

## Note of last Resources Board meeting

---

**Title:** Resources Board  
**Date:** Monday 5 December 2016  
**Venue:** Rooms A&B, Ground Floor, Layden House, 76-86 Turnmill Street,  
London, EC1M 5LG

---

### Attendance

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

Item	Decisions and actions
------	-----------------------

**1**      **Declarations of Interest**

No declarations were made.

**2**      **Minutes of the previous meeting held on 23 September 2016**

**Decision**

The minutes of the previous meeting held on 23 September 2016 were agreed as a correct record.

**3**      **EU Funding Working Group Update (Confidential)**

Cllr Clarence Barrett (Lead Member for EU Funding) introduced the report which updated on the work of the EU Funding Task Group.

There followed a confidential discussion.

**Decision**

The Resources Board agreed the headline local government 'asks', the broad principles and the forward work programme of the EU Funding Task Group subject to the inclusion of their comment.

**4**      **Workforce Update**

Sarah Messenger (Head of Workforce) and Jeff Huston (Head of Pensions) introduced the report which updated on workforce activity in the areas of: Workforce Strategy; Pay; and Negotiation. In doing so, they sought Members' views on two specific issues: sleeping in payment; and a Public Health England network on compassionate management.

In the following discussion, several comments were made, including:

- There was a lengthy discussion regarding the potential options to address the issues of compliance with the National Living Wage (NLW) for staff required to "sleep-in", in which a number of different

and contrasting views were expressed. Given the complexity of the issues and the significant impact, the Board asked for a report setting out the implications of the various options as well as examples from across the public and private sector. In the interests of expediency, it was agreed that this report would be circulated to the Board, whom would feed their views into Lead Members to make a decision.

- With regards to the invitation to join a Public Health England social movement on compassionate management, the Board questioned the purpose and objective of the network and emphasised the importance of targeting resources effectively. Within this context, they agreed that the invitation be declined unless there was strong supporting evidence to the contrary.
- Questions were asked regarding the precise challenges of recruiting and retaining planning specialists and joint working between the NHS and local government on the workforce aspects of health and social care integration.

### **Decisions**

The Resources Board:

- i. noted the update;
- ii. agreed that a report setting out the options around compliance with the National Living Wage (NLW) for staff required to “sleep-in” be shared with the Board and sent to Lead Members for decision; and
- iii. agreed not to join Public Health England’s social movement for compassionate management unless further compelling evidence was submitted to the Board.

### **Actions**

Provide further information on whether the LGA is planning to explore developing a sector wide Apprenticeship programme. [**Sarah Messenger**]

Circulate report on compliance with the National Living Wage (NLW) for staff required to “sleep-in”. [**Sarah Messenger**]

## **5 Autumn Statement 2016**

Sarah Pickup (Deputy Chief Executive) introduce the report which outlined the key announcements in the 2016 Autumn Statement with implications for local government.

The update was noted without further comment.

### **Decision**

The Board noted the content of the Autumn Statement and the update report.

## **6 Local Government Finance Update**

Mike Heiser (Senior Adviser) introduced the report which updated on the LGA's work on local government finance policy that has not already been covered on the agenda.

In response to Members' questions, the Board were provided with an update on the latest with regards to applications for charitable relief by NHS Trusts and a number of rateable value appeals by power stations.

### **Decision**

The Resources Board noted the update.

## **7 Business Rates Retention and Financial Reform**

David Phillips from the Institute for Fiscal Studies (IFS) provided a detailed presentation on the implications of the Autumn Statement for local government, as well as the Institute's initial findings from their research programme into local government finance and devolution. In doing so, he covered: borrowing forecast variations and the impact of policy changes; trends in capital departmental spending; resource spending pressures on councils; and the impact of grant allocation across different authority types. With regards to 100% Business Rates retention and the IFS's work, he touched upon: the issue of balance between incentivisation and equalisation; the quantum of funding and devolution of additional responsibilities; revaluation and appeals; and practices from the devolved administrations.

In the discussion that followed, Members asked a number of detailed questions regarding: methodology; the data sets used in calculating the share in national growth in business rates data across authority areas and type; the inclusion of Enterprise Zones in the forecasts; and recent changes to population data.

The Board thanked David for his informative presentation.

### **Decision**

The Resources Board noted the presentation.

### **Action**

Circulate the presentation to Board Members.

## **8 Response to Markets in Financial Instruments Directive II Implementation: Consultation Paper III**

Jeff Huston (Head of Pensions) and Bevis Ingram (Senior Adviser) presented the report which set out the implications for councils – both from a pensions and treasury management perspective – of the Financial Conduct Authority's (FCA) consultation on the implementation of the Markets in Financial Instruments Directive II (MiFID II).

In the following discussion, Members were united in the view that the LGA's response be strengthened to: highlight the very significant

consequences of the proposal; seek clarity on the FCA's proposal to 'gold plate' the levels set out in the EU Directive; and make the case that as precepting bodies, local authorities are unique and should be treated accordingly.

### **Decision**

The Resources Board agreed the LGA's draft response to the Financial Conduct Authority's consultation on the implementation of the Markets in Financial Instruments Directive II (MiFID II) be updated in line with their views and submitted to Lead Members for sign off.

### **Action**

Update LGA's consultation response and circulate to Resources Board Lead Members for clearance [**Bevis Ingram and Jeff Huston**].

## **Appendix A -Attendance**

Position/Role	Councillor	Authority
Chairman	Cllr Claire Kober OBE	Haringey Council
Vice-Chairman	Cllr John Fuller	South Norfolk District Council
Deputy-chairman	Cllr Clarence Barrett	Havering London Borough Council
	Cllr Claire Hudson	Mendip District Council
Members	Cllr Nigel Ashton	North Somerset Council
	Cllr James Jamieson	Central Bedfordshire Council
	Cllr Mary Malin	Kettering Borough Council
	Cllr Barry Macleod-Cullinane	Harrow Council
	Cllr Roger Phillips	Herefordshire Council
	Cllr David Renard	Swindon Borough Council
	Cllr Rishi Shori	Bury Metropolitan Borough Council
	Cllr Aaron Shotton	Flintshire County Council
	Cllr Sian Timoney	Luton Borough Council
	Cllr Sarah Hayward	Camden Council
	Cllr Peter Marland	Milton Keynes Council
	Cllr Norman Keats	Knowsley Metropolitan Borough Council
	Cllr Linda Van den Hende	Havering London Borough Council
Cllr Simon Shaw	Sefton Metropolitan Borough Council	
Apologies	Cllr Tom Beattie	Corby Borough Council