

# People & Places Board

## Agenda

Wednesday, 15 June 2016  
1.00 pm

Bevin Hall, Ground Floor, Local Government  
House, Smith Square, London, SW1P 3HZ

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People & Places Board  
15 June 2016

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There will be a meeting of the People & Places Board at **1.00 pm on Wednesday, 15 June 2016** Bevin Hall, Ground Floor, Local Government House, Smith Square, London, SW1P 3HZ.

A sandwich lunch will be available at 1.00pm

**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.

**Political Group meetings:**

The group meetings will take place in advance of the meeting. Please contact your political group as outlined below for further details.

**Apologies:**

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

<b>Conservative:</b>	Group Office: 020 7664 3223	email: <a href="mailto:lgaconservatives@local.gov.uk">lgaconservatives@local.gov.uk</a>
<b>Labour:</b>	Group Office: 020 7664 3334	email: <a href="mailto:Labour.GroupLGA@local.gov.uk">Labour.GroupLGA@local.gov.uk</a>
<b>Independent:</b>	Group Office: 020 7664 3224	email: <a href="mailto:independent.group@local.gov.uk">independent.group@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>

**Location:**

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

**LGA Contact:**

Eleanor Reader-Moore  
[eleanor.reader-moore@local.gov.uk](mailto:eleanor.reader-moore@local.gov.uk)  
020 7664 3383

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The twitter hashtag for this meeting is #lgapp

## People & Places Board – Membership 2015/2016

Councillor	Authority
<b>Conservative ( 12)</b>	
Cllr Mark Hawthorne MBE (Chairman)	Gloucestershire County Council
Cllr Gillian Brown (Vice Chairman)	Arun District Council
Cllr Philip Atkins	Staffordshire County Council
Cllr Andrew Bowles	Swale Borough Council
Cllr Paul Carter CBE	Kent County Council
Cllr Paul Diviani	East Devon District Council
Cllr Kenneth Meeson	Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council
Cllr Derek Bastiman	Scarborough Borough Council
Cllr Roger Blaney	Newark & Sherwood District Council
Cllr Chris Hayward	Hertfordshire County Council
Cllr Mike Jones	Cheshire West and Chester Council
Cllr John Osman	Somerset County Council
<b>Labour ( 4)</b>	
Cllr Alan Rhodes (Vice Chairman)	Nottinghamshire County Council
Cllr Vince Maple	Medway Council
Cllr Jennifer Mein	Lancashire County Council
Cllr Caitlin Bisknell	Derbyshire County Council
<b>Substitutes</b>	
Cllr Frank Radcliffe	North Hertfordshire District Council
Cllr Leigh Redman	Somerset County Council
<b>Independent ( 4)</b>	
Cllr John Pollard (Deputy Chair)	Cornwall Council
Cllr Amanda Martin	Council of the Isles of Scilly
Cllr Clive Woodbridge	Epsom and Ewell Borough Council
Cllr Chris Townsend	Surrey County Council
<b>Substitutes</b>	
Cllr Helen Grant	North Yorkshire County Council
<b>Liberal Democrat ( 3)</b>	
Cllr Heather Kidd (Deputy Chair)	Shropshire Council
Cllr Stan Collins	South Lakeland District Council
Cllr Sarah Osborne	Lewes District Council
<b>Substitutes</b>	
Cllr David Bill MBE	Leicestershire County Council

## People and Places Board - Attendance 2015-2016

Councillors	19/10/15	14/1/16	14/03/16	
<b>Conservative Group</b>				
Mark Hawthorne MBE	Yes	Yes	Yes	
Gillian Brown	Yes	Yes	Yes	
Philip Atkins	Yes	Yes	No	
Andrew Bowles	No	No	Yes	
Paul Carter CBE	Yes	No	Yes	
Paul Diviani	Yes	Yes	No	
Ken Meeson	Yes	Yes	Yes	
Derek Bastiman	Yes	Yes	Yes	
Roger Blaney	Yes	Yes	Yes	
Chris Hayward	Yes	No	Yes	
Mike Jones	Yes	Yes	No	
John Osman	Yes	No	Yes	
<b>Labour Group</b>				
Alan Rhodes	Yes	No	Yes	
Vince Maple	Yes	Yes	Yes	
Jenny Mein	Yes	Yes	Yes	
Caitlin Bisknell	Yes	Yes	Yes	
<b>Independent</b>				
John Pollard	Yes	Yes	Yes	
Amanda Martin	Yes	Yes	No	
Chris Townsend	Yes	Yes	Yes	
Clive Woodbridge	Yes	Yes	Yes	
<b>Lib Dem Group</b>				
Heather Kidd	Yes	Yes	Yes	
Stan Collins	Yes	No	Yes	
Sarah Osborne	Yes	Yes	Yes	
<b>Substitutes/Observers</b>				
Leigh Redman	Yes		Yes	
Frank Radcliffe	Yes			
Helen Grant			Yes	

## Agenda

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### People & Places Board

Wednesday 15 June 2016

1.00 pm

Bevin Hall, Ground Floor, Local Government House, Smith Square, London, SW1P 3HZ

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**Date of Next Meeting:** Thursday, 29 September 2016, 11.00 am,  
Smith Square Rooms 1&2, Ground Floor, Local Government House

## **Superfast Broadband and the Digital Divide**

### **Purpose**

For discussion and direction.

### **Summary**

This paper provides members with:

- a national update on superfast broadband and mobile connectivity policy.
- an update on related LGA activity in these areas.
- an update on the member-commissioned Up to Speed campaign on which members will receive a presentation at the Board.

### **Recommendations**

Members are asked to note the update and agree the future focus of the Board's digital connectivity work as outlined in paragraph 17.

### **Action**

Officers to take forward as directed by members.

**Contact officer:** Daniel Shamplin-Hall  
**Position:** Adviser  
**Phone no:** 020 7664 3314  
**Email:** [daniel.shamplin-hall@local.gov.uk](mailto:daniel.shamplin-hall@local.gov.uk)

## **Superfast Broadband and the Digital Divide**

### **Background**

1. Since the first meeting of the 2015/16 People and Places Board cycle, members have made clear that improving the digital connectivity of residents should be a priority of this Board. Over the course of the Board's work programme, members have already commissioned a [detailed survey](#) of local authorities involved in the Superfast Broadband Programme to guide the LGA's lobbying direction, hosted Broadband Delivery UK (BDUK) Chief Executive, Chris Townsend, and questioned him on the performance of Superfast Broadband Programme and the Government's Mobile Infrastructure Project at the January Board meeting, and commissioned a national 'Up to Speed' campaign to raise awareness of those businesses and residents still without adequate broadband speeds.
2. This report provides an update on the developing national policy context, details the latest LGA activity in this area since the last Board, and provides an update on the member commissioned 'Up to Speed' campaign. Members will receive a more detailed presentation on the campaign from officers at the Board.

