

## **LGA Annual Conference and Exhibition 2014**

### **Purpose of report**

For information and overview.

### **Summary**

This report updates the Leadership Board on the progress made to date with arrangements for the LGA Annual Conference, taking place in Bournemouth from 8-10 July 2014.

### **Recommendation**

That the Leadership Board comments on and approves the final programme and activities for the Annual Conference 2014.

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## **LGA Annual Conference and Exhibition ‘the local government event of the year’**

### **Background and conference programme planning**

1. The LGA annual conference and exhibition is the Association’s showpiece event attracting over 1200 attendees from Local Government and the Local Government family, central Government, the private and voluntary sector, plus up to another 300 exhibitors, speakers and press.
2. Following regular overview by the Leadership Board, conference sessions fit well with our business planning priorities and we have secured a strong selection of plenary, parallel plenary and workshop sessions.
3. Political plenary speakers confirmed include: the Rt Hon Eric Pickles MP; the Rt Hon Iain Duncan Smith MP; the Rt Hon Hilary Benn MP, alongside senior Cabinet and Shadow Cabinet spokespersons.
4. Other keynote plenary sessions around the above conference themes are:
  - 4.1. Conference opening session ‘**Political Leadership**’, a cross-party panel of council leaders discussion opened by **Ben Page**
  - 4.2. ‘**How do we build the homes we need**’ – **Sir Michael Lyons**
  - 4.3. **The future of health and social care** – **Simon Stevens**, Chief Executive, NHS England
  - 4.4. ‘**The case for deeper devolution**’, Hilary Benn MP speaking alongside Sir John Peace, Chair, The Peace Commission, Cllr Sir Richard Leese and Cllr David Hodge.

The full programme is **attached** at Appendix A.

5. This year, the LGA Innovation Zone will run across all three days of conference in a visually vibrant and creative space, designed to facilitate multiple conversations, demonstrations and presentations from councils that have risen to the challenge of being more innovative. Delegates will be able to hear, informally, from several councils showcasing their innovation’s successes.

The full Innovation Zone programme is **attached** at Appendix B.

6. We will have a full, open programme of political group events, alongside a programme for Chief Executives.

### The audience

7. We currently have around 750 delegates booked, which is comparable with recent, previous years, and continue to promote the event via our networks – over 300 bookings have been received since the last update.
8. The conference dedicated website ([www.local.gov.uk/annual-conference](http://www.local.gov.uk/annual-conference)) is available for all conference updates.

### Exhibition, sponsorship and innovations

9. CCLA have confirmed as gold sponsor and we have a variety of other silver and bronze sponsors. The MJ are confirmed as media sponsor.
10. The LGA will have a main exhibition stand in the centre of the Purbeck Hall – used as a hub for any launches and for highlighting our services, member benefits, key messages etc. We are planning a variety of informal events and networking around this space to ensure a good level of delegate access.
11. The political groups will be co-located with the LGA exhibition stand alongside additional seating space to allow for networking and debate.
12. Exhibitors booked to date are:

Airwave  
Alzheimer's Society  
Army Families Federation  
Asda Stores Ltd  
Asidua  
Association for Public Service Excellence  
Bellavail IMS Ltd  
Blue Sky Peterborough Ltd  
Bournemouth Borough Council  
British Gas  
British Sprinkler Alliance  
Browne Jacobson LLP  
Cabinet Office  
Campaign for Fairer Gambling  
CCLA Investment Management Ltd  
CCN  
Charities Aid Foundation (CAF)  
Community Development Foundation  
Concessionary Transport Solutions  
Connection Point Technology Ltd  
CSSC Sports and Leisure Ltd  
DANFO UK Ltd  
Department of Energy & Climate Change  
District Council Network  
Dorset County Council  
DUOL Domes UK Ltd  
Emerald Group Publishing Limited

GeoPlace  
Healthmatic Limited  
Heineken UK Limited  
Honeywell Building Solutions  
iChoosr Ltd  
INLOGOV  
Key Cities Group  
Knowsley Council  
Learning Development Services  
LGA  
LGA Campaigns  
LGA Conservative group  
LGA Independent Group  
LGA Labour group  
LGA Liberal Democrat group  
LGBCE  
Local Government Chronicle  
Local Partnerships  
McDonalds  
Modern Mindset Ltd  
NatCen Social Research  
National Audit Office  
NCS Trust  
Newton Europe Ltd  
NLGN  
Norse Group  
ORH Ltd

Ovo Energy Limited  
Oxygen Finance  
Partnership  
Patrol  
PFRA  
Pinnacle PSG  
PIRC Limited  
Public Fundraising Regulatory Association  
Public Health England  
Public i  
RBLI  
Rennicks uk  
RNIB  
Scape System Build Ltd

Shure Distribution UK  
SOLACE Enterprises  
Stroke Association  
Target professional services (UK) Ltd  
The Centre for Public Scrutiny  
The Electoral Commission  
The Guide Dogs for the Blind Association  
The MJ  
The Royal British Legion  
The Woodland Trust  
Turn2Us  
UNISON  
Volunteer Squared Ltd  
Veale Wasborough

Following last year's successful conference app (downloaded over 500 times by attendees), we are again providing this opportunity for delegates. Delegates with an Apple or Android device will be able to download the conference app from 9 June.

Through the app delegates will be able to:

- view the agenda
- find out about our campaigns and view publications
- follow all activity through webcast and social media streams
- find out more about the innovation zone, sponsors and exhibitors.

## Summary

13. The conference provides an excellent platform for the Association to engage with a large portion of our membership. It supports the Association's lobbying and influencing agenda through political group meetings and key speeches. It showcases local authority best practice to the wider sector through workshops, fringes, exhibition and case studies. It offers opportunities to profile the Association's new products, research and publications. It allows us to profile the policy work undertaken by the Association, promote local government reputation and the wide ranging benefits of membership. The event is a high profile opportunity for the lead members and senior staff to engage with the membership and partners.

## Conference venues 2017-2019

- 14 Following consultation and feedback from members of Leadership Board, it has been agreed that we commit to the following locations for 2017-2019:

2017	Birmingham
2018	Birmingham (based on the discount for a two year commitment)
2019	Liverpool or Bournemouth (as the Liverpool venue is on second hold and may not become available)