

# Minutes of last Safer & Stronger Communities Board meeting

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## Safer & Stronger Communities Board

Thursday, 10 November 2022

Online via Teams

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### Attendance

An attendance list is attached as [Appendix A](#)

| Item | Decisions and actions |
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| <b>1</b> | <b>Welcome, Apologies and Substitutes, Declarations of Interest</b> |
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The Chair welcomed members of the Safer and Stronger Communities Board to the meeting.

Apologies were received from Cllr Karen Lucioni, Cllr Chidi Nweke attended as substitute

Cllr Lewis Cocking declared an interest in item 5 as the Deputy Police and Crime Commissioner for Hertfordshire. There were no other declarations of interest.

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| <b>2</b> | <b>Notes of previous meeting</b> |
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The minutes of the previous meeting were not agreed due to late circulation and would be deferred until the next meeting.

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| <b>3</b> | <b>LGA Plan 2022-25 and the priorities of other LGA Boards</b> |
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The Chair invited Mark Norris, Principal Policy Adviser, to introduce the report.

Mark reminded members that at the September Board meeting, they had requested information on the priorities of the LGA's other policy Boards, as well as the LGA's Business Plan, to help understand how the proposed SSCB priorities aligned with wider organisational priorities. This was set out in the report and the table in para 16 in particular was highlighted. Mark invited members to comment on and consider possible areas of joint interest with the other policy boards.

Members' views/comments:

- Members welcomed the report but sought more clarity on timings around when items would be brought back for discussion and how

to ensure there was not duplication between Boards. There was a specific request for the table in para 16 to include dates for objectives and whether they have been completed or not. The Chair asked whether the Forward Plan circulated amongst Lead Members was shared with the wider Board. Mark agreed that it would be helpful to include timings around actions and outcomes and this would be included moving forward. Mark agreed that the Forward Plan for Lead Members could be more closely aligned with the Board's work plan.

- It was suggested that the LGA Board and Executive Advisory Board were vital in terms of providing a steer to the Board on possible areas of collaboration to achieve the overarching goal of making communities safer and stronger.
- Members expressed an interest in the work of the Fire Services Management Committee with particular reference to possible strike action by Fire Brigades Union members. The Chair requested that officers draft a note for circulation to the Board on the legal position for Fire & Rescue Authorities in respect of strikes.

### **Decision**

SSCB **noted** the report having reviewed the LGA Plan and considered the changes which would help reflect the overall LGA direction and priorities. SSCB further **noted** the proposed priorities of other LGA Boards and areas of joint interest/potential overlap.

### **Actions**

- Officers to circulate a note regarding the legal position of the Fire services striking.

## **4 Covid-19 Public Inquiry and Resilience work**

Members had a confidential discussion on the COVID-19 Public Inquiry and Resilience work.

## **5 Manchester Arena Inquiry**

Members had a confidential discussion on the Manchester Arena Inquiry.

## **6 Update paper**

The Chair invited comments from members on issues of interest to the Board not covered under the other items.

Members' comments and questions:

- The Round Table with Dame Sara Khan was extremely useful in

terms of councillors' personal safety and the online abuse they experience.

- A request was made for a report to come to the Board on the issues around UASC and, in particular, the role of the Home Office. Members considered in particular that there was a need for Government to engage with local authorities sooner regarding placements. The Chair queried whether other LGA Boards were looking at this issue and, if so, requested a joined up approach, with some key asks being drawn up. Mark advised members that a Task group which reports to the Community Wellbeing Board, had been set up which had been lobbying around the points mentioned. He agreed to raise the points discussed by Members with the Chair of the Task group. Officers were in the process of gathering examples of how the Home Office was dispersing UASC into hotels without consulting local authorities, with potential links to children's safeguarding matters and modern slavery.

### Decision

SSCB **noted** the update.

### Actions

- Share what came out of the Round Table if possible.
- Mark to pick up separately with Chair to explain the role of the Task force under the CWB and how SSC can play their part.
- Mark to examine cross over with other Boards.

### Appendix A -Attendance

| Position/Role   | Councillor             | Authority                           |
|-----------------|------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Chairman        | Cllr Nesil Caliskan    | Enfield Council                     |
| Vice-Chairman   | Cllr Lewis Cocking     | Broxbourne Borough Council          |
| Deputy-chairman | Cllr Heather Kidd      | Shropshire Council                  |
|                 | Cllr Clive Woodbridge  | Epsom and Ewell Borough Council     |
| Members         | Cllr Eric Allen        | Sutton London Borough Council       |
|                 | Cllr Bill Borrett      | Norfolk County Council              |
|                 | Cllr Louise McKinlay   | Essex County Council                |
|                 | Cllr Julia Lepoidevin  | Coventry City Council               |
|                 | Cllr Lois Samuel       | West Devon Borough Council          |
|                 | Cllr Arnold Saunders   | Salford City Council                |
|                 | Cllr Jas Athwal        | Redbridge London Borough Council    |
|                 | Cllr Tracey Dixon      | South Tyneside Council              |
|                 | Cllr Jeanie Bell       | St Helens Council                   |
|                 | Cllr Amanda Chadderton | Oldham Metropolitan Borough Council |
|                 | Cllr Asher Craig       | Bristol City Council                |
|                 | Cllr James Dawson      | Erewash Borough Council             |
| Cllr Jon Ball   | Ealing Council         |                                     |

Apologies

Cllr Karen Lucioni

Isle of Wight Council

In Attendance

LGA Officers