this consultation the LGA noted that these allocations were significantly different from those included in the illustrative 2015-16 local government finance settlement which will impact on council planning. In addition, the LGA called for the government to revisit the 2015/16 funding envelope for implementing the Care Act reforms if research provided further evidence of inadequate funding.
  - 6.9 Whether the figures for **Efficiency Support Grant** announced last year are confirmed and whether this is extended to any more authorities other than the 14 indicated in the illustrative settlement
  - 6.10 Identification of **Local Welfare Support** in the settlement; the government has been consulting on this following concern at the ending of the separate Welfare Support Grant in 2015-16.
  - 6.11 Early announcement of the **council tax referendum limit** for 2015-16. In the 2013 Spending Round the Government indicated that there would be limits of 2% in both 2014-15 and 2015-16. Although the limit for 2014-15 was confirmed at the time of the final settlement this was following indications from ministers at consultation that they could impose a lower limit.
  - 6.12 Any other issues that might arise from the consultation settlement.
7. The consultation on the Local Government Finance Settlement is likely to run until mid-January. The LGA will issue an on the day briefing when the settlement is announced. It is recommended that Leadership Board agree that lead members of the Resources Board sign off the response to the consultation.
  8. The final local government finance settlement is expected to be published at the end of January or early February 2015 and approved by Parliament during February. The LGA will issue a briefing to MPs for the debate in Parliament.

### **Conclusion and next steps**

9. Members of Leadership Board are asked to agree:
  - 9.1 the main areas to be included in the response; and
  - 9.2 that lead members of the Resources Board will sign off the LGA's response to the 2015-16 Local Government Finance Settlement.

### **Financial Implications**

10. This is core work for the LGA and is budgeted for within the 2014-15 LGA budget.





## **LGA Political Balance - City of London and Isles of Scilly**

### **Purpose**

For decision.

### **Summary**

When the LGA was established in 1997, a decision appears to have been taken not to include the election results of Isles of Scilly and the City of London in the annual calculation of political balance. In relation to the City of London this may have been because of their unique methods of election, or because, like the Isles of Scilly, their population is so small as to have little impact on the overall figures.

Both councils are nevertheless in membership of the LGA and this paper proposes amending the process of calculation to include both City of London and the Isles of Scilly in future.

### **Recommendation**

That the Leadership Board agrees that the election results of the City of London and Isles of Scilly are included in the annual proportionality calculations of the LGA.

### **Action/s**

Research & Information Manager to amend process to include the two councils from the 2015/16 elections.

<b>Contact officer:</b>	Claire Holloway/Juliet Whitworth
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## LGA Political Balance - City of London and Isles of Scilly

### Background

1. The political balance of the LGA is calculated by totalling the number of seats won by each party across all member authorities, and weighting them by their electorate (so that councillors representing small authorities are not over-represented). The resulting proportions are then applied to our governance structures.
2. Since the exercise was first conducted, the Isles of Scilly and City of London have been excluded from the balance calculation. This is likely to have been (a) because the numbers of councillors in these authorities, and the size of their electorate, are so small that they make little difference to the overall balance and (b) because the City of London electoral arrangements are unique.
3. Given that both councils are in full membership of the LGA their exclusion from our political balance seems incongruous. This paper summarises the effect of bringing them into the proportionality calculations.

### Effect on Political Balance

4. The majority of members in the Isles of Scilly and City of London are classed as 'Independent'. **Table 1** shows the current political balance and the amended figure including the two authorities. The impact is marginal, because they have a small number of councillors and a small number of residents for the purpose of population weighting.

