**Minutes of the previous Executive Advisory Board meeting**

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| **Title:** | Executive Advisory Board |
| **Date:** | Thursday 22 July 2021 |
| **Venue:** | Zoom |
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**Attendance**

An attendance list is attached as **Appendix A** to this note.

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| **Item** | **Decisions and actions** |  |

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|  | **Declarations of Interest** |  |
|  | There were no declarations of interest. |  |

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|  | **The LGA's Current "Hot Topics"** |  |
|  | Mark Lloyd, Chief Executive, introduced the high-level summary of current and anticipated headline issues most concerning to member councils and sought confirmation that focus was being given to the right issues. The main topics were:   1. National roadmap; 2. Build Back Local; 3. Local government finance; 4. Immediate and long term covid issues; 5. Social Care Reform; 6. Levelling Up; 7. Integrated Care System Design Framework**;** 8. Health and Care Bill; 9. Waste; 10. Climate Change; 11. Planning reform; and 12. Remote meetings.   **Decision**  The Executive Advisory Board **noted** the report. |  |

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|  | **LGA Boards: Annual Review of the Year** |  |
|  | **Decision**  The Executive Advisory Board noted the Boards’ achievements on the 2020/21 meeting year. |  |

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|  | **Levelling Up** |  |
|  | The Chairman invited Rebecca Cox, Principal Policy Advisor. Rebecca explained that since the paper had been written, the Prime Minister had given a speech on Levelling Up which had mentioned skills, jobs, business support and transport. The paper set out the main areas of work, responding to the white papers supporting councils through another round of devolution deals.  Rebecca said that the LGA was working on behalf of councils to make sure any forthcoming devolutions deals would be significant and have a real impact on place as well as to secure a sustainable funding settlement for local government.  Sir Richard Leese, Chair of the City Regions Board, introduced the accompanying report and gave a verbal update on the work of the LGA on the Levelling Up agenda including the enhanced, refreshed, and updated support provided to councils.  He emphasised the importance of the LGA’s Build Back Local Campaign and the need for local authorities to work together.  Cllr Morris Bright, Vice Chair of the People and Places Board, mentioned that Levelling up and devolution go hand in hand highlighting the announcement of the abolition of 20 councils and that the LGA’s role would be to advise and guide.  In the discussion that followed, the following points were raised;   * The principal of new funding must be at the heart, so far this has been funded by recycling existing funds. * Levelling up in the north doesn’t mean levelling down in the south. * Climate emergency and levelling up. Carbon intensive industries exists where most deprived communities live. * Levelling up and devolution offers the chance for local politicians to shape their place. * The opportunity to deliver place-based leadership should be welcomed. * Criteria is difficult to understand. * The governance structure should be neutral and bids should be based on strength of the proposals. * Concern about the need for MP approval, despite projects not being structural. This could set a precedent of MP vetoes in future and undermine local authority leadership.   **Decision**  Members of the Executive Advisory Board **agreed** that the City Regions and People and Places Boards lead the LGA’s Levelling Up work and made comment on place leadership proposals. |  |

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|  | **Local Government Finance Update** |  |
|  | The Chairman invited Cllr Sharon Taylor, Chair of the Resources Board, to introduce the report which contained a summary of the work by the LGA on funding and finance issues, since the previous meeting, including COVID-19 finance issues and Spending Review 2021 preparations.  In the discussion that followed, the following points were raised;   * No additional funding for local councils to deal with climate change. * Homelessness increasing in some parts of the country, the end of the eviction’s ban will cause a huge spike and increase costs to councils. * Impact of long covid and mental health pressure not addressed. * Future of social care precept may disappear, hopefully replaced by * No certainty over the new home’s bonus.   **Decision**  The Executive Advisory Board **noted** the report. |  |
|  | **Note of last Executive Advisory Board meeting** |  |
|  | The minutes of the previous Executive Advisory Board meeting held on Thursday 10 June 2021 were **agreed.** |  |

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**Appendix A -Attendance**

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| Position/Role | Councillor | Authority |
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| Cllr James Jamieson (Chairman) | | Central Bedfordshire Council |
| Cllr Nick Forbes CBE (Senior Vice Chair) | | Newcastle City Council |

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| Cllr Joe Harris (Vice-Chair) | Cotswold District Council |
| Cllr Marianne Overton MBE (Vice-Chair) | Lincolnshire County Council |

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| Cllr John Fuller OBE | South Norfolk District Council |
| Cllr Peter Fleming OBE | Sevenoaks District Council |
| Cllr David Fothergill | Somerset County Council |
| Cllr David Renard | Swindon Borough Council |
| Sir Richard Leese CBE | Manchester City Council |
| Cllr Anntoinette Bramble | Hackney London Borough Council |
| Cllr Tudor Evans OBE | Plymouth City Council |
| Cllr Sharon Taylor | Stevenage Council |
| Cllr Judith Blake CBE | Leeds City Council |
| Cllr Nesil Caliskan | Enfield Council |
| Cllr Gerald Vernon-Jackson CBE | Portsmouth City Council |
| Cllr Bridget Smith | South Cambridgeshire District Council |
| Cllr Clive Woodbridge | Epsom and Ewell Borough Council |
| Cllr Rosemarie Harris | Powys County Council |
| Cllr Marc Bayliss | Worcester City Council |
| Cllr Peter John OBE | Southwark Council |
| Cllr Nicholas Rushton | East Midlands Councils |
| Cllr Linda Haysey | East Herts Council |
| Sir Stephen Houghton CBE | SIGOMA |
| Cllr David Williams | County Councils Network (CCN) |
| Cllr Teresa O'Neill OBE | Bexley Council |
| Cllr Izzi Seccombe OBE | Warwickshire County Council |
| Cllr Paul Woodhead | Cannock Chase District Council |
| Cllr John Hart | South West Councils |
| Cllr Roy Perry | South East England Councils (SEEC) |
| Alderman Sir David Wootton | Local Partnerships |
| Cllr Michael Payne | Gedling Borough Council |
| Cllr Shabir Pandor | Kirklees Metropolitan Council |
| Cllr Simon Henig CBE | Association of North East Councils |
| Cllr Robert Stewart | Swansea City and County Council |
| Cllr Robert Alden | Birmingham City Council |

Apologies received from:

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| Cllr Georgia Gould | Camden Council |
| Cllr Tim Oliver | County Councils Network (CCN) |
| Cllr Kevin Bentley | Essex County Council |

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