### **National Policy Update**

3. Since the last Board, there have been several key policy developments that will impact councils and their residents. The main points to note for councils are:
  - 3.1 The Government announced in the Queen's Speech a new Digital Economy Bill which, amongst a range of new measures, will enshrine the Universal Service Obligation in primary legislation.
  - 3.2 The Government has now secured an EU State Aid exemption for future local government broadband procurements until 2020.
  - 3.3 The [first](#) of two consultations on the Universal Service Obligation by the Department for Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS) has concluded (details on the LGA response are provided under LGA activity and in Appendix A). DCMS has also [commissioned Ofcom](#) to undertake a detailed technical analysis to inform and support the design of the USO, which the LGA will respond to with lead member oversight.
4. The Government used the Queen's Speech to confirm it will draft a new **Digital Economy Bill**. The Bill, which aims to "make sure Britain remains at the forefront of the global 21st century economy," will enshrine the Universal Service Obligation in primary legislation and includes new measures to help telecommunications providers build infrastructure for faster broadband and mobile networks and creates provision to allow consumers to be automatically compensated when things go wrong with their broadband service. The LGA's used its [On the Day Queen's Speech briefing](#) to respond to the Bill:
  - 4.1 welcoming the creation of a broadband Universal Service Obligation (USO) as a safety net for those residents and businesses with poor connectivity;



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- 4.2 making clear the importance of commercial operators working in partnership with councils to find the most viable locations for new infrastructure and ensure communities are properly engaged;
- 4.3 welcoming moves to allow for consumers to receive compensation, seeking clarification on how a connection's performance will be judged and pushing for the compensation process to be simple with an obligation on providers to resolve issues quickly.
- 5 Officers will monitor the Bill through Parliament and advise our parliamentary stakeholders on its drafting. Should any amendments during its passage have negative implications for local government, the Bill will be reclassified as a higher officer priority.
- 6 The Government has now secured an **EU State Aid decision** on future superfast broadband procurements until 2020 (members will recall the People and Places Board Chair wrote to BDUK Chief Executive, Chris Townsend, in January to press for quick agreement and express concern that delays were leaving councils unable to fund new procurements.)
- 7 Unlike the previous procurement process, those digital infrastructure suppliers bidding to be part of the procurement framework will have to open up access to their subsidised infrastructure to fellow suppliers on the framework. With fair and equal access to subsidised infrastructure, suppliers will be able to compete to provide services to the end consumer. This is an important step in increasing competition and aims to help smaller operators participate on an even playing field. As detailed below, the LGA has worked with member councils to improve the sector's knowledge of the range of digital infrastructure suppliers now available in the marketplace.

### **LGA Activity**

- 8 As detailed above, LGA officers responded to the [DCMS consultation](#) (Appendix A) on the primary legislation that will enact the Universal Service Obligation. Our response:
  - 8.1 welcomed the creation of a USO as a step in the right direction;
  - 8.2 called for the USO minimum download speed to ensure residents and businesses in remote rural locations have access to 'digital by default' public services at peak times.
  - 8.3 called for the Government to regularly upgrade the minimum USO download speed to keep up with resident and businesses' demand for speeds, and suggested it be set as a percentage of average national download speeds as defined by Ofcom.
- 9 With lead member oversight, and in consultation with digital connectivity officers across the sector, LGA officers will also respond to [Ofcom's Call for Evidence](#) which will inform its detailed technical analysis on the design of the USO, due in December.
- 10 LGA officers have been working in partnership with Government, the mobile industry and the Planning Officers' Society on a refresh of the industry owned [Code of Best Practice on Mobile Network Development in England](#). The Code provides guidance on how mobile network operators (MNOs) should interact with landowners and planning

authorities when installing mobile infrastructure. LGA officers, in conjunction with the Planning Officers' Society, have advocated on behalf of councils and pressed for drafting to include an onus on MNOs to liaise with councils' digital connectivity teams as part of their consultation process and to agree appropriate community engagement processes with local planning authorities where possible. The Code will be published in July and officers will seek to finalise these points in the document.

- 11 The LGA and BDUK hosted an event on 17 March for council officers, councillors and BDUK officials to discuss how best to procure solutions to reach the final five percent of premises without broadband. The event was an opportunity for councillors and council officers to explore the capabilities of alternative technologies and digital infrastructure suppliers to extend broadband connectivity to the hardest to reach areas. Attendees heard first-hand from the Government's Market Test Pilots on their innovative technological solutions, and from council officers and members on their experiences using "alt net" providers and procuring within and outside the Government's National Procurement Framework. Chaired by Cllr Hawthorne, the event was attended by over 50 delegates from the sector and received excellent feedback.
- 12 Finally, the People and Places Board Chair and LGA officers have held separate meetings with Mobile Network Operators (MNOs) EE and Hutchinson 3G UK (Three) to discuss their commercial roll out plans in rural hot spot areas and explore how both sectors can continue to develop helpful partnerships locally. Officers have also had preliminary meetings with Ofcom to understand how they can work in tandem with councils to ensure the commercial roll out reaches as many rural communities as possible. A future meeting is also planned with Vodafone.
- 13 Council officers have highlighted the need for MNOs to improve at sharing their commercial roll out plans with councils to help with efforts to provide better connectivity to residents. With all four MNOs signed up to provide voice coverage to 90% of the UK's landmass, and Telefonica (O2) obligated to provide 98% of the UK population with 4G coverage by 2017, it is an opportune moment for local government to engage with the mobile sector. As such, officers have suggested that the Board might wish to explore the role the LGA and local government can play in this agenda going forward.