**Table 1: Effect of Adding City of London and Isles of Scilly to LGA Political Balance 2014**

2014	Conservative %	Labour %	Liberal Democrat %	Independent %
As now	38.3	40.6	10.8	10.4 (10.35)
with CoL and IoS.	38.3	40.6	10.8	10.4 (10.37)

5. Whilst elections and councillors on the Isles of Scilly are the same as in any other council in England and Wales, the City of London is different because the electorate includes both businesses and residents. In those wards with very few residents (six have fewer than ten electors) the electorate is primarily businesses. The Research team recommend that in order to treat the City of London in a comparable way to other councils, only residents' votes should be included. In effect the total impact on the overall figures is less than three decimal places.
6. All City of London members except one are currently classed as independent and so the majority would be counted in the Independent proportion of the LGA political balance. (Aldermen and Common Councilmen broadly equate to councillors in other councils, with the distinction being primarily one of seniority). However a minority have political

alignments to other political parties and may be nominated by those groups to represent them on the LGA's governance arrangements. To date, this has presented no problem because they have not been included in our political balance. In reality, given the infinitesimal impact on the overall political breakdown it is recommended that all Aldermen and Councilmen continue to be counted as independent whatever their declared alignment, if they stood as 'independent' candidates at their election.

**Next steps**

7. Subject to Leadership Board's decision, the Research Team will adjust their calculations and brief the Elections Centre at the University of Plymouth to do the same.

**Financial Implications**

8. None.



## **LGA Associate Membership Scheme**

### **Purpose**

For discussion and direction.

### **Summary**

The commercial review of the LGA undertaken by Ernst and Young earlier in the year proposed expanding LGA membership beyond its current local authority base. In July 2014, General Assembly agreed amendments to the LGA Constitution to enable any public body to be admitted into membership.

This paper sets out proposals for the Associate membership scheme including subscriptions. The paper has been shared with members of the Commercial Strategy Board.

### **Recommendation**

Leadership Board is asked to agree the proposals set out in paragraphs 5-7 of this paper.

### **Action**

Officers to take forward in accordance with the Board's decision/s.

**Contact officer:** Claire Holloway  
**Position:** Head of Corporate Governance  
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## **LGA Associate membership scheme**

### **Background**

1. The commercial review of the LGA undertaken by Ernst and Young earlier in 2014 identified the potential to expand LGA membership beyond its current local authority base. In July 2014, General Assembly agreed amendments to the LGA Constitution to enable any public body to be admitted into membership.
2. The LGA already offers an Associate membership scheme to larger town and parish councils with a budget of £500,000 or above. Benefits comprise
  - 2.1 Access to the member-only area of the LGA website
  - 2.2 Alerts and on-the-the day briefings
  - 2.3 Access to free LGA events and to paid events at membership rates

Town & Parish council membership is non-voting with no formal participation in the LGA's governance arrangements.

3. This paper sets out proposals for the Associate membership scheme including subscriptions.

### **Principals**

4. The scheme will be based on three principals
  - 4.1 Cost effectiveness: The value of services offered, and the cost of providing them, must be less than the subscription charged.
  - 4.2 Alignment: Memberships will be open to organisations whose purpose and priorities align with those of the LGA.
  - 4.3 Simplicity. A standard core offer, with subscription levels based on size of organisation.

### **Benefits of membership**

5. Associate members of the LGA will be entitled to
  - 5.1 Access the member-only area of the LGA website
  - 5.2 Sign up to receive policy papers, on-the-the day briefings, daily news service
  - 5.3 Access to relevant contacts (subject to data protection)
  - 5.4 Attend free LGA events and paid events at membership rates
6. As with current membership categories, a full 12 months' notice from 31 March would be required from organisations wishing to withdraw from LGA membership.



### **Subscriptions**

7. Subscription levels for full voting members of the LGA are based on population. For the Associate scheme a scheme based on size of organisation is proposed

- Under 10 employees £2500
- 10-100 employees £5000
- 100 – 250 employees £7500
- 250 – 750 employees £10000
- 750 plus employees £12000 - £20,000
- Other membership bodies £2000 per organisation represented

8. Alternatively we could set say a three scale subscription for local, regional and national organisations

### **Current position**

9. Initial expressions of interest in the Associate membership scheme have been received from Public Health England, the Waste Management Alliance (representing 5 drainage boards in the East of England) and Care & Support West. Informal discussions with colleagues in policy and finance suggest NHS Confederation and Health Education England might also be interested, along with the Fire Service College.

### **Next steps**

10. Subject to agreement on the scheme and subscription levels, we will begin to publicise the scheme and to pro-actively approach organisations who might be interested. As we are already 9 months into 2014/15, the first year subscription could be extended to cover the remainder of this year.

