

## EEHT Work Programme

### Purpose of report

For decision

### Summary

This report sets out a draft work programme for the EEHT Board for 2022/2023.

### Recommendation/s

1. Members are asked to consider the draft work programme, agree any amendments and a final version.

### Contact details

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## EEHT Work Programme

### Background

1. In July 2022 the Board considered an End of Year report for 2021/22 and its broad priorities for 2022/23. This report includes a more detailed work programme in **appendix A** for discussion and approval by the Board.
2. In developing the work programme we have taken into account the Government's policy agendas, the priorities of the LGA as set out in the emerging business plan for 2022-2025 and the ongoing work in which the Board is engaged.

### Implications for Wales

3. Many of the policy issues that come under the remit of the EEHT Board are devolved to the Welsh assembly. We liaise with our colleagues in the Welsh LGA on a regular basis to share information and good practice.

### Financial Implications

4. There are no immediate financial implications

### Equalities implications

5. We will consider Equalities and Diversity as an integrated part of the Board's policy work. To the extent that Government is the author of policy developments, it is intended that the Board reflect on any assessments made by the Government in respect of policy. When the EEHT Board brings forward its own policy it will be necessary for the Board to consider the EDI implications of its policy development. We will work throughout the year to improve the quality of our analysis on these matters

### Next steps

6. We will recirculate and publish a final version of the work programme.

EEHT Objectives 2022/23	Outcomes	Actions	Timelines
<b>Environment</b>			
Environmental reforms	<p>A waste and resource system that meets the needs of local communities and improves the use of resources through a strong focus on waste prevention</p> <p>Local areas have a better understand of the threats to the natural environment and can access opportunities to restore nature</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Work with Government and with councils on the implementation of the resources and waste strategy, including continuing flexibility for councils to charge for green waste and for new burdens to be fully funded. Consider positive proactive policy work on waste reduction.</li> <li>• Deliver the nutrient and water neutrality policy review, working with councils and national stakeholders</li> <li>• Lobby for recognition of and support for skills and capacity gaps in councils to support the implementation of biodiversity net gain and new responsibilities for local nature recovery</li> </ul>	<p><b>Ongoing</b></p> <p><b>Ongoing</b></p> <p><b>October 2022</b></p> <p><b>Ongoing</b></p>
Climate change and environmental protection	National/local partnership shaped to meet net zero carbon ambitions.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Deliver a programme of work with specific proposals on how to move forward with the ambitious delivery of net zero, through projects investigating ‘whole-place’ decarbonisation, heat and buildings decarbonisation, community engagement and more.</li> <li>• Work with Government to make the Net Zero Forum an agent of change in achieving our shared net zero ambition, including on local capability and capacity, funding, and roles and responsibilities.</li> </ul>	<p><b>September 2022 and ongoing</b></p> <p><b>September 2022 and Ongoing</b></p> <p><b>November 2022</b></p> <p><b>November 2022</b></p>

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop the LGA’s policy positions around the adaptation to climate change, with a focus on partnership and governance.</li> <li>• Continue to engage the Government and across the LGA on the wide range of policy development work on net zero and adaptation.</li> <li>• Focus our activity on decarbonisation heat, buildings and transport.</li> <li>• Explore and share best practice on approaches to decarbonise local transport, including modal shift.</li> </ul>	<p><b>November 2022</b></p> <p><b>Ongoing</b></p>
Flooding	Communities better protected from flooding incidents.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Continue to seek reforms to the allocation of flood prevention funding</li> </ul>	<b>Ongoing</b>
Air quality	Communities air quality improved in areas where it does not meet national standards	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Represent member’s interest on the clean air provisions of the Environment bill.</li> <li>• Work with Government and councils on implementation of Air Quality measures</li> </ul>	
<b><i>Economy</i></b>			
The LGA’s economy work is spread over a number of boards, with other boards leading on issues such as skills/ employment, culture and tourism, digital connectivity, institutional	High Streets and town centres	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Continue to influence Government policy for high streets support including High Street Rental Auctions</li> <li>• Explore the future of shopping centres and their evolving role on the high street</li> </ul>	<p><b>Ongoing</b></p> <p><b>January 2023</b></p>
	Organising and delivering economic growth support	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Research good practice in how local economic development support is organised and delivered by councils, especially in the light of changes to LEPs policy</li> </ul>	<b>February 2023</b>