### **Up to Speed Campaign**

- 14 The Board-commissioned [Up to Speed](#) campaign and website was launched in May. The campaign provides councillors, council officers and members of the public with a set of resources, including a speed test, case studies and a toolkit, that helps them become more informed about how they can improve their speeds. Officers will provide a more detailed update on the campaign's progress at the Board
- 15 At the time of writing, the campaign has:
  - 15.1 featured in a double page spread in [First Magazine](#) (April 2016) received by over 10,000 councillors.
  - 15.2 partnered with the Daily Telegraph's Better Broadband campaign and received [front page coverage](#) (8 May) with a quote from the People and Places Chair, with follow up coverage and quotes from the People and Places Board Chair on [9 May](#) and [10 May](#). In response to the media coverage, Minister of State for Culture and the Digital

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Economy, Ed Vaizey MP publicly clarified the Government's position on the USO stating that it will "look at ways to allow communities to lodge a single request for a whole area, instead of many individual ones [...] and commit to keeping the initial minimum 10mbps speed under review, with the power to increase it if necessary, to make sure it keeps pace with consumers' needs."

15.3 reached over half a million Twitter user timelines with a range of residents, councillors and Board members taking the test and tweeting their results.

15.4 had over 3,000 page views of the campaign website with almost 500 people having taken the speed test. Tests have been taken across over half the council areas in England – already exceeding the campaign's initial coverage target. Those individuals that have taken it include MPs, councillors, council officers, peers and members of the public. At the next Board members will receive the results and conclusions drawn from the speed tests themselves.

16 Officers will continue to build on the early success of the campaign. Future activity includes:

16.1 writing over 50 targeted letters to MPs who have shown interest in the digital connectivity agenda, including members of the Culture, Media and Sport Committee to highlight the campaign. The Board Chair has also written to Minister, Ed Vaizey MP, suggesting a meeting to discuss shared objectives on digital connectivity.

16.2 submitting a range of oral questions to key MPs for parliamentary dates including the Culture, Tourism and Sport oral questions, as well as any debates which focus on broadband coverage.

16.3 continuing to develop case studies and monitor further opportunities for the campaign to feature in local and national media and increase the amount of speed tests taken.

### **Future focus of the Board**

17 For the new 2016/17 cycle it is suggested the Board's work on digital connectivity focusses on three areas:

17.1 continuing to build on the Board's work to date including developing the Up to Speed campaign;

17.2 monitoring and reacting to policy developments in this area including the passage of the Digital Economy Bill and working with Government and Ofcom on the design of Universal Service Obligation;

17.3 expanding the Board's work to focus on improving mobile coverage, exploring the role the LGA and local government can play in the mobile connectivity agenda going forward.

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### **Next steps**

LGA officers will:

- 18 Continue to develop the Up to Speed campaign, aiming to have a speed test taken in at least 65 per cent of English council areas by the next Board. Officers will provide the Board with a written update in September.
- 19 With oversight of lead members, continue to engage with Government and Ofcom on the design of the Universal Service obligation and the drafting of the Digital Economy Bill as it passes through Parliament.
- 20 With oversight of lead members, draft a work programme with a focus on mobile connectivity for approval at the next Board.

# **LGA submission to the Department for Culture, Media and Sport consultation on a broadband Universal Service Obligation**

## **April 2016**

### **Appendix A**

#### **1. About the Local Government Association**

- 1.1. The Local Government Association (LGA) is the national voice of local government. We work with councils to support, promote and improve local government. We are a politically-led, cross party organisation which works on behalf of councils to ensure local government has a strong, credible voice with national government.
- 1.2. We aim to influence and set the political agenda on the issues that matter to councils so they are able to deliver local solutions to national problems. The LGA covers every part of England and Wales, supporting local government as the most efficient and accountable part of the public sector.

#### **2. Summary**

- 2.1. Access to fast and reliable digital connectivity is no longer a luxury, it is a necessity. It is something residents and businesses expect in their premises; a vital component for supporting growth in urban and non-metropolitan areas, and an essential enabler of public sector digital transformation and wider public sector reform.
- 2.2. Councils have strongly supported the extension of access to fast and reliable connectivity through the Superfast Broadband Programme. The sector sees it as a fundamental part of their efforts to unlock economic growth – the roll out is projected to return £20 in net economic impact for every £1 of public investment by 2024<sup>1</sup> - as well as to help enable more of their residents and local businesses to self-serve, and their workforce to operate efficiently both in and out of the office. As a result, many councils are aiming to extend provision beyond the Programme's target of passing 95 per cent of premises and, in some places, are hoping to achieve closer to 100 per cent by using funding from claw-back clauses in supplier contracts.
- 2.3. Despite this, there will inevitably be some premises, mainly from remote rural areas, that won't be reached by the current tranches of work. In these communities, digital needs are already acute, with businesses and residents, including homeworkers, still suffering from poor digital connectivity. As such, the LGA welcomes the creation of a broadband Universal Service Obligation (USO) as a safety net for those residents and businesses not connected. The LGA calls on the Government to legislate for the USO's minimum speed to be reviewed at appropriate intervals and upgraded when necessary to reflect the needs of users as well as the capabilities of the market. A speed of 10 Mbps will quickly become outdated with the increasing requirements of

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<sup>1</sup> UK Broadband Impact Study Impact Report November 2013 - [https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/257006/UK\\_Broadband\\_Impact\\_Study\\_-\\_Impact\\_Report\\_-\\_Nov\\_2013\\_-\\_Final.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/257006/UK_Broadband_Impact_Study_-_Impact_Report_-_Nov_2013_-_Final.pdf)

technology and the needs of businesses and households.

- 2.4. The creation of primary legislation to enable the Secretary of State to enact a USO presents an opportunity to crystallise a key principle behind the USO: that at a bare minimum, it will provide residents and businesses with adequate and reliable speeds that allow them to access 'digital by default' public services – like Universal Credit, or renewing a driving licence – and importantly, at peak times. Many remote rural areas have well below 2 Mbps speed during key periods, including when school children get home, during school holidays, and after 6pm. This is unacceptable and as such, connections provided under the USO should be independently monitored to ensure speeds do not fall below 10 Mbps during peak hours.

