

Note of last Improvement & Innovation Board meeting

Title: Improvement & Innovation Board
Date: Tuesday 12 May 2015
Venue: Smith Square 3&4, Ground Floor, Local Government House, Smith Square, London, SW1P 3HZ

Attendance

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

Item	Decisions and actions	Action
1	Declarations of Interest The Chairman welcomed members to the meeting and particularly congratulated Imran Hussain and Kate Hollern who were both elected Members of Parliament. No declarations of interest were made.	
2	Innovation in Councils Dennis Skinner and Rhian Gladman introduced the report which provided members with an update on the LGA's work to support innovation in councils. He highlighted three areas of innovation work: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Innovation Zone• Innovative councils' webpage• Design in the Public Sector Programme. Members praised the work and wished to see it gain further national coverage. Decision Member noted the report.	
3	Data and Local Transparency Cllr Roy Perry and Gesche Schmid introduced a report which updated members on progress with the local transparency programme since October 2014. Members discussed the importance and value of data, and looked at the barriers some councils face in digital sharing. There is a white paper expected that will help tackle such barriers to information sharing.	

Members were concerned that the costs of publishing data were not being met fully and raised the importance of ongoing conversations with DCLG.

Decision

Members **confirmed** Cllr Roy Perry is the lead for local transparency.

Members **agreed** the proposal for a digital and data strategy and endorsed the approach for Cllr Theo Blackwell (London Borough of Camden) to lead on the data vision and seek members' input through a summit.

Members **noted** the updates regarding the existing programme, with reference to the Local Government Transparency Code and the open data funding programmes.

Members **noted** and **approved** the LGA approach to information sharing and the transfer of local land charges.

4 LGA Boards' Improvement Activity

Nick Easton introduced the report which detailed the improvement activities undertaken by the LGA Boards.

Members discussed the work of the Children and Young People Board in relation to cost of Ofsted's improvement activity and the fairness of non-school Ofsted inspections.

Members discussed the need for a multi-agency approach to improvement in children's services and the importance of clear and consistent messaging.

Decision

Members **noted** the report.

5 Productivity Programme 2015/16

Alan Finch introduced the report which updated the Board on the progress being made in the Productivity Programme.

There are three main ways councils are reducing budgets:

- Transforming services
- Smarter sourcing
- Generating income

Members also discuss how best the LGA could help councils maximise the benefits and understand the risks of digitalisation.

7 Note of the Previous Meeting

The note of the last meeting was agreed.

Appendix A -Attendance

Position/Role	Councillor	Authority
Chairman	Cllr Peter Fleming	Sevenoaks District Council
Vice-Chairman	Cllr Jill Shortland OBE	Somerset County Council
Deputy-chairman	Cllr Judi Billing	North Hertfordshire District Council
Members	Cllr Claudia Webbe	Islington Council
	Cllr Phil Davies	Wirral Metropolitan Borough Council
	Cllr Bob Price	Oxford City Council
	Cllr Sue Whitaker	Norfolk County Council
	Cllr Roy Perry	Hampshire County Council
	Cllr Richard Stay	Central Bedfordshire Council
	Cllr Tony Jackson	East Herts Council
	Cllr Dominic Gilham	Hillingdon London Borough Council
	Cllr Barry Wood	Cherwell District Council
	Cllr John Blackie	Richmondshire District Council
	Cllr Michael Haines	Teignbridge District Council
	Mr Richard Priestman	Local Government Improvement and Development
	Mr Philip Sellwood	Energy Saving Trust (EST)
	Cllr Paul Bettison	Bracknell Forest Borough Council
	Cllr Howard Sykes MBE	Oldham Metropolitan Borough Council
Apologies	Cllr Darren Cooper	Sandwell Metropolitan Borough Council
	Cllr Kate Hollern	Blackburn with Darwen Borough Council
	Cllr Imran Hussain	Bradford Metropolitan District Council
	Cllr Keith Glazier	East Sussex County Council
	Cllr Teresa O'Neill	Bexley Council
	Cllr Glen Miller	Bradford Metropolitan District Council
	Cllr Theresa Higgins	Essex County Council
	Cllr Shirley Flint	North Kesteven District Council
	Cllr Bryony Rudkin	Suffolk County Council
In Attendance		
LGA Officers		