### **Financial Implications**

11. Target income of £50,000.



## **Chief Executive's Monthly Report – December 2014**

### **Purpose of report**

For discussion and direction.

### **Summary**

The LGA business plan 2014/15 centres on three priorities:

- Funding for local government;
- Economic growth, jobs and housing; and
- Public service reform.

The monthly Chief Executive's report sets out the LGA's main achievements against those priorities. It also summarises how we are supporting councils through our core improvement services, and how we are managing our own efficiency and effectiveness.

### **Recommendation**

That the Leadership Board notes the Chief Executive's report for December 2014.

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**Position:** Chief Executive  
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## Chief Executive's Monthly Report – December 2014

### Part 1- Achievements against our three priorities

#### Priority 1 – Funding for local government

- An agreement has been reached between local government employers and trade union on a **pay increase for local councils** which covers the period January 1 2015 to 31 March 2016 and means staff will receive a pay increase of 2.2 per cent from January.
- Circulated the LGA's **Autumn Statement submission** to Secretaries of State, their opposition counterparts and Chairs of Select Committees.
- The **Independent Commission on Local Government Finance** launched its interim report, arguing for a much needed new system of local government finance to underpin English devolution.
- Issued a set of updated and improved council-specific **financial position reports** to Chief Executives and Chief Finance Officers.
- Submitted evidence to the **Autumn Statement process**, followed up by letters to ministers containing our submission.
- Briefed local authority officers and members on the most recent announcements about **Care Act reform**, including revisions to cost estimates undertaken by the Department of Health where we secured further protection for councils from disproportionate risk.
- Launched a report as part of the **National Children's and Adult Services Conference** that set out the state of funding of adult social services.

#### Priority 2 – Economic growth, jobs and housing

- Submitted written evidence to the **Small Business, Enterprise and Employment Public Bill Committee** outlining the LGA's concerns on the clauses on procurement and employment.
- Launched a report on **Youth Transitions** with proposals to replace the plethora of youth engagement schemes with a single multi-agency Youth Transitions Service delivered locally to give every 14-24 year old the advice, support and tools to engage and develop in school, college or work.
- Responded to Labour's Lyons Review on house building, which was reported in the **Guardian Online**. Cllr Peter Box said "The housing borrowing cap is fundamentally flawed and places unnecessary restrictions on the amount of money councils can invest in housing."
- The new **Environment, Economy, Housing and Transport Board** agreed their work programme for the year ahead; the future of local roads, bus reforms, strategic planning and housing supply are some of the key areas of focus for members.
- Researched into the impact of relaxed planning rules allowing offices to be converted into homes without planning permission. This was reported by the **Telegraph, Financial Times** and

**Mail Online.** It found rules have resulted in existing businesses being served with eviction notices.

### **Priority 3 – Public services reform**

- Successfully lobbied Government to remove a clause in the **Deregulation Bill** that would have allowed anyone to drive a vehicle marked as a minicab without a criminal records check.
- Chief Executive Carolyn Downs attended two meetings of the Kerslake/Birmingham Review panel, and a further two of the Rotherham Improvement Board.
- Carolyn Downs was called to provide oral evidence at the Health Select Committee and at the PAC for planning for the Better Care Fund.
- Secured an amendment to the **Serious Crime Bill** at Report Stage to the offence of participating in an organised crime group so that unwitting activity by local authorities is no longer caught by this offence.
- Launched a **Social Work campaign** at NCAS focussing on the retention of skilled social workers.
- Facilitated a well-attended **English devolution** panel debate at Councillors' Forum, including panellists Steve Reed MP, Heather Wheeler MP, and Lord Purvis of Tweed.
- Nine councils have confirmed their participation in the **People and Places Board and City Region Board's** research project updating the evidence and arguments in support of locally-led service transformation.
- Progressed to the next stage of bidding for funding from the Department of Education's **Innovation Fund** for a joint project with Barnardo's to establish a centre of excellence for tackling female genital mutilation.
- Held a conference for **police and crime panel chairs** and officers to share experiences following the death of one police and crime commissioner and the resignation of another.
- Held the first of three free regional workshops on the new tools and powers for **tackling anti-social behaviour**.
- In our role as secretariat to the Shadow Scheme Advisory Board we have published the first ever **Annual Report** for the entire **LGPS in England and Wales**. We have also issued governance guidance for consultation.
- Provided reduced cost access to the **employee value proposition tool**, which helps councils to better understand and improve cultures within the workplace.