### **3. Do you have any concerns about the approach that has been set out here?**

- 3.1. As the consultation process for the creation of a USO begins, there remain some uncertainties over how it will be designed and delivered, as well as how it will be monitored. When the Government presents more detailed proposals, the LGA will be seeking clarification on the following areas:
- 3.2. As well as a minimum standard set for download speed, it is important the Government specify appropriate criteria for the reliability, quality and upload speed of a connection, in secondary legislation. To be useful to residents and businesses, broadband connectivity needs to enable them to conduct their online activities during normal peak hours. It will be important that the Government, through Ofcom, monitor average USO connection performance to ensure suppliers provide connections that abide by this standard and the minimum USO download speed at all times.
- 3.3. It is sensible the USO is designed as a demand-led approach but only if digitally excluded residents and businesses are well informed of the benefits of faster speeds. It will be important that the USO works alongside local government digital inclusion strategies to increase the digital skills of communities and encourage more small businesses to get online. To highlight this point, 23 per cent of UK adults, as well as 23 per cent of small businesses, do not have the basic digital skills necessary to take advantage of the internet.
- 3.4. The Government should also explore helping communities and residents make their own arrangements or to aggregate their connection requests to encourage suppliers to provide them with a connection. Communities may wish to install their own alternative infrastructure if they feel the speeds provided under the USO are unacceptable.

The LGA has launched an Up to Speed campaign to raise awareness amongst residents of the benefits of faster speeds. It also provides a series of success stories, including other successful demand-led approaches fronted by the community, where residents have installed faster speeds under their own initiative.

- 3.5. It will be important for the Government to clarify how the affordability and cost-effectiveness of connections will be defined, enforced and how these costs will be met. Inevitably, there will be variance on cost and affordability between places depending upon economic, social and geographic characteristics. It is important the

benefits and risks of local versus nationally set standards are weighed up to avoid disadvantaging those areas, particularly in remote rural locations, where residents might be asked to incur above average expense to be connected and, as a result, continue to be digitally excluded.

- 3.6. Finally, we would like clarification on who will ultimately be held accountable for the success of the USO and how the process itself will be clear and transparent. If a decision is made that a premise cannot be connected due to overwhelming cost, that decision will need to be open to scrutiny by residents, businesses, and locally elected officials.

**4. We do not propose to specify speed in primary legislation. Should speed be specified in primary or secondary legislation?**

- 4.1. A fixed USO download speed will quickly become outdated with the increasing requirements of technology and the needs of businesses and households. Therefore, if specifying an exact download speed in secondary legislation allows for the minimum speed to be quickly reviewed and updated, then it is to be supported. Nevertheless, at the very least, the primary legislation should clarify that any minimum USO download speed and connection should enable residents and businesses to reliably access public sector services which are “digital by default,” at peak times, whether that is submitting a tax return, universal credit form or, for farmers in remote rural areas, completing forms online to receive funding. To aid this process, the Government should provide and regularly update a national minimum standard of speed required to access its ‘digital by default’ services.
- 4.2. The capability of current market speeds should also be a serious consideration when upgrading the minimum speed. As such, achieving 10 Mbps by 2020 should be seen as a short term aspiration and something to be built on. Nationally, demand for and availability of faster speeds continues to grow with many areas already having the digital infrastructure in place to cope with demand. It is estimated that the average maximum download speed already available to residents in the UK is over 120 Mbps.<sup>2</sup> When compared with those areas with poor connectivity, this highlights how big the digital divide could become if we are not ambitious enough with the USO. Therefore, in place of specifying exact speeds in the primary legislation, the Government should instead consider stipulating a minimum download speed as a percentage of average national download speeds as defined by Ofcom. This would also place less pressure on the need for upgrades via secondary legislation to be agreed.
- 4.3. Finally, the consultation outlines that the Government is “considering an additional measure in primary legislation which would provide the Secretary of State with a power to require Ofcom to review the USO, as appropriate.” The LGA supports this addition to the primary legislation and suggests a review should take place at regular intervals, with the next taking place in 2020 and with the aim of setting a more appropriate higher target for 2025. This will ensure that people and small businesses that rely on the USO do not fall behind as the demand for faster broadband connections grow.

<sup>2</sup> <http://labs.thinkbroadband.com/local/>

**5. In terms of giving the Secretary of State a power to direct Ofcom to review the USO, should Government have a continuing role in the USO, or should this be a matter for Ofcom?**

- 5.1. To achieve universal coverage of both fixed broadband and mobile connectivity, the Government has an important leadership role to play in ensuring the country's digital infrastructure can compete globally. It must continue to work in partnership with local government, Ofcom and industry to incentivise the market to extend access to hard-to-reach areas.
- 5.2. Many of the Government's wider public service ambitions depend on citizens, businesses and the public sector workforce having fast and reliable broadband connectivity. As more central and local government services become 'digital by default,' more people will need to have fast and reliable speeds. This was highlighted most recently when the Government announced that, during this Parliament, HM Revenue and Customs (HMRC) will move to a fully digital tax system "with the information HMRC needs automatically uploaded, bringing an end to the tax return."<sup>3</sup> Similarly, the Government's ambitions to integrate health and social care depend on citizens, health, social care and voluntary sector workers being able to access and share real-time data which is dependent on reliable connectivity. The Government cannot move services online and make the efficiency savings it needs without maintaining a continuing role in the USO.
- 5.3. The Government will also have an important role in aligning its digital strategy across departments with the development and maintenance of the USO. As an example, the USO will need to tie in with the Government's work to map public sector networks and other digital infrastructure, including the extensive fibre networks running alongside the UK's rail and motorways, as part of efforts to understand how existing capacity can be utilised to extend provision across the country.
- 5.4. It will also need to ensure there is alignment with the commercial roll out of 4G and opportunities for the sharing of backhaul sites, which can be very costly to provide in rural areas. In the absence of the Mobile Infrastructure Project, the Government will still need to ensure mobile network operators remain committed to rolling out coverage to those areas that remain poorly connected. Part of this will be working with Ofcom to encourage MNOs to share clear definitions of their commercial plans across postcode areas, with councils. This will help them respond to the broader digital needs of their residents and potentially support broadband USO interventions by sharing the use of backhaul sites.
- 5.5. Finally, local government also has a vital role to play at the centre of digital delivery, including helping shape where and how the USO might be delivered. Councils are best placed to understand the wider digital needs of local areas. They are at the

<sup>3</sup> HM revenue and Customs: Making tax digital - [https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/484668/making-tax-digital.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/484668/making-tax-digital.pdf)



centre of improving superfast broadband connectivity through the Superfast Broadband Programme, raising residents' and businesses' digital skills through a range of local initiatives, and improving mobile connectivity by working with mobile operators on the best placement of infrastructure. Moving forward, it will be important digital infrastructure suppliers, mobile network operators and councils are able to openly share their infrastructure roll out plans to ensure efforts to improve the connectivity of local residents and businesses are as joined up and efficient as possible. Where there are national borders it will also be important for councils and devolved administrations to work cross-border on rural broadband issues to maximise cost efficiency and to avoid duplication.





