

Business Case and Plan for RSG 2015/16

Purpose of report

To seek the Leadership Board's comments on the business case and plan to be submitted to DCLG for revenue support grant (RSG) in 2015/16

Summary

The LGA via the Improvement and Development Agency (IDeA) receives financial support from DCLG to support local authorities with a range of improvement services. DCLG have requested the LGA submit a business case and plan to support the case for revenue support grant in the financial year 2015/16.

Appendix A sets out a draft of the business case and plan for 2015/16.

Recommendation

That the Leadership Board:

- comment on the draft business case and plan
- authorise the Chief Executive to finalise the business case and plan in consultation with the Chairman and submit to DCLG.

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Business Case and Plan for RSG 2015/16

Introduction

1. The current agreement between central government and the LGA for top-slice covers the spending period from 2011/12 through to 2014/15. In the financial settlement for local government announced on 6 February, DCLG have announced that revenue support grant for the IDeA in 2014/15 will be £25.98m. This is in line with our expectations. The settlement also indicates that the level of revenue support grant set aside for 2015/16 is £23.798m
2. DCLG has asked that we submit a business case for our funding for 2015/16. This is a process that all organisations funded by DCLG have to undertake.

Business Case and Plan

3. A draft of the business case and plan is attached. It includes:
 - 3.1. A summary of how top-slice has been used to date
 - 3.2. The case for top-slice
 - 3.3. Detailed programme of delivery for 2015/16
4. The sections on financial information are being prepared using the 2014/15 budget as the base and will be tabled at the meeting.

2015/16 Programme

5. We are proposing to use RSG to support councils in five broad areas of work:
 - Sector led improvement
 - Efficiency and productivity
 - Strong political and managerial leadership
 - Strong local economies
 - Transformation and Integration
6. This will be kept under review during the course of the year and the LGA's normal business planning process for 15/16 will be used to update and amend the plan as appropriate.