

Terms of Reference: Safer & Stronger Communities Board

The purpose of the Safer and Stronger Communities Board is to provide strategic oversight of all the LGA's policy, regulatory and improvement activity in the promotion of the safety of local communities, including issues of crime and anti-social behaviour, policing, licensing, and emergency planning – in line with LGA priorities.

The Board will also have responsibility for LGA activity in relation to fire and rescue authority issues where the issues are of a cross-cutting nature or involve the setting of a new LGA policy. On such matters the Board may choose to seek recommendations or guidance from the Fire Services Management Committee, and from time to time may be requested by the Committee to consider recommendations on such matters.

Boards should seek to involve councillors in supporting the delivery of these priorities (through task groups, Special Interest Groups (SIGs), regional networks and other means of wider engagement); essentially operating as the centre of a network connecting to all councils and drawing on the expertise of key advisors from the sector.

The Safer and Stronger Communities Board will be responsible for:

1. Ensuring the priorities of councils are fed into the business planning process.
2. Developing a work programme to deliver their brief, covering lobbying, campaigns, research, improvement support in the context of the strategic framework set by Improvement & Innovation Board and events and linking with other boards where appropriate.
3. Sharing good practice and ideas to stimulate innovation and improvement.
4. Representing and lobbying on behalf of the LGA, including making public statements on its areas of responsibility.
5. Building and maintaining relationships with key stakeholders.
6. Involving representatives from councils in its work, through task groups, SIGs, regional networks and mechanisms.
7. Responding to specific issues referred to the Board by one or more member councils or groupings of councils.

The Safer and Stronger Communities Board may:

- Appoint members to relevant outside bodies in accordance with the Political Conventions.
- Appoint member champions from the Board to lead on key issues.

Quorum

One third of the members, provided that representatives of at least 2 political groups represented on the body are present.

Political Composition

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|-------------------------|-----------|
| Conservative group: | 7 members |
| Labour group: | 7 members |
| Independent group: | 2 members |
| Liberal Democrat group: | 2 members |

Substitute members from each political group may also be appointed.

Frequency per year

Meetings to be held five times per annum.

Reporting Accountabilities

The LGA Executive provides oversight of the Board. The Board may report periodically to the LGA Executive as required, and will submit an annual report to the Executive's July meeting.