

LGA Associate Membership

Purpose of report

For decision.

Summary

Provision for associate membership of the LGA currently sits within the Constitution. In order to avoid associate members sharing in the unlimited liability of the new company, this provision is excluded from its Articles of Association.

This paper updates the Board on the LGA's associate members and seeks agreement to include a broad provision for Associate schemes in the supporting governance framework.

Recommendations

That the LGA Leadership Board

1. Approves the additional section on the LGA's Associate scheme set out in paragraph 5 to be included in the Governance Framework of the new LGA company.
2. Endorses Hertfordshire Police and Crime Commissioner's application for Associate membership of the LGA under the agreed PCC scheme

Action

Subject to the LGA Leadership Board agreement a revised Governance Framework will be published on the LGA website.

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LGA Associate Membership

Background

1. Provision for associate membership of the unincorporated LGA sits in section 1 of the Constitution. However in order to avoid associate members sharing in the unlimited liability of the new company, on the advice of Bevan Britten, our external lawyers, this provision has been excluded from its Articles of Association. Bevan Britten also advise that we refer to “associates” rather than “associate members” as the members of the company have a specific meaning in company law.

Current position

2. The current Constitution makes specific provision for associate membership.

Associate membership

1.5 The following bodies shall be eligible for associate membership of the Association:

Voting

1.5.1 Combined fire & rescue authorities;

1.5.2 Police & Crime Commissioners

1.5.3 Elected mayors of Combined Authorities and the GLA

Non-voting

1.5.4 Town & parish councils that meet specified criteria.

1.5.5 National Parks Authorities

1.6 The Association may invite into membership other local, regional and national public government bodies, on such terms as shall be determined by the LGA Leadership Board.

Combined Authorities

1.7 Combined Authorities whose component councils are all in membership of the LGA shall automatically receive full membership benefits of the LGA. Subject to 1.5.3 above, they will not receive voting rights over and above those already allocated to their component councils.

1.8 Where one or more councils that make up a Combined Authority are not in membership of the LGA, a separate subscription will be charged to that Combined Authority.

Current Associate schemes

3. As well as a generic associate scheme we have tailored schemes for Fire and Rescue Authorities and Police and Crime Commissioners and a corporate scheme for town and

parish councils through their membership body, NALC. A list of all current Associate members is attached at **Appendix A**. In November 2017 Leadership Board endorsed Essex PFCC's application for associate membership and an application from Hertfordshire PCC was circulated to members in April.

4. Associate members designated as "voting" have the right to vote at General Assembly on matters relevant to them. A copy of the current scheme of voting is published on the website but needs to be reviewed and updated to include elected mayors and PCCs.

The proposal

5. It is proposed that a broad provision is inserted into the Governance Framework, with specific schemes annexed.

LGA Associate schemes

The LGA may establish Associate schemes for local, regional and national public bodies, on such terms as shall be determined by the LGA Leadership Board.

*Associate schemes may be generic or tailored to reflect the particular nature, priorities and relationship with the LGA of different groupings. A list of Associate schemes is attached at **Appendix 1** to the Governance Framework.*

Combined Authorities and Elected Mayors

Combined authorities and elected mayors of combined authorities whose component councils are all in full membership of the LGA shall receive the same membership benefits as those component councils.

Where one or more councils that make up a Combined Authority are not in membership of the LGA, a separate subscription will be charged to that Combined Authority.

Voting at General Assembly

Some Associate schemes and elected mayors of combined authorities have the right to vote at General Assembly on issues in which they have a legitimate interest. A scheme of voting is published on the website setting out the voting rights in these cases.

Implications for Wales

6. Provision for Welsh councils and the WLGA corporate membership scheme is included in the Articles of Association.

Financial Implications

7. The net income from Associate schemes in 2018/19 is £331,735.88 including loyalty and early payment discounts.

Next steps

8. Subject to Leadership Board's approval, the Governance Framework will be amended and published on the website. An updated voting scheme will be brought to Leadership Board for approval in September.

Appendix A - Associate members 2018/19

Fire and Rescue Authorities

Greater Manchester Fire
Merseyside Fire
South Yorkshire Fire
Tyne and Wear Fire
West Midlands Fire
West Yorkshire Fire
GLA - fire
Avon Fire Authority
Bedfordshire Fire Authority
Berkshire Fire Authority
Buckinghamshire Fire Authority
Cambridgeshire Fire Authority
Cheshire Fire Authority
Cleveland Fire Authority
Derbyshire Fire Authority
Devon & Somerset Fire Authority
Dorset & Wiltshire Fire Authority
Durham Fire Authority
East Sussex Fire Authority
Hampshire Fire Authority
Hereford and Worcester Fire Authority
Humberside Fire Authority
Kent Fire Authority
Lancashire Fire Authority
Leicestershire Fire Authority
North Yorkshire Fire Authority
Nottinghamshire Fire Authority
Shropshire Fire Authority
Staffordshire Fire Authority

PCCs/FPCCs

Essex Fire, Police and Crime
Commissioner
Hertfordshire Police and Crime
Commissioner (in process)

National Park Authorities

Broads (on notice)
Exmoor
Lake District
North Yorkshire Moors
Peak District
New Forest
South Downs

Town and Parish Councils

Via NALC

Falmouth Town Council
Salisbury City Council
Sevenoaks Town Council
Folkestone Town Council

Independent

Sandhurst Town Council

Other

Tamar Bridge and Torpoint Ferry Joint
Committee



LGA Leadership Board

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