

Chairman's Update

This report covers Councillor Gary Porter's activities in the period since the last Councillors' Forum.

Local Government Association (LGA) business

1. Meetings:

- 1.1. **Baroness Eaton** (Vice president, LGA)
- 1.2. **Clive Betts MP** (Vice president, LGA)
- 1.3. **Cllr Mark Hawthorne** (Chair, People and Places board, LGA)
- 1.4. **Cllr Sir Richard Leese** (Chair, City Regions Board, LGA)
- 1.5. **Lord Kerslake** (President, LGA)
- 1.6. **Cllr David Simmonds** (Chair, Improvement and Innovation Board, LGA)
- 1.7. **Cllr Peter Box** (Chair, Environment, Economy, Housing and Transport Board, LGA)
- 1.8. **Cllr Jeremy Hilton** (Chair, Fire Services Management Board, LGA)
- 1.9. **Cllr Roy Perry** (Chair, Children & Young People Board, LGA)

2. Ministerial/Parliamentary business

- 2.1. **Brendon Lewis MP** (Minister of State for Housing and Planning, DCLG)
- 2.2. **Camilla Sheldon** (Community Rights Division, DCLG)
- 2.3. **Helen Edwards** (Director General, DCLG)
- 2.4. **Marcus Jones MP** (Parliamentary Under Secretary of State, Minister for Local Government, DCLG)
- 2.5. **The Rt Hon Greg Clark MP** (Secretary of State, DCLG)
- 2.6. **The Rt Hon Lord Freud** (Minister of State for Welfare Reform, DWP)
- 2.7. **The Rt Hon Matthew Hancock MP** (Minister for the Cabinet Office and Paymaster General, Cabinet Office)
- 2.8. **Ministerial Group on Syrian Refugees**
- 2.9. **Mark Lancaster TD MP** (Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Defence Personnel and Veterans, MoD)
- 2.10. **Rt Hon Greg Hands MP** (Chief Secretary, HMT)
- 2.11. **Peter Schofield** (Director General, Neighbourhoods, DCLG)
- 2.12. **Welfare Reform and Work Bill Committee**
- 2.13. **Asylum Refugee and Migration Task and Finish Group**

3. Meetings with organisations and individuals

- 3.1. **Association of North East Councils (ANEC)** meeting
- 3.2. **Freedom Dinner 2015** (by Forest, Boisdale, the Institute of Economic Affairs and Action on Consumer Choice)
- 3.3. **NALC conference 2015**
- 3.4. **Alex Thomson** (Chief Executive, Localis)
- 3.5. **Judith Armitt** (Chief Executive, Local Partnerships)
- 3.6. **Sir David Wootton** (Chairman, Local Partnership)
- 3.7. **Nicholas Boys Smith** (Director, Create Streets)

4. Conservative Party Conference

- 4.1. Resolution Foundation fringe
- 4.2. Town & Country Planning Association fringe
- 4.3. LGiU annual local government dinner
- 4.4. Jon Sparks (Chief Executive, Crisis)
- 4.5. Demos Roundtable
- 4.6. Philip Barnes (Land and Planning Director, Barratt Developments PLC)
- 4.7. LGA/British Property Federation Conservative Party Conference dinner
- 4.8. LGA Conservative Party Conference reception
- 4.9. Brett Amphlett (Policy & Public Affairs Manager, Builders Merchants Federation)
- 4.10. Andrew Laird (Director, Mutual Ventures)
- 4.11. Sarah Calkin (Senior Correspondent, Health, Emap)
- 4.12. Moira Fraser (Director of Policy and Research, Carers Trust)
- 4.13. Ruth Davison (Director of Policy and External Affairs, National Housing Federation)
- 4.14. Bright Blue and Hanover Housing event
- 4.15. Localis Annual Members dinner