Introduction to the LGA City Regions Board

**Purpose of report**

For information.

**Summary**

This report outlines the background to the establishment of this board and its remit and membership.

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| **Recommendation**  That the City Regions Board notes the report.  **Action**  For noting. |

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Introduction to the LGA City Regions Board

**Background**

1. In January, a special meeting of the General Assembly voted to agree governance changes to the LGA, which included the establishment of the City Regions Board. The governance changes proposed by the LGA Executive were based on five key principles:

Representing our membership

* Councillors across the country are engaged in the work of the LGA.
* The needs of individual councils are balanced with the needs of groupings of councils.

Structures

* City regions and counties have a central role in the LGA’s decision-making.
* Current governance arrangements are streamlined to focus on LGA priorities.

Ways of working

* Less reliance on formal “committee” meetings based around officer-written papers.
* Greater emphasis on engagement with the wider sector.

The role of members

* Increased emphasis on the role of members as decision-makers, as representatives of local government and as advocates of the LGA.

Cost of governance

* Overall reduction in direct, support and managerial costs.

1. The revised Constitution incorporating the governance changes is available to view on the LGA website - <http://www.local.gov.uk/constitution> - and a diagram of the new structure is attached at **Appendix A**.

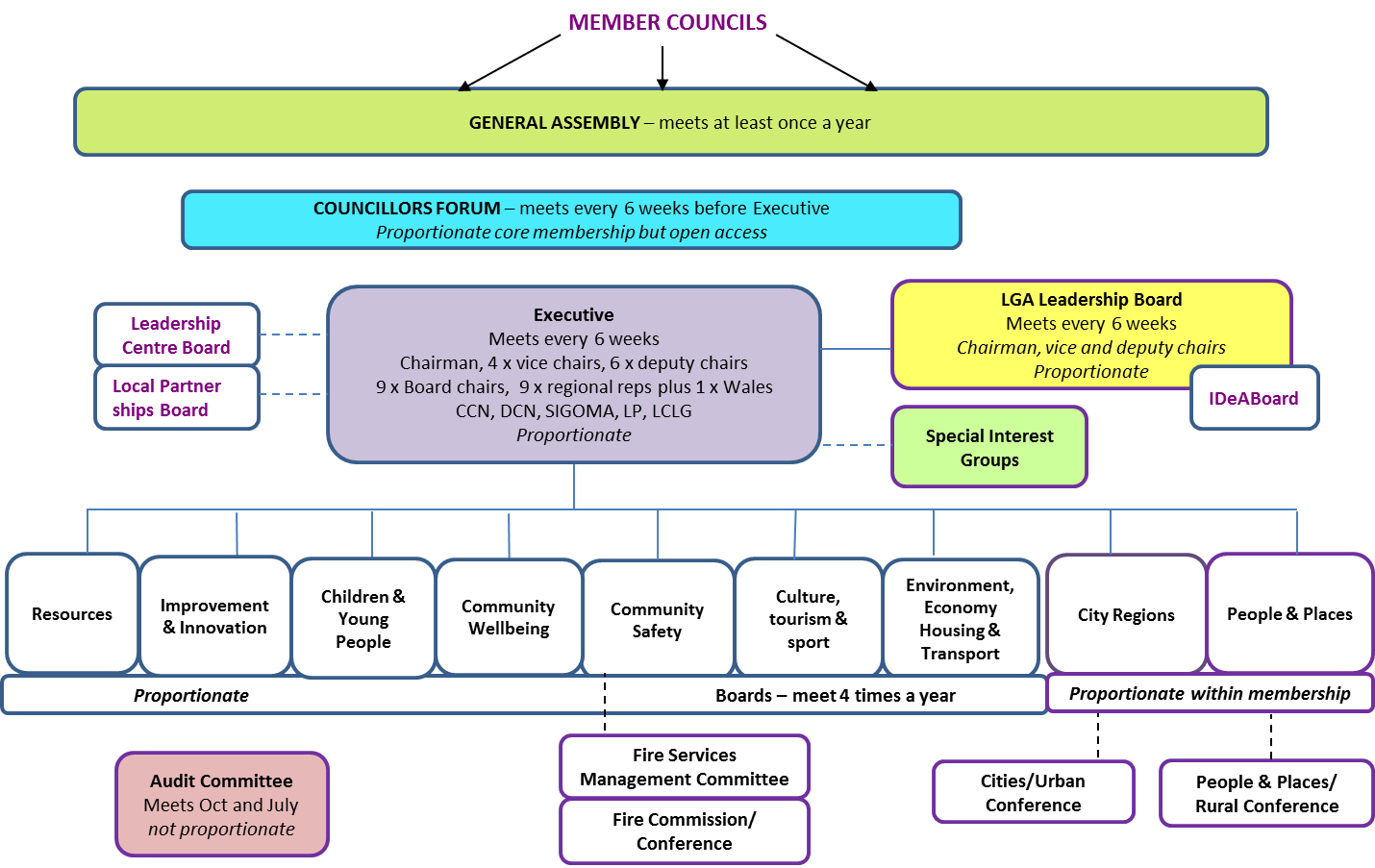
**City Regions Board Members**

1. This board will represent the interests of city areas. It will meet four times a year and its remit will include growth, transport infrastructure, skills and wider public service reform.
2. Membership of the City Regions Board is drawn from the Core and Key cities, SIGOMA and London Boroughs.
3. The Board has 22 members and its make-up reflects the political proportionality of the wider group of councils from which the membership is drawn. This differs from the seven policy boards, whose make-up reflects the political proportionality of the Association as a whole.
4. The chair has been appointed from the largest group on the Board and falls within the LGA’s own proportionate allocations. In line with the LGA’s political conventions, the remaining groups each have a vice or deputy chair.
5. Seats on the City Regions Board were allocated based on both the political proportionately of the LGA’s urban members and an allocation of seats to city region groupings as follows:
   1. Of the 22 seats in total, Labour have been allocated 13; Conservatives have been allocated 5; Liberal Democrats have been allocated 3; and Independents have been allocated 1.
   2. Of the 22 seats in total, Key Cities have been allocated 8; Core Cities have been allocated 8; London Councils have been allocated 2; and SIGOMA have been allocated 2. 2 additional seats are not aligned with any of these groups.

**Future Meetings**

1. The Board will meet once more during this 2013/14 Board cycle. This meeting will be on **3 July 2014** from **1pm-3pm**.

**Appendix A**

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