

Board Priorities and Work Programme

Purpose

For discussion and direction.

Summary

This report sets out a draft list of priorities for the Board together with a draft work programme for the period to July 2017. A draft work programme is set out in **Appendix A**.

Recommendation

That the Board considers and agrees a final version of the Board's priorities and work programme

Action

Officers will take action as directed.

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Board Priorities and Work Programme

Background

1. The EEHT Board in liaison with the LGA's Leadership Board is responsible for establishing LGA policy and lobbying positions in relation to the Environment, Economy, Housing and Transport. This is a very wide brief and members have found it helpful to prioritise their work to be effective and achieve the best outcomes for the local government sector.
2. The events of the last few months, including the EU referendum vote and the establishment of, in all practical senses, a new government under the leadership of Theresa May, provide opportunities and challenges for the LGA to support councils to meet their objectives.

Draft priorities and work programme

3. In prioritising, the Board will want to be aware of the issues that are being raised by councils and the government's own priorities. The Board will also want to make a judgement on where it can make the most significant contribution.
4. At this time there appears to be consensus on the big issues to be addressed, both at a national and local level. As the government prepares for an Autumn Statement on 23 November, housing and how to ensure that investment in infrastructure delivers quick returns to the economy are high on the agenda. These are well aligned with the LGA's own priorities and are within the scope of the EEHT Board.
5. The other key issue for government is the response to the EU referendum. Councils want to benefit from any opportunities and are keen to mitigate any negative impacts. A significant number of service areas that are influenced/directed by EU regulations come within the scope of the EEHT board.
6. Reflecting on these points a list of potential Board priorities are:
 - 6.1. Housing
 - 6.2. Responding to the outcome of the EU referendum (Brexit)
 - 6.3. Waste and recycling policy
 - 6.4. Transport including (infrastructure investment)
 - 6.5. Economic development (including the industrial strategy and infrastructure investment)
 - 6.6. Flooding (Including Infrastructure Investment)
7. A draft work programme covering these areas is set out in **Appendix A**.

Next steps

8. Members are asked to:
 - 8.1. Consider and agree a final version of the Board's priorities and work programme.