**Part 2 - Sector-led support, improvement and innovation – our core services**

- Over 1100 delegates attended the **National Children and Adult Services Conference** which took place in Manchester 29<sup>th</sup> – 31<sup>st</sup> October.
- Carolyn Downs led a session for Chief Executives on sector led improvement and devolution, looking into the future of sector led improvement and how the LGA pursues its lobbying on devolution in the early months of 2015.
- Supporting 14 culture portfolio holders to lead transformational change of cultural services at the latest LGA/Arts Council England Culture Leadership Essentials Programme 3-4 November.
- Established the **Local Government (LG) PSN Programme Board** to be chaired by Steve Barker, Chief Executive of Suffolk Coastal and Waveney District Council.
- Published a policy briefing and a practical guide with the Centre for Public Scrutiny to strengthen scrutiny of the local response to **domestic violence**.
- Surveyed councils on existing levels of work to **tackle illicit alcohol** as part of our commitment to support licensing and trading standards teams to better tackle the black market in alcohol and tobacco.
- The first **Leadership Essentials Programme** on finance met with overwhelmingly positive feedback.
- Launched the **Learning Disability Services Efficiency Project** to support councils in developing new, innovative and more efficient models of support.
- Launched a web resource to support councils in retaining **increased numbers of experienced social workers**. The resource is made up of a recruitment and retention toolkit, refreshed employee standards for social workers and case studies that identify the best ideas within the social work profession.
- Launched the new e-learning platform to assist elected members with their **professional development** and maximise opportunities for **remote learning**.
- Supported and encouraged 60 ambitious and talented councillors from across the country to be bold and confident political leaders through the **Next Generation programme**.
- Opened recruitment for Cohort 17 of the **National Graduate Development Programme**, and welcomed this year's 109 graduates who have been placed in 53 local authorities to gain experience and become high-calibre managers.
- Met with peers from other European LGAs to develop common approaches and lobbying on the next **EU legislative programme**.

**Part 3 – Our own efficiency and effectiveness**

1. The LGA have been mentioned in **Parliament** on **94** occasions since its return from recess at the start of October.
2. The Chair discussed our **100 days campaign** with a number of high level Cabinet and Shadow Cabinet figures including; Chief Secretary to the Treasury, Danny Alexander MP; Secretary of State for Health, Jeremy Hunt MP; and Shadow Business Secretary, Chuka Umunna MP.
3. Our media presence included:

	<b>Issues raised</b>
Guardian, BBC Online, Mail Online, Independent Online, ITV online	Calls for an independent review of Ofsted.
Every national newspaper, followed up in Sunday Times, BBC Online, Guardian, Mail, BBC News, BBC Radio 5 Live	Term-time vacations
Mirror, Metro, BBC Radio 2, BBC Radio London	Youth unemployment
BBC Online, BBC Breakfast, BBC Radio 2, 5 Live	Fines to tackle fly-tipping
BBC Online, Guardian, BBC Breakfast, BBC News, Radio 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 Live bulletins.	Defence against accusations of councils' low funding of public mental health.
Financial Times, Telegraph, Mail Online	Converting offices into homes with relaxed planning permissions.
Guardian, BBC News	Devolution
Guardian, Mirror	Funding for local welfare assistance
Telegraph, Express	'Black hole' is social care budgets
ITV News, Express	LGA and NHS England's Cold Weather Plan
The Times, Mail Online	Town Hall Transparency

**Membership**

4. The following visits to councils by the Chairman, Chief Executive and Strategic Directors are confirmed in the coming months.

