

Improvement and Innovation Board – report from Cllr Paul Bettison OBE (Chairman)

Improvement

1. Our Housing Advisers Programme supports councils seeking to innovate in meeting the housing needs of their communities. This year's [programme](#) is now open and will accept applications until 26 June 2018.

Leadership

2. Further to local elections in May, we are providing our usual support to new and other councillors, and councils undergoing change of control, eg our councillor [training](#), mentoring for new leaders and portfolio holders, our updated [guide for new councillors](#) and other support via councils' [Principal Adviser](#).
3. 2018/2019 Highlighting Political Leadership programmes information and dates are now available on our [website](#). We will provide a comprehensive list of events and dates to all members in July.
4. One of this year's new programmes is the [Women Councillor's Development Day](#) taking place on 22 June 2018 at Warwick Conferences.
5. NGDP council registrations closed with a record number of 59 councils signing up for Cohort 20 to take graduates in 2018/19, an increase of six on last year. We are already working to increase numbers for Cohort 21 with councils who have never taken part already expressing an interest.

Efficiency and productivity

6. Having secured funding for cyber security work, we are commissioning a stocktake of councils' arrangements from governance and leadership to information and incidence management, after which, councils can bid for funding to address issues they identify. Further information is [available](#).
7. We are grateful to colleagues for their input ahead of the meeting with Capita's Chief Executive scheduled later in May. A group of chief executives with high value contracts with Capita will be discussing the top ten performance issues that Capita need to focus on.
8. In 2017/18, experts worked with 25 councils via our Productivity Experts Programme on efficiency savings and/or income generation of nearly £40 million. Further information including how to apply for expertise to skill councils to realise ambitious efficiency savings and income generation is [available](#).

Accountability, transparency and sharing good practice

9. LG Inform Plus now offers enhanced data and tools to enable users to meet the GDPR to maintain a Record of Processing Activity (RoPA) via our [RoPA File Exchange](#).

07 June 2018

10. Our newly launched My Local Metrics [Service](#) lets LG Inform Plus subscribers add their local data to LG Inform, LG Inform Plus or the API (direct data feed). This can be data relevant to a range of geographies, such as local authority, ward and defined neighbourhood levels.

Innovation

11. The Board's Innovation Zone working group, comprising Cllrs Fleming, Alan, Miller and Rankin, has been shaping the Zone's programme, the latest version of which is due to be added to our [website](#) and will be updated on a regular basis until conference. Members are encouraged to visit the Zone as part of our annual conference in Birmingham between 3 and 5 July. The Zone already promises an exciting programme, including robots, drones and virtual reality headsets, which are addressing local issues.

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