

## Note of last Environment, Economy, Housing & Transport Board meeting

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<b>Title:</b>	Environment, Economy, Housing & Transport Board
<b>Date:</b>	Tuesday 22 March 2022
<b>Venue:</b>	Hybrid Meeting - 18 Smith Square and Online

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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, Apologies and Substitutes, Declarations of Interest</b>  The Chairman welcomed and introduced Members to the Environment, Economy, Housing & Transport Board meeting.  Apologies were received from Cllr Mark Crane, Cllr Martin Gannon, Mayor Philip Glanville, Cllr Pippa Heylings, Cllr Paul Marshall, Cllr Darren Rodwell and Cllr Vikki Slade.  Cllr Tony Ball, Cllr Stewart Golton, Cllr Imogen Payter, Cllr Clare Penny-Evans and Cllr Martin Whelton were in attendance as substitutes.  For transparency, the Chairman declared, for item 5 that he was Leader of Swindon Council which was one of the new local planning authorities subjected to advice on nutrient neutrality	
<b>2</b>	<b>Council Housebuilding</b>  The Chairman introduced Victoria Latham, Deputy Director, Local Authority Housing & Right to Buy from the Department of Levelling up, Housing & Communities (DLUHC) to give a <a href="#">presentation</a> on the work towards council housebuilding.  Members made the following comments: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• New council houses were being built, but a larger challenge was to make the existing stock more carbon efficient. There was a lack of long-term funding to help decarbonise homes.</li><li>• Concerns were raised that material requirements planning (MRP) had been making housebuilding unaffordable for councils.</li><li>• Members raised that many refugees from recent conflicts were staying in hotels while waiting to be housed, increasing pressure on councils to deliver housing.</li></ul>	

In response, Victoria Latham made the following comments:

- The development of new builds was welcomed news, and it was recognised that it was not ideal that councils needed to bid for various funding pots. There would be collaboration with the Department for Business, Energy, and Industrial Strategy to determine a long-term plan to decarbonise homes.
- Members were invited to provide further feedback relating to the MRP so that it could be passed on to HM Treasury and local government finance team at DLUHC

The Chairman thanked Victoria Latham for her attendance.

**Decision:**

1. Members noted the key issues outlined in paragraphs 6-10 to the report.
2. Members noted the LGA next steps as set out in paragraph 12 to the report.

**3 Building Safety Update**

The Chairman invited Francis Soukila, Graduate Trainee Adviser, to present the report which outlined the progress on building safety since the last Board meeting which included the Building Safety Bill which was currently at the House of Lords, remediation, and future policy.

**Decision:**

Members noted the update.

**4 Transport - Fixed Penalty Notices and Buses Funding update**

The Chairman invited Kamal Panchal, Senior Adviser, to present the report which sought views from Members on proposals to seek powers which would allow local authorities outside of London to issue Fixed Penalty Notices for offenses such as unlicensed skips and wilful obstruction of the highways.

Also included in the report was an update on Bus Recovery Funding.

Members made the following comments:

- Thanks was given to the Chairman and officers for their work lobbying the government following the announcement that there would be an additional £150 million in funding for bus and light rail operators until October 2022.
- Members expressed their support to seeking powers for local authorities to issue Fixed Penalty Notices.
- It was queried who would have the receipts of the notices.

In response, Kamal Panchal made the following comments:

- Consideration would be given to which authority would receive the

finances as it would be more complicated in areas with two tiered authorities than in the unitary authorities and in London boroughs.

- The progress of this would be brought back to a future Board meeting.

**Decision:**

1. Members agreed that the LGA should support the call as raised by Thurrock and the consortium of Essex Councils
2. Members endorsed the LGA undertaking further work on this issue.
3. Member noted the information on the Bus Recovery Grant.

**5 EEHT Update / Other Board Business**

The Chairman invited Hilary Tanner, Adviser, to present the supplementary information to the report. The Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs announced that 42 new local planning authorities were subject to advice on nutrient neutrality.

Eamon Lally, Principal Policy Adviser, outlined the rest of the update report, and highlighted that the LGA had sent a letter to the Chancellor setting out asks of the Spring Statement with much of them relating to issues under the Board's remit.

**Decision:**

Members noted the update.

**6 Minutes of the previous meeting**

The Minutes of the meeting held on 3 February 2022 were agreed as an accurate record.

**7 Road Pricing - LGA Work - CONFIDENTIAL**

*Please refer to the confidential minutes document for information related to this item.*

**Appendix A -Attendance**

Position/Role	Councillor	Authority
Chairman	Cllr David Renard	Swindon Borough Council
Vice-Chairman		
Deputy-chairman	Cllr Loic Rich	Cornwall Council
Members	Cllr Kelham Cooke	South Kesteven District Council
	Cllr Daniel Humphreys	Worthing Borough Council
	Cllr Patrick Nicholson	Plymouth City Council

	Cllr Linda Taylor Cllr Tony Ball Cllr Imogen Payter Cllr Ed Turner Cllr Cathy Mitchell Cllr Emily Darlington Cllr Clare Penny-Evans Cllr Martin Whelton Cllr Stewart Golton Cllr David Beaman	Cornwall Council Essex County Council Havant Borough Council Oxford City Council Warrington Borough Council Milton Keynes Council Newcastle upon Tyne City Council Merton London Borough Council Leeds City Council Waverley Borough Council
Apologies	Cllr Mark Crane Cllr Paul Marshall Cllr Darren Rodwell  Cllr Martin Gannon Mayor Philip Glanville Cllr Pippa Heylings Cllr Vikki Slade	Selby District Council West Sussex County Council Barking and Dagenham London Borough Council Gateshead Council Hackney London Borough Council South Cambridgeshire District Council Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole Council
In Attendance	Cllr Ed Gemmell Cllr Phil Jordan Victoria Latham  Charlene Rohr Josh Evans Annette Smith Leora Wilson	Buckinghamshire Council Isle of Wight Council Department for Levelling Up, Housing & Communities Technical Principal, Mott MacDonald Mott MacDonald Mott MacDonald Mott MacDonald
LGA Officers	Jo Allchurch Calum Davidson Joe Difford Amy Haldane Simon Jeffrey Eamon Lally Kamal Panchal Nick Porter Francis Soukila Hilary Tanner	