

## Note of last Executive Advisory Board meeting

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**Title:** Executive Advisory Board  
**Date:** Thursday 9 June 2022  
**Venue:** Smith Square 1 & 2 and online via Microsoft Teams

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### Attendance

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

### Item Decisions and actions

#### 1 Welcome, apologies for absence and declarations of interest

The Chairman gave thanks to former councillors Nick Forbes and Rosemarie Harris who had served on the Executive Advisory Board for a number of years.

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Shabir Pandor and Cllr Houghton.

There were no declarations of interest.

#### 2 LGA Political Balance

Mark Lloyd, Chief Executive, introduced the report which set out the definitive figures for the LGA's proportionality for 2022/23. The report set out the new proportionality and its implications for the distribution of seats amongst the political groups on the LGA's governance structures.

##### **Decision**

That Executive Advisory Board **endorsed** the proportionality figures for 2022/23 meeting year.

##### **Action**

Political groups to agree the allocation of places across all LGA structures.

#### 3 Lobbying document

Mark Lloyd, Chief Executive, introduced a report summarising the LGA's lobbying headlines. Mark highlighted the LGA's work in supporting councils through the following issues:

1. Homes for Ukraine scheme
2. Extension of right to buy scheme
3. Cost of living pressures
4. Integrated Care Systems
5. Adult Social Care
6. Planning

#### 7. Nitrates in the water stream

In the subsequent discussion members raised the following concerns:

- Home Office response times moving on new arrivals from bridging hotels, particularly Afghans
- Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND) and Dedicated Schools Grant
- Fragility in Children's Services and an exodus of trainee social workers
- Capacity in the Adult Social Care sector
- Unaccompanied Children arriving from Ukraine
- Risk of mass swimming pool closures due to increased costs

#### **Decision**

The Executive Advisory Board **agreed** to note the report.

#### **4 Queen's speech**

The Chairman introduced **Mel Haslam** (Acting Head of Public Affairs and Stakeholder Management) to introduce the report and answer any questions on the item.

The 2022 Queen's Speech was delivered on 10 May and set out the Government's legislative agenda for the coming parliamentary session. The Speech was comprised of 38 Bills, the highest number announced for a parliamentary session since 2005.

Much of the legislation centred around the Government's 12 Levelling Up 'missions', which Ministers had already committed to enshrining in law in February 2022. Government also announced a wide range of proposals of interest to local government, including measures relating to devolution, planning, housing, council tax, education, energy, mental health, data reform, public procurement, local audit and post-Brexit regulation.

The LGA published a briefing circulated to councillors, chief executives, parliamentarians and external stakeholders in the week the speech was delivered providing an overview of the key Bills of interest to local government and setting out an initial LGA view. This can be found in annexe A.

The LGA also responded to a number of the key Bills in the media and promoted its priorities on social media. The Chairman hosted a virtual briefing event for Vice-Presidents.

Mel sought approval on the Bills the LGA should prioritise, based on the organisation's business plan and advocacy priorities, for the purpose of its lobbying.

Mel highlighted the LGA's high and medium priority Bills;

#### **High priority**

- Levelling Up and Regeneration Bill

- Schools Bill
- Renters Reform Bill
- Social Housing Regulation Bill

Medium priority

- Energy Security Bill
- Transport Bill
- Draft Mental Health Act Reform Bill
- Online Safety Bill
- Modern Slavery Bill
- Draft Victims Bill
- Draft protect Duty Bill
- Animal Welfare (Kept Animals Bill)
- Non-Domestic Rating Bill
- Procurement Bill
- Data Reform Bill
- Product Security and Telecommunications Infrastructure Bill

Decision

The Executive Advisory Board **agreed** the recommended prioritisation of the LGA's legislative lobbying for the next parliamentary session.

Action

Take forward the LGA's legislative lobbying.

**5 Independent Inquiry into Child Sexual Abuse - code of practice for councils**

The chairman introduced **Louise Smith** (Senior Adviser) to introduce the report and answer any questions on the item.