## **Leading Places Project Update**

### **Purpose**

For information.

### **Summary**

This paper provides members with an overview and update on the Leading Places Project.

### **Recommendation**

Members are asked to note the update.

### **Action**

Officers to take forward as directed by members.

**Contact officer:** Philip Clifford  
**Position:** Senior Adviser  
**Phone no:** 020 7187 7383  
**Email:** philip.clifford@local.gov.uk

## Leading Places Project Update

### Background

1. The Leading Places Project is a joint project developed in partnership between the Local Government Association (LGA), Universities UK (UUK) and the Higher Education Funding Council for England (HEFCE), which aims to deliver a programme of leadership development for both the higher education and local government sectors in support of devolution, public service reform and economic growth.
2. The project arises following a number of conversations between leaders from the higher education and local government sectors and growing recognition of the role academic institutions can play in actively contributing to the economic and civic potential of areas and the scope for collaborative leadership to underpin the success of place-based devolution.
3. It draws extensively on research undertaken on behalf of the Leadership Foundation for Higher Education (LFHE), which indicates that while there is already good collaboration in some areas, there remains more to be done to close the gap between strategic agreement amongst institutional leaders and practical activity at an operational level. The project's potential is underlined by recent forecasts by HEFCE which indicate that universities are forecast to substantially increase their capital investment programme over the next four years to more than £17 billion.
4. It has been agreed that the initial stage of the project will be to fund the expert facilitation of six Action Learning Partnerships (ALP). Each ALP will include a senior leadership group comprised of the Chief Executive and/or Leader of a council and the university Vice Chancellor. In support of this process HEFCE will provide initial grant funding of £48,000 to the LFHE to provide this facilitation. As the project develops, the LGA will be seeking to make a contribution to the work that matches the contribution of the Higher Education sector.

### Activity to date

5. Following the establishment of a project steering group comprised of officers from UUK, the LGA and HEFCE, six areas have been identified as suitable for participation in the first phase of the project and invited to do so:
  - 5.1 **Coventry** - Martin Reeves (Chief Executive, Coventry City Council)
  - 5.2 **Brighton** – Geoff Raw (Chief Executive, Brighton and Hove City Council) and Professor Debra Humphris (Vice Chancellor of Brighton University)
  - 5.3 **Gloucestershire** – Cllr Mark Hawthorne (Leader, Gloucestershire County Council) and Stephen Marston (Vice Chancellor, University of Gloucestershire)
  - 5.4 **Bristol** – Steve West (Vice Chancellor, University of West England)
  - 5.5 **Newcastle** – Jane Robinson (Gateshead Council, Chief Executive) and Chris Brink (Vice Chancellor, Newcastle University)

15 June 2016

**5.6 Manchester - Simon Noakes (Manchester New Economy)**

6. The Leadership Foundation for Higher Education have since made contact following these invitations and have arranged for a number of more detailed conversations to begin in the second week of June.
7. The invitation to participate was accompanied by a press release which attracted good coverage, being picked up by the Times Higher Education<sup>1</sup> and the Municipal Journal<sup>2</sup>, amongst others. Consequently, a number of academic institutions and councils have expressed interest in participating in any future phase of the project.

**Next steps**

8. Once the Leadership Foundation for Higher Education have confirmed participation from both academic and council partners in each of the areas, they will facilitate a discussion to agree the strategic context and priority challenge theme. LGA officers will work to ensure that these partnerships are fully inclusive and the agreed outcomes are suitably focused.
9. These proposals will be developed over the summer and autumn in anticipation of a peer review session on 21 November. It is proposed that the results of each of the Action Learning Partnerships will be presented at a national event in February 2017.
10. LGA officers will continue to update members of the People and Places Board as the project develops, potentially bringing forward a more detailed paper in early autumn, once more substantial progress in each of the pilot areas has been made.

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.timeshighereducation.com/news/english-universities-team-councils-boost-regions>

<sup>2</sup> <http://www.themj.co.uk/LGA-in-universities-link-up/204106>



## End of Year Board Report

### Purpose of report

For information and discussion.

### Summary

This report provides an overview of the issues and work the board has overseen during last year. It sets out key achievements in relation to the priorities for the **People and Places Board** in 2015/2016, and looks forward to next year's priorities.

### Recommendations

Members are invited to:

- (a) Note the achievements against the board's priorities in 2015/2016 and
- (b) Note the board's proposed priority areas for 2016/17

### Action

Officers to action as appropriate.

**Contact officer:** Eleanor Reader-Moore  
**Position:** Member Services Officer  
**Phone no:** 020 7664 3383  
**E-mail:** [eleanor.reader-moore@local.gov.uk](mailto:eleanor.reader-moore@local.gov.uk)

## **End of Year Board Report**

### **Background and Context**

1. The People and Places Board was created by the LGA General Assembly in early 2014 to provide a clear voice and resource for non-metropolitan authorities within the LGA. The board's membership and terms of reference were reviewed by the Combined Authorities Working Group this year. The LGA Executive has asked for reports on the work of all boards over the past year, and so this paper sets out the board's achievements during the 2015/2016 board cycle and offers reflections on its work.
2. Members are asked to consider the achievements against the use of allocated resources and reflect on whether the board is continuing to meet its original purpose within the context of the changing geography and governance of non-metropolitan areas.

### **Priorities and Achievements**

#### **Devolution**

3. In the past year, board members have continued to shape and influence the devolution agenda, advocating for greater devolution to non-metropolitan areas and offering support for areas as further devolution deals have been agreed. In late 2015, members steered LGA lobbying on the Cities and Local Government Devolution Bill as it passed through the House of Lords and successfully pressed for amendments that would help to bring more transparency to the deals process.
4. With support from board members, the LGA has refreshed the online 'DevoNext hub' to provide a resource for councils with technical information, guidance, updates on the most recent activity at local and national government level, and key documents from devolution frontrunners. It is highly regarded and receives more than 6,000 unique visits a month.
5. Steered by the Board, the LGA continues to support councils across the country in negotiating and implementing devolution deals. This has included a focus on governance, political leadership and communication. Building on initial ideas from the Board to draft a prospectus spelling out the opportunities presented by devolution, officers are now working on a Devolution Green Paper, which will be presented at the LGA Annual Conference in July.