<b>2014/15 Schedule of Visits</b>		
30 October	Lincolnshire County Council	Michael Lockwood
5 November	London Borough of Hackney	Michael Lockwood
6 November	Stoke-on-Trent City Council	Michael Lockwood
14 November	South West Councils Meeting, Devon County Council	Cllr David Sparks
20 November	Norfolk Chief Execs Meeting	Carolyn Downs
25 November	Oldham Council	Carolyn Downs
26 November	Hertfordshire County Council	Carolyn Downs
27 November	Buckinghamshire County Council	David Sparks
27 November	Lancashire CC and Preston City Council	David Sparks
5 December	East of England Assembly	David Sparks
15 December	East of England Chief Execs and Leaders meeting	Carolyn Downs
17 December	Calderdale Metropolitan Borough Council	Carolyn Downs
17 December	Yorkshire and Humber LA	Carolyn Downs
8 January	Wokingham Borough Council	Carolyn Downs
13 January	Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council	Carolyn Downs
14 January	Rother DC	David Sparks



## **LGA Forward Plan**

### **Purpose of report**

For discussion and direction.

### **Summary**

The LGA Leadership Board is responsible for driving the Association's activities and business, taking a lead in developing and overseeing delivery of the business plan and identifying the emerging and key issues to highlight to the LGA Executive.

As part of this, Members are invited to consider which items they would like to see on future agendas of the LGA Leadership Board, LGA Executive and Councillors' Forum.

The current draft agendas for January and March 2015 are attached at **Appendix A.**

### **Recommendation**

That the Leadership Board endorses the Forward Plan and specifies topics and items for future meetings of the LGA Executive, Leadership Board and Councillors' Forum.

### **Action**

Officers to brief Members and officers in line with steer.

**Contact officer:** Cathy Boyle  
**Position:** Manager, Member Services  
**Phone no:** 020 7664 3205  
**E-mail:** [cathy.boyle@local.gov.uk](mailto:cathy.boyle@local.gov.uk)

**Appendix A**

**January 2015**

<b>LGA Leadership Board - 21 January 2015</b>	
<b>Item</b>	<b>Summary</b>
<b>Part 1</b>	
<b>LGA Business</b>	
LGA Business Plan and Budget 2015/16	To review and give a steer on the LGA's draft Business Plan and outline budget prior to this being finally agreed in March
Performance Report	To review the third quarter performance report
Membership Briefings	To consider the content of the 2015 Membership Briefings
Communications Update	To consider communications activity in the third quarter.
Audit Committee Minutes	To note the minutes of the last Audit Committee meeting
Chief Executive's Report	To hold the Chief Executive to account for delivery against the business plan
LGA Executive Agenda	To run through the items to be considered by the LGA Executive the following day
LGA Forward Plan	To consider topics for discussion at LGA Leadership Board, LGA Executive and Councillors' Forum
Note of the last meeting	To approve the note of the last meeting
<b>Part 2 [CONFIDENTIAL]</b>	
<b>LGA Corporate Peer Challenge</b>	<b>To consider a report of the Peer Challenge Panel</b>
<b>LGA finances – position/structures</b>	<b>To consider a report on LGA finances</b>
<b>Layden House</b>	<b>To consider an update report on Layden House</b>

<b>Councillors' Forum - 22 January 2015</b>	
<b>Pay and Recruitment</b>	<b>To consider issues as the economy improves</b> Sarah Messenger, Head of Workforce, to present
Chairman's Report	To present the Chairman's monthly report
Chairs of Boards' Reports	To present the Chairs of Boards' monthly reports
Digest of the last meeting	

<b>LGA Executive - 22 January 2015</b>	
<b>Item</b>	<b>Summary</b>
<b>Part 1</b>	
<b>Local Government Finance Settlement</b>	<b>To consider a summary of LGA activity on the LG Finance Settlement and endorse the LGA response agreed by Resources Board</b>
<b>School Places in England</b>	<b>To consider a report from the CYP Board on School Places in England</b>
<b>Devolution</b>	<b>To consider an update report on devolution in England</b>
<b>LGA Business</b>	
Note of LGA Leadership Board Meeting	To highlight key issues from the LGA Leadership Board meeting the previous day
Note of the last LGA Executive meeting	To agree the note of the last meeting.
<b>Part 2 [CONFIDENTIAL]</b>	
<b>Report of the Independent Finance Commission</b>	<b>To consider an update on the work of the Independent Finance Commission</b>
<b>LGA Corporate Peer Review</b>	<b>To consider the initial findings of the Corporate Peer Review team</b>