landscape and more rural and urban matters.	Promoting green growth opportunities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Research and best practice in how councils can encourage green businesses to support local green and net-zero ambitions</li> </ul>	<b>January 2023</b>
<b><i>Housing planning and Homelessness</i></b>			
Planning reforms	A properly resourced local plan-led system that meets the needs of local communities and supports net zero carbon ambitions.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Continue to represent Members' interests as the government brings forwards its reforms through the Levelling Up and Regeneration Bill and consultations on secondary legislation and wider policy change.</li> <li>• Lobby for government support for resources, skills and capacity gaps in councils to support effective implementation of the reforms</li> <li>• Continue to work with officials/CEXs on the strategic implications of the reforms</li> </ul>	<b>Ongoing</b>
Delivering more homes	Councils build more council homes and facilitate the delivery of housing that meets the needs of their local community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Continue to make the case for councils to have the powers and funding to deliver more homes that are affordable and meet the needs of communities, including powers to incentivise build out</li> <li>• Bolster the LGA's policy position on the reforms needed to ensure the future sustainability of council Housing Revenue Accounts.</li> <li>• Work with government and the sector to deliver housing options for refugees</li> <li>• Continue to seek reform on Right to Buy including retention of receipts and ability to set discounts locally.</li> </ul>	<b>Ongoing</b>  <b>October 2022</b>  <b>September 2022 and ongoing</b>  <b>Ongoing</b>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Explore and share best practice on approaches to housing delivery including incentivising build out and council housebuilding</li> </ul>	<b>Ongoing</b>
Social housing quality	<p>The social housing regulation reforms are proportionate, risk-based and deliver improved services for social housing tenants</p> <p>Councils have the necessary skills and resources to decarbonise existing housing and deliver low carbon new housing</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Represent Members' interests as the government brings forward its social housing regulation reforms through the Social Housing Regulation Bill and consultations on wider policy change.</li> <li>Continue to lobby Government to bring forward funding to build local authority capacity and skills for decarbonisation of homes and capital funding to decarbonise existing homes</li> <li>Work with sector partners and Government to support councils to accelerate housing decarbonisation</li> <li>Promote and deliver the social housing management peer challenge</li> <li>Explore and share best practice in social housing management and tenant engagement</li> </ul>	<p><b>Ongoing</b></p> <p><b>Ongoing</b></p> <p><b>Ongoing</b></p> <p><b>Ongoing</b></p> <p><b>Ongoing</b></p>
Housing Improvement Programme	Councils are in a better position to meet their housing challenges	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Deliver round 6 of the Housing Advisers Programme (HAP)</li> <li>Deliver Leadership Essentials on Housing for elected members</li> <li>Deliver a shared learning programme for councils interested in direct delivery</li> </ul>	<p><b>September-January 2023</b></p> <p><b>January 2023</b></p> <p><b>January – March 2023</b></p>

Private Rented Sector	Communities have a safe, secure and high quality private rented sector and reforms result in a fairer sector for both tenants and landlords.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Represent Members' interests as the government brings forward its reforms to the private rented sector through legislation and consultations on wider policy change.</li> <li>• Continue to make the case for councils to have the funding, powers and flexibilities to support improvements in the quality of the private rented sector (including how to deliver a decarbonised stock)</li> </ul>	<p><b>Ongoing</b></p> <p><b>Ongoing</b></p>
Homelessness	Homelessness and rough sleeping reduced and the cost of temporary accommodation is arrested.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Continue to lobby for a policy and financing focus on homelessness prevention.</li> <li>• Deliver a programme with specific proposals on action to change policies creating pressure on councils' provision of temporary accommodation, including welfare reforms.</li> <li>• Support local authorities to utilise evidence and to share best practice and learning with other relevant authorities</li> </ul>	<p><b>October 2022 and ongoing</b></p> <p><b>Ongoing</b></p> <p><b>Ongoing</b></p>
<b>Transport - A high quality, well managed, low carbon local road network: (IMPROVE)</b>			
Dealing with highways obstruction	Councils have powers to deal effectively with pavement parking and other obstructions on the highway	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Continue calling for resolution to pavement parking</li> <li>• Collect and present evidence to Government to align highway obstruction powers with London (i.e., to enable councils outside London to use fixed penalty notices.). We will seek legislative</li> </ul>	<p><b>Ongoing</b></p> <p><b>October 2022 (for survey)</b></p>