#### **Devolving Skills and Employment**

6. Securing further devolution of skills and employment support has been a key focus of the Board this year. With the City Regions and the Community and Wellbeing Boards, the Board commissioned the Centre for Economic and Social Inclusion to develop the detail of a devolved employment model for the most disadvantaged jobseekers / ESA claimants. The proposal was submitted to ministers at the beginning of November 2015 by the board leads with the aim of influencing Spending Review decisions.
7. In January, a new specialist Work and Health Programme (WHP) was announced in the Spending Review for claimants with health conditions, disabilities or those unemployed for over two years to replace the Work Programme and Work Choice contracts in 2017.



LGA officers have been in discussions with DWP to ensure local government has as much involvement as possible in this area. Ten devolution deal areas are now working bilaterally with DWP on the design and commissioning of the WHP in their local area.

### **Broadband**

8. The board continues to recognise the importance of achieving fast and reliable rural broadband and mobile coverage. Members oversaw the LGA submission to the Culture Media and Sport Select Committee Inquiry into establishing world-class connectivity throughout the UK, with the Board's chair meeting CMS Committee Chair, Jesse Norman MP, and securing a council evidence session. The Board commissioned officers to organise a joint event with Government in March for councils to find out about alternative solutions to extend broadband in hard to reach areas.
9. LGA's officers launched the Board-commissioned Up to Speed Campaign in May 2016. Officers have also explored the role the LGA and local government can play in mobile connectivity agenda going forward.

### **Leading Places Project**

10. In partnership with Universities UK and the Higher Education Funding Council for England, the LGA is working to deliver a programme of leadership development for both the higher education and local government sectors in support of devolution, public service reform and economic growth. Following the programme's launch in May, six pilot areas are currently developing local partnership and project arrangements, aiming to conclude in February 2017.

### **Programme of work and priorities 2016/17**

11. The board will continue to work on devolution and support non-metropolitan areas progressing with deals. The board will respond to feedback from the sector on the Devolution Green Paper and officers will take forward work as directed by Board members in the autumn. The board will also continue to feed into the LGA's work on business rates reform.
12. Officers will undertake a programme of work on the future role of public employment services and skills devolution. They will also continue discussions with DWP on the Work and Health Programme (WHP) and ensure local government is involved in this area.
13. The board will continue to build its work to date, including the Up to Speed campaign. It will also explore the role the councils can play to improve rural mobile connectivity. The direction of this work will be discussed at the next board.
14. The board will monitor the work of the Leading Places Project in each pilot area. Conclusions and learning will be drawn from the priority challenge themes chosen and the methods in which local authorities and local institutions successfully work together.

### **Financial Implications**

15. All work programmes are met from existing budgets and resources.





## **Skills and Employment Update – Next Steps**

For discussion and direction.

### **Summary**

Following the decisions Lead Members of the City Regions and People and Places Boards took on the next stages of LGA employment and skills work, this paper sets out how we develop this. Officers to progress as directed by members.

### **Recommendation**

Members are asked to note the update.

### **Action**

Officers to take forward any actions as directed by members.

**Contact officer:** Jasbir Jhas

**Position:** Senior Adviser

**Email:** [jasbir.jhas@local.gov.uk](mailto:jasbir.jhas@local.gov.uk)

**Telephone:** 020 7664 3114

## **Skills and Employment Update – Next Steps**

### **BACKGROUND**

1. Members agreed that the LGA's 2016/2017 work continues to ensure the sector benefits from the devolution deal process, and makes the case for the wider employment and skills system to be localised.
2. Broadly this includes a **devolved mainstream skills system** – further education, 16-19, adult skills, apprenticeships, higher skills, learner loans and careers advice and guidance for all ages – to prepare people to enter and progress into jobs market. Alongside this, a **locally responsive re-engagement system** – commissioning Jobcentre Plus and back to work schemes – is critical to help people who require extra support to enter, get back into, or progress in work.

### **LOCALISING DWP'S APPROACH TO EMPLOYMENT SUPPORT**

3. Members agreed that forging a new relationship with DWP was critical to achieving this.

### **NEW: LGA / DWP Partnership Accord**

4. Renewing the LGA initiated high level partnership accord with DWP will be important. This should aim to set out the suite of issues that central and local government commit to work on together to improve operations on the ground. This should also bring on board the LEP voice.

### **NEW: Employment support - the Work and Health Programme**

5. DWP's Work and Health Programme (WHP) for claimants with health conditions or disabilities and those unemployed for over two years will replace the Work Programme (WP) and Work Choice in 2017. The budget, £130 million per year, is a fifth of the WP size. Jobcentre Plus will support all other JSA claimants up to their eligibility on WHP.
6. DWP is working with ten devolution deal areas to co-design / co-commission WHP. Outside of these areas, a 'national offer' will apply. The LGA / DWP has developed joint work to engage the sector in the co-design of it. This includes three national consultation events during May 2016 and an Expert Working Group to develop policy recommendations which will be submitted to the DWP Employment Ministers later in June before being signed approved by both Boards (within the first two weeks of June). The intention is that this will drive WHP operations delivered across England giving local government a clear role through the design, procurement and live running. The aim is to use this joint working to influence other parts of the DWP's employability offer.

**NEW: Making the case for a more local public employment service**

7. Given the expiry of Job Centre Plus estate contracts in 2018, Members were keen to influence the debate on the future of the public employment service, and explore the potential role of local government. This would need to reflect the changing role of JCP which is now moving to helping people into jobs and career progression given the majority of benefit administration will move online. To support this, the LGA could commission research in two stages.
8. The first step could be to provide a scoping paper which is presented to both Boards for discussion. This could identify what the system currently does, including:
  - 8.1 Evidence of what works and how local government is involved (MyGo in Suffolk etc).
  - 8.2 The extent to which local jobs (quantity/type) are advertised in JCP.
  - 8.3 the alignment of JCP / National Careers Service in a local area.
  - 8.4 Segmenting the labour market and identifying how people find jobs.
  - 8.5 Types of customer within the workforce who do / do not present at JCP.
9. The second step would be to use the outcomes of the scoping work to set out a local government vision for a locally accountable public employment service would look like which also captures international evidence and the local business voice. This could potentially be set out as a Green Paper towards the end of 2016 to influence DWP decisions.