Decision

The Executive Advisory Board approved the code of practice for consultation without comment.

Action

Officers to publish the code of practice and publicise to councils.

**6 Equalities Advocates**

The chairman introduced **Rupinder Parhar** (Senior Adviser) to introduce the report and answer any questions on the item.

Decision

The Executive Advisory Board **agreed** to note the proposed update on the progress of board Equality Advocates work and the next steps outlined from paragraph 16 of the report.

Action

Equalities Advocates to meet more regularly. Officers to report back to a future

meeting of the Executive Advisory Board.

The chairman then moved into confidential session.

**7 Civility in Public Life - Abuse and intimidation of councillors**

The chairman introduced **Jess Norman** (Senior Adviser) to address the Executive Advisory Board in confidential session.

**Decision**

The Executive Advisory Board agreed to the recommendations set out in paragraphs 8-14, subject to recommendations 1 and 3 being strengthened via the political group leaders.

**8 National Living Wage**

The Chairman invited Naomi Cooke, Head of Workforce to address the Executive Advisory Board in confidential session.

**Decision**

The Executive Advisory Board **agreed** to approve public raising of the impact of the projected increases in the National Living Wage on councils.

**9 2022 Cost Pressures Update**

The Chairman invited Cllr Shaun Davies, Chair of the Resources Board, to address the Executive Advisory Board in confidential session.

**Decision**

The Executive Advisory Board **agreed** to note the cost pressures analysis.

**10 Note of the previous Executive Advisory Board meeting**

The Executive Advisory Board agreed the minutes of the previous meeting held on Thursday 10 March 2022.

### **Appendix A - Attendance**

Position/Role	Councillor	Authority
	Cllr James Jamieson OBE (Chairman)	Central Bedfordshire Council
	Cllr Izzi Seccombe OBE (Vice Chairman)	Warwickshire County Council
	Cllr Joe Harris (Vice-Chair)	Cotswold District Council
	Cllr Marianne Overton MBE (Vice-Chair)	North Kesteven District Council
	Cllr John Fuller OBE	South Norfolk District Council
	Cllr Teresa O'Neill OBE	Bexley Council
	Cllr Robert Alden	Birmingham City Council
	Cllr David Renard (Board Chair)	Swindon Borough Council
	Cllr David Fothergill (Board Chair)	Somerset County Council
	Cllr Peter Fleming OBE (Board Chair)	Sevenoaks District Council
	Cllr Kevin Bentley (Board Chair)	Essex County Council
	Cllr Michael Payne (Deputy Chair)	Gedling Borough Council
	Cllr Tudor Evans OBE (Deputy Chair)	Plymouth City Council
	Cllr Georgia Gould (Deputy Chair)	Camden Council
	Cllr Nesil Caliskan (Board Chair)	Enfield Council
	Cllr Shaun Davies (Board Chair)	Telford and Wrekin Council
	Mayor Marvin Rees (Board Chair)	Bristol City
	Cllr Bridget Smith	South Cambridgeshire District Council
	Cllr Gerald Vernon-Jackson CBE	Portsmouth City Council
	Cllr Hannah Dalton (Deputy Chair)	Epsom and Ewell Borough Council
	Cllr Paul Woodhead (balancing member)	Cannock Chase Council
	Cllr Nicolas Heslop	South East Councils
	Cllr Chris Poulter	East Midlands
	Cllr Sam Chapman-Allen	District Councils Network
	Cllr Tim Oliver	County Councils Network
Apologies		Authority
	Cllr Anntoinette Bramble (Board Chair)	
	Cllr Robert Stewart	
	Cllr Marc Bayliss	
	Cllr John Hart	
	Cllr Peter John OBE	
	Cllr Graeme Miller	
	Cllr Linda Haysey	
	Cllr David Baines	
	Alderman Sir David Wootton	
	Sir Stephen Houghton CBE	
	Cllr Shabir Pandor (Deputy Chair)	