## March 2015

<b>LGA Leadership Board - 04 March 2015</b>	
<b>Item</b>	<b>Summary</b>
<b>Part 1</b>	
<b>RSG</b>	<b>To consider the business case and plan for submission to CLG</b>
<b>LGA Business</b>	
LGA Business Plan 2015/16	To agree the LGA's 2015/16 Business Plan for recommendation to the LGA Executive
LGA Budget 2015/16	To agree the LGA's 2015/16 Budget for recommendation to the LGA Executive
Chief Executive's Report	To hold the Chief Executive to account for delivery against the business plan
LGA Executive Agenda	To run through the items to be considered by the LGA Executive the following day
LGA Forward Plan	To consider topics for discussion at LGA Leadership Board, LGA Executive and Councillors' Forum
Note of the last meeting	To approve the note of the last meeting



<b>Part 2 [CONFIDENTIAL]</b>	
<b>Review of LGA Company Structures</b>	<b>To report back on the professional advice obtained on the optimal company arrangements for the LGA</b>
<b>Annual Conference &amp; Exhibition 2015</b>	<b>To update the Board on progress with arrangements for the Annual Conference &amp; Exhibition.</b>

**Councillors' Forum - 05 March 2015**

Chairman's Report	To present the Chairman's monthly report
Chairs of Boards' Reports	To present the Chairs of Boards' monthly reports
Digest of the last meeting	

**LGA Executive - 05 March 2015**

<b>Item</b>	<b>Summary</b>
<b>Part 1</b>	
<b>RSG</b>	<b>To consider the business case and plan for RSG for submission to DCLG</b>
<b>LGA Business</b>	
LGA Business Plan 2015/16	To agree the business case and plan for RSG for submission to DCLG
LGA Budget 2015/16	To agree the budget as recommended by the Leadership Board
Note of LGA Leadership Board Meeting	To highlight key issues from the LGA Leadership Board meeting the previous day
Note of the last LGA Executive meeting	To agree the note of the last meeting.
<b>Part 2 [CONFIDENTIAL]</b>	

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# LGA location map

## Local Government Association

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Tel: 020 7664 3131

Fax: 020 7664 3030

Email: [info@local.gov.uk](mailto:info@local.gov.uk)

Website: [www.local.gov.uk](http://www.local.gov.uk)

## Bus routes – Millbank

- 87** Wandsworth - Aldwych
- 3** Crystal Palace - Brixton - Oxford Circus

For further information, visit the Transport for London website at [www.tfl.gov.uk](http://www.tfl.gov.uk)

## Public transport

Local Government House is well served by public transport. The nearest mainline stations are: Victoria and Waterloo: the local underground stations are

**St James's Park** (Circle and District Lines), **Westminster** (Circle, District and Jubilee Lines), and **Pimlico** (Victoria Line) - all about 10 minutes walk away.

Buses 3 and 87 travel along Millbank, and the 507 between Victoria and Waterloo stops in Horseferry Road close to Dean Bradley Street.

## Bus routes – Horseferry Road

- 507** Waterloo - Victoria
- C10** Canada Water - Pimlico - Victoria
- 88** Camden Town - Whitehall - Westminster - Pimlico - Clapham Common

## Cycling facilities

The nearest Barclays cycle hire racks are in Smith Square. Cycle racks are also available at Local Government House. Please telephone the LGA on 020 7664 3131.

## Central London Congestion Charging Zone

Local Government House is located within the congestion charging zone.

For further details, please call 0845 900 1234 or visit the website at [www.cclondon.com](http://www.cclondon.com)

## Car parks

- Abingdon Street Car Park (off Great College Street)
- Horseferry Road Car Park
- Horseferry Road/Arneway Street. Visit the website at [www.westminster.gov.uk/parking](http://www.westminster.gov.uk/parking)

