

Local Government and Artificial Intelligence

Purpose of Report

For information.

Is this report confidential? No

Summary

Following a decision at the January Board meeting, Jenny McEneaney, Senior Improvement Adviser from the LGA's Cyber, Digital and Technology Team will attend and give a presentation providing an overview of the LGA's current work in the field of Artificial Intelligence.

LGA Plan Theme: Data and digital

Recommendation(s)

That the Board consider the presentation on the LGA's wider work in relation to Artificial Intelligence and provide officers with a steer on those areas they would like to see prioritised in the People and Places Work Programme.

Contact details

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Artificial Intelligence and Local Government

Background

1. At the board meeting in January, [officers set out some initial thinking](#) in relation to the topic of Artificial Intelligence and Local Government and the role of the People and Places Board in contributing to LGA policy in this space.
2. Given the breadth of this subject it was agreed that that a senior officer from the LGA's Cyber, Digital and Technology Team would attend this meeting to provide an overview of ongoing work in this space and provide an initial overview of the results of the LGA's recent survey of councils' use of AI.

Proposal

3. Members are asked to consider the presentation of activity relating to artificial intelligence and reflect on the opportunities for the People and Places Board to contribute to this debate.

Implications for Wales

4. Given the emerging nature of this debate, it is currently not known whether there are specific implications for Wales arising from the use of Artificial Intelligence. As this work develops, officers will engage with colleagues from the Welsh LGA to understand whether there are any potential issues.

Financial Implications

5. There are no direct financial implications arising from this report.

Equalities implications

6. The use of artificial intelligence and machine learning systems raise significant questions relating to equalities. As this is an emerging area the LGA will continue to work with councils, government and key national stakeholders to identify and address issues in line with our commitment to equality, diversity and inclusion.

Next steps

7. Officers will work with the Board and the wider organisation to develop a work programme that aligns with the priorities of councils with a view to influencing both the current government a future new or returning government.