

Meeting: City Regions Board

Date: 23 November 2022



LGA Plan 2022-25

Purpose of report

For discussion.

Summary

On 19 October 2022, the LGA Board signed off a new 3-year business plan for 2022-25. The [LGA Plan 2022-2025](#) sets the direction for the LGA as a whole and includes our policy and campaigning priorities for the period.

The Board is asked to review the Plan and to discuss any changes to its workplan to reflect the overall LGA direction and priorities, and the new Government.

Recommendations

That the City Regions Board reviews the Plan and discuss any changes to its workplan to reflect the overall LGA direction and priorities, and the new Government.

Contact officer: Rebecca Cox

Position: Principal Policy Adviser

Phone no: 0207 187 7384

Email: rebecca.cox@local.gov.uk

LGA Plan 2022-25



Background

1. On 19 October 2022 the LGA Board signed off the LGA's new 3-year business plan – [LGA Plan 2022-2025](#). The development of the Plan was led by a joint officer/member task and finish group, who considered feedback from consultations and discussions with member councils, lead members, group executives and staff. The plan is now final.
2. The new LGA Plan clearly sets out our vision to be **the Voice of Local Government** and our purpose to **Promote, Improve and Support** local government. A copy of the Plan is attached at **Appendix 1**.

Content

3. The LGA Plan is in three parts:

Part 1:

- sets out the LGA's overarching vision and the golden thread that runs through the plan - to be **the Voice of Local Government**.
- sets out our purpose - to **Promote, Improve and Support** local government. These form the three pillars of all our external facing work, including the work of the eight policy boards and the Improvement and Innovation Board.
- emphasises our commitment to work more collaboratively across the whole of local government to strengthen our voice on behalf of the sector.

Part 2:

- Promoting **local government** sets four policy and campaigning priorities
 - ✓ A sustainable financial future
 - ✓ Stronger local economies, thriving local democracy
 - ✓ Putting people first
 - ✓ Championing climate change and local environments.
- **Improving local government** sets out our main grant-funded commitments.
- **Supporting local government** highlights the excellent technical and professional support and services we deliver to councils in fields such as workforce, pensions, legal, communications and procurement and a range of place-based services.

Part 3:

- **Our business** – sets out our internal organisational priorities, including actions to support our political leadership and enhance our membership, increase our financial resilience and our commitment to Net Zero.

Delivering the LGA Plan

4. While the Board's work is already well aligned with the overall aims of the LGA, members are invited to discuss any amendments to the Board's work programme in light of the priorities set out in the new plan.
5. The main outcomes relating to the Board's work are:

LGA plan outcome	City Regions Board theme
Theme 1: Press for freedoms that lead to greater local control over council tax and business rates, and a wider range of suitable funding sources for councils.	Theme 1: Future of cities Theme 2: Levelling Up Theme 5: Growth funding
Theme 2: Councils and combined authorities have the powers and resources to create the conditions for strong, inclusive local economies and good jobs as part of 'levelling up' the country, including through improved digital connectivity and viable transport networks.	Theme 2: Levelling Up
Theme 2: Employers, job seekers and those looking to progress in work are better supported through a more local employment and skills system.	Theme 2: Levelling Up
Theme 4: Government and councils work together to meet the country's net zero carbon and climate change adaptation ambitions, restore the natural environment and, through a strong focus on waste prevention, deliver a waste and resource system that meets local needs and improves the use of resources.	Theme 3: Urban resilience Theme 4: Green jobs

6. The LGA Plan will remain a flexible document that will be reviewed and updated annually, and with the agreement of the LGA Board, may be updated to reflect changing circumstances.

New Government

7. While a national policy agenda is still emerging, the Board might also wish to consider any areas of work arising from the new Government they wish to see reflected in the Board's work, or any aspects of the Board's work they might wish to see amended in order to best influence the new Government and other political parties.
8. A separate paper will follow the Government's Autumn Statement on 17 November setting out the overall implications for local government and any particular issues emerging for city regions and urban areas.

Implications for Wales

9. The LGA Plan includes the support that we provide to the 22 Welsh councils, in membership of the LGA through the Welsh LGA. However, some central government grant-funded activities do not include support to Wales, where funding may be allocated through the Welsh government.

Financial Implications

10. Delivery of the LGA Plan is reflected in the LGA's medium term financial strategy. Our internal business priorities include priorities to ensure the financial sustainability of the LGA.

Equalities implications

11. Our internal business priorities include the delivery of the LGA's equalities strategy and action plan.

Next steps

12. Subject to members' comments, the Board's work programme will be updated to reflect the priorities of the LGA Plan 2022-25.