**ENHANCING COUNCILS' INFLUENCE OVER THE SKILLS SPECTRUM**

**ONGOING - Area Based Reviews (ABR) and Adult Education Budget (AEB)**

10. Local areas are at various stages of reviewing the Further Education colleges. Given the first wave has just concluded, the LGA could usefully play a role in sharing learning with subsequent waves. Elsewhere on the skills agenda, devolution of the AEB has been widely seen as a positive step. However with it comes new transfers of legislative responsibilities, bringing risks as well as opportunities. It will be important to ensure this progressive agenda continues proportionately and that the LGA helps part of Whitehall join up their thinking.

**NEW: Joining up the skills jigsaw**

11. Members agreed that officers pursue a broad ranging piece of work which could highlight the role local government could play across the entire skills system. As well as capturing their new AEB role through devolution, it could also explore a potential role in:

- 11.1 Galvanising a partnership approach to an all age local careers service bringing together the fragmented services of councils, the Careers and Enterprise Company, and the National Careers Service. This is timely given Whitehall departments are currently exploring a new blueprint for the careers service.
- 11.2 Supporting small and medium sized enterprises (SMEs) to create apprenticeship opportunities given they are currently excluded from the new Levy contributions which will commence in April 2017.
- 11.3 Maximise opportunities for extended learner loan system. This part of the skills system is underperforming yet its uptake is important for adults in low pay, low wage jobs who may be unable to self-finance their upskilling / reskilling. Identifying joint work with a LEP, college and employer will be explored.

## Note of last People & Places Board meeting

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**Title:** People & Places Board  
**Date:** Monday 14 March 2016  
**Venue:** Smith Square 1&2, Ground Floor, Local Government House, Smith Square, London, SW1P 3HZ

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### Attendance

An attendance list is attached as **Appendix A** to this note

Item	Decisions and actions	Action
<b>1</b>	<b>Welcome, Introductions and Declarations of Interest</b>  The chair welcomed members to the meeting and noted apologies. There were no declarations of interest.  It was agreed that the Devolution Update agenda item would be moved to the exempt session at the end of the meeting.	
<b>2</b>	<b>Employment and Skills: Update Paper</b>  Eamon Lally (Senior Adviser) introduced the paper. He updated members on the LGA's lobbying position on employment and skills. He drew the board's attentions to work the LGA was undertaking with the Department of Work and Pensions on the Work and Health Programme. He also highlighted developments for the adult education budget, apprenticeships and the future of Job Centre Plus. He informed the board that officers would also be working with the City Regions Board on this area.  In the discussion which followed, members raised the following points: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• There was concern about the potential impact of the government apprenticeship levy. Reduced workforces made it difficult for local government to take on more apprentices and it was unclear how government would spend the levy.</li><li>• Local government should continue to voice its concerns on the skills shortages problems to central government. Businesses were frequently unable to recruit apprentices because of a lack of candidates with the right skills. This situation had not been fully noted in the report.</li><li>• The report needed to take account of the problems of the lack of transportation in rural areas for young people trying to get to college. Distance learning was not always an alternative, as an area needed good mobile and broadband provision for this to work. There were additional problems with recruiting staff to train apprentices in rural areas, because of the housing crisis.</li></ul>	

- Work in this area also needed to take into account that many people would need retraining at some point in their lives. Work could be done to better make use of existing skills.
- There was concern that there was some reticence from government departments in allowing local government to work on this area. It was argued that it was important for areas outside devolution agreements to be able to influence the process, and that the provision of good skills training should not be dependent on being part of a devolution deal.
- Colleges currently decided what skills/training courses were on offer and did not necessarily teach the skills most needed. The desire to rank highly in the educational league tables encouraged educational institutions to focus on sending their students to sixth form and university. There was not enough value placed on apprenticeships as an alternative. Local government and LEPs needed to help connect companies and schools/colleagues and assist them in generating people with the right skills. The area needed better planning, co-ordination and delivery. It was emphasised that the LGA People and Places and City Regions Boards needed to present a common front in this area.
- There was a further question raised over who would deliver the post 16 education and training institutions area based reviews.

**Actions:**

1. LGA officers would circulate the article in the Sunday Times on a mismatch in higher education.
2. The chair would set out the board's position on this area in the Skills and Employment Meeting between People and Places and City Regions Boards Lead Members.
3. The MSO would type up notes before this joint meeting.

**Decisions:**

1. Members **noted** the report.
2. Members **agreed** that officers would continue to work with government departments and find opportunities to engage with ministers and LEPs on this.
3. Members **agreed** that officers would set out reasons in a green paper on why local government should be involved in this area.

**3 LGA Transport Policy**

Kamal Panchal, Senior Adviser, introduced the paper, which had been requested by the LGA Leadership Board. He discussed funding, highlighting that although capital budgets had upheld well, there was still a problem with fragmented funding and a mismatch between capital and revenue. He advised the board that requests in devolution deals for funding/ specific powers had included bus franchising and traffic management powers. In the deals announced so far, six or seven had



included offers of franchising/regulating buses. Franchising, however, would not be a solution in all areas. He advised the board that the LGA would continue to call for full funding of the statutory concessionary bus scheme.

On air quality, affected areas included Birmingham, Nottingham, Leeds, Derby and Southampton. The government intends to impose clean air zones in these places and set a clean air zones framework for other areas.. However, this would need local flexibility to effectively deal with local circumstances.

In the discussion which followed, members raised the following points:

- Some areas were calling for more control over rail and bus franchising. There were problems when bus operators cut routes and rail companies closed ticket offices without consultation. Members felt it would be useful to have more influence in this area.
- Members felt that there was a communication issue between Network Rail and local government and that the relationship would benefit from being formalised.
- On air quality, there needed to be a more cohesive approach than setting a clean air zone standard in only five cities. Members asked who would take responsibility for air quality management, as in some two-tier areas responsibility was divided. The issue needed to be resolved by one organisation.
- A smart ticketing system combining tickets for rail and bus would make travel considerably easier in some areas and members asked the LGA to consider advocating this. There were also calls for tickets to be interchangeable between rail operators for increased flexibility. It was highlighted however, that some companies did not have the funding to do this and this was a problem that had not been addressed.
- There needed to be major spending on transport infrastructure but there was currently not enough money for local government do this. Members commented that it was difficult to maintain local transport services, let alone improve them. It was felt that local government needed to highlight this problem.
- Members discussed the pothole fund and asked when this would be released. Non-metropolitan areas maintained miles of road, but had little funding to do this. This had not been mentioned in the report. There was also no funding for dealing with drains and removing water from roads to make sure the network was resilient. There were frequent problems with HGV vehicles and buses becoming stuck in rural places.