		opportunities, such as the proposed Transport Bill	
EV charging	Continue to work with OZEV, EST, DfT and others on ensuring local government is adequately supported – financially and with freedoms - to deliver on local ambition for public chargepoints	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• LEVI fund – capital and resource funding are adequate and give maximum flexibility to councils</li> <li>• Barriers identified are tackled</li> </ul>	<b>Ongoing</b>
Highways' maintenance	Councils have sufficient funding to help tackle backlog of road repairs and increase resilience to extreme weather (summer and winter)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Continue calls for increased funding to help tackle backlog of road repairs and increase resilience to extreme weather (summer and winter); undertake winter and summer resilience survey of councils)</li> <li>• Highlight capital cost inflation and resulting impact on council finances and services</li> </ul>	<b>Ongoing and spending review/ budget submissions. Resilience survey – Oct 2022</b>
Freight	That future policy on freight traffic reflects local priorities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• We will continue to build on work started in 2022 on last-mile deliveries</li> <li>• Call for mandatory use of specialist sat-nav equipment on HGVs so they do not cause blockages on local road networks.</li> </ul>	<b>Ongoing</b>
<b>Transport - A high quality alternative to driving every journey (SHIFT)</b>			
Buses	A National Bus Strategy that delivers for local communities and the ambitions as set out in it.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Continue to call for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ funding to match ambition of the National Bus Strategy and those</li> <li>○ commitments to reform BSOG and rules on ownership of bus companies</li> <li>○ Support measures that help councils and operators to support communities and bus users with cost-of-living pressures</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<b>Ongoing</b>



Active Travel	That councils are able to provide high quality cycling infrastructure with sufficient funding and support from government.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Work with Active Travel England to ensure that councils are adequately supported – both financially, and with expert advice – and that ATE’s inspection activities are proportionate and delivered in a constructive way.</li> </ul>	<b>Ongoing</b>
Micromobility	Raise awareness amongst councils and councillors of new transport trends.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Commission good practice advice to supporting councils to deal with illegal scooters and deliver scooter rental schemes as well as car share schemes.</li> </ul>	<b>November 2022</b>
Drones	Ensure future development of policies and regulations for new aviation technology reflects the interests of councils and local communities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Engage with the ministerial Future of Flight Group</li> </ul>	<b>Ongoing</b>
<b>Transport - A high quality alternative to making the journey (REDUCE)</b>			
Supporting councils to manage demand for private car use	Councils feel confident in ability to manage and reduce demand for private car use.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Work with LGA improvement team on the successful delivery of the Transport Decarbonisation Action Learning Set programme</li> </ul>	<b>March 2023</b>
Local Transport Plans	Councils are supported in delivering low carbon local transport plans (LTPs)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continue to work with DfT and councils on shaping the new Local Transport Plan guidance</li> <li>Continue to call for funding reform that will see less fragmented transport and highways funding, ensuring that local authorities have maximum long-term certainty and flexibility in how they allocate investment</li> </ul>	<b>January 2023</b>  <b>Ongoing</b>
Car share	Raise awareness of the growing opportunities of car-share clubs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Commission good practice advice to supporting councils to deliver/ support car share clubs</li> </ul>	<b>November 2022</b>

Road pricing/ future of motoring taxes	That Government gives priority to making an informed decision on what will replace existing motoring taxes as the country transitions to electric vehicles	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>We will call for the Government to prioritise the replacement to existing motoring taxes, working with bodies such as sub-national transport boards. We will build on the Board's existing work.</li> </ul>	<b>Ongoing</b>
Parking	Parking policy reflects the transition to EVs and potential impact on road traffic and demand for parking spaces	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>We will discuss with BPA, including the adequacy of parking fines as a deterrent to illegal and obstructive parking.</li> </ul>	<b>January 2023</b>