**Decision:**

1. Members **noted** the report and the work being led by the EEHT Board.

**Actions:**

1. LGA officers to feedback members' comments to EEHT Board.
2. LGA officers to submit a revised transport paper to the LGA Leadership Board.

**4 Update Superfast Broadband**

Daniel Shamplin-Hall, Adviser, introduced the paper and provided an update on LGA activity. He advised the board that there would be a Superfast Broadband Conference on Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> March 2016. During this, solutions would be explored for reaching the final 5% of the country not covered by superfast broadband. This would be an opportunity to hear about other market test pilots, other network providers and councils with experience of procuring solutions. On mobile connectivity, he informed the board that the government had obligated mobile operators to extend coverage across the country by 2017. The LGA would work with mobile network operators in this area.

In this discussion which followed, members raised the following points:

- Members expressed their concern that many rural areas are still cut off from superfast broadband. It was felt that enforcement fines needed to be put in place to deal with this.
- The quality of broadband was also discussed as it could take a long time to get a connection after a cabinet went up in a rural area. It was felt that there was less incentive to speed up this process where low numbers of people lived. Community funding was discussed and groups that had self-funded their broadband.
- Members felt that some mobile phone operators lacked understanding on how to engage with local communities. Local authorities needed to help mobile phone operators to reach these communities.

**Decision:**

1. Members **noted** the report.

**Actions:**

1. LGA officers to put together feedback from members on this area.
2. LGA officers to send a note on the Superfast Broadband Conference to members.

## 5 LGA Devolution Support Activity

### Decision:

1. Members **noted** the update.

## 6 Devolution Update (Confidential)

Andrew Campbell, Associate Director, introduced the report. He advised the board that a “green paper” on devolution for the LGA Conference had been discussed at the last LGA Leadership Board. It was felt that the LGA should be pushing the government to take devolution further. He discussed changes to business rates and the possibilities offered by further fiscal devolution in the future. He asked what further powers authorities should be seeking at the combined authority level and for members to give the LGA a steer on this.

Public engagement in the devolution debate was also discussed, as was the impact on the LGA. Changes to the role of regulators, national agencies and arm’s length bodies in local places was also touched upon. He proposed coming back to update the board at regular intervals.

In the discussion which followed, members raised the following points:

- The green paper would need to set out a vision and an agenda for devolution. Local government should pitch what devolution could achieve and make recommendations to government.
- Members questioned the relevance of “devolution plus” when many felt that full devolution had not yet been achieved. Some deals needed to be revisited and reflected on. The LGA could also assist some areas in helping to reach agreement on deals. It was felt the fundamental building blocks of devolution would need to be in place before other issues were considered.
- Devolution plus would need to make the case for policies such as devolved control of stamp duty and the introduction of a tourism tax, but also emphasise that responsibility should bring freedom. The green paper should pitch the principles of this. Members also highlighted the complexities of devolving Stamp Duty, particularly in more rural areas.
- Members felt devolution had been partly undermined by the Housing and Planning Bill as some powers had been taken back into government. There needed to be a joined up approach and better relationships between local government and other public bodies.
- Many authorities were still uncomfortable with the idea of an elected mayor. Members asked the LGA to consider a survey across LGA membership to get a sense of views on this. The differences and obstacles in governance models and what would work for cities and rural areas also needed to be considered.

- There were still problems engaging with local MPs on the devolution agenda and members felt they were at times having to convince MPs of the government's policy. The green paper would need to tackle this issue.
- Members highlighted the importance of taking a phased approach to devolution deals (as in Greater Manchester). Central government could be reluctant to give power and money until it was clear local government had the ability to manage them.
- The problems with communicating with the public on devolution were highlighted. It had been difficult to engage with the electorate in a meaningful way due to the fast-changing nature of the discussions.
- Some of the deals proposed to date had formed very large areas whilst others had been small. The green paper would need to set out a coherent framework and highlight some of the inconsistencies in the government's approach. It was also felt that there would need to be a balance in what was offered to areas both with and without a mayor. It was suggested that a working group could be set up with representatives from the People and Places Board to look at this.
- There was some concern about the management of transport authorities and whether control of these should rest with an elected mayor. This would need to be discussed with government.
- It was suggested it would be useful to look at governance models for local government in other parts of the world, to inform and challenge perceptions.

**Decisions:**

1. Members **noted** the report.
2. Members **agreed** that a Green Paper be prepared for the LGA's Annual Conference.

**Actions:**

1. LGA officers to consider a survey across LGA membership to get a sense of views on the elected mayor governance model.
2. LGA officers to look at a working group with representatives from the People and Places Board to look at a coherent framework for devolution deals.

**7 Minutes of the Last Meeting**

**Decision:**

1. Members **agreed** the minutes of the last board meeting.

**Appendix A -Attendance**

Position/Role	Councillor	Authority
Chairman	Cllr Mark Hawthorne MBE	Gloucestershire County Council
Vice-Chairman	Cllr Gillian Brown	Arun District Council
	Cllr Alan Rhodes	Nottinghamshire County Council
Deputy-chairman	Cllr Heather Kidd	Shropshire Council
	Cllr John Pollard	Cornwall Council
Members	Cllr Sarah Osborne	Lewes District Council
	Cllr Vince Maple	Medway Council
	Cllr Jennifer Mein	Lancashire County Council
	Cllr Andrew Bowles	Swale Borough Council
	Cllr Paul Carter CBE	Kent County Council
	Cllr Kenneth Meeson	Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council
	Cllr Stan Collins	South Lakeland District Council
	Cllr Derek Bastiman	Scarborough Borough Council
	Cllr Roger Blaney	Newark & Sherwood District Council
	Cllr Chris Hayward	Hertfordshire County Council
	Cllr John Osman	Somerset County Council
	Cllr Caitlin Bisknell	Derbyshire County Council
	Cllr Clive Woodbridge	Epsom and Ewell Borough Council
	Cllr Chris Townsend	Mole Valley District Council
Apologies	Cllr Philip Atkins	Staffordshire County Council
	Cllr Paul Diviani	East Devon District Council
	Cllr Mike Jones	Cheshire West and Chester Council
	Cllr Amanda Martin	Council of the Isles of Scilly



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# LGA location map

## Local Government Association

Local Government House  
 Smith Square  
 London SW1P 3HZ

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)

## 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

## 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)

## 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)

