

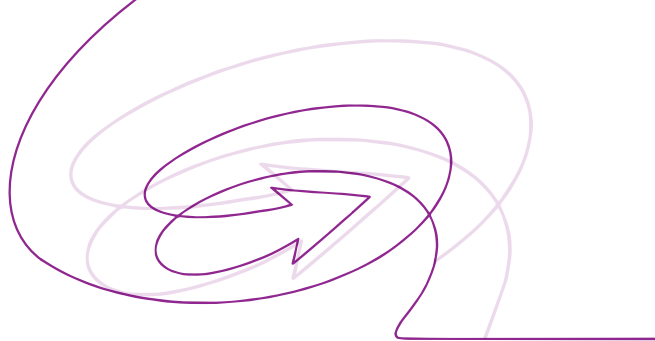


Your LGA membership **2019/20**

PREPARED FOR

City of York Council

Welcome to the Local Government Association 2019/20



The Local Government Association (LGA) is the national voice of local government. We are your voice in the corridors of power, a resource for you and a place for you to meet colleagues and share ideas. We look forward to continuing to provide this support to you as we prepare for another crucial year for councils.

In the last year we have continued to confront the challenges facing local government as well as promoting the opportunities to do things differently. We have continued to focus on those issues you have told us to prioritise – fair funding and fiscal devolution, adult social care, children's services, housing and preparing for Brexit.

Through our engagement with Whitehall and Parliament, our campaigning, our media work and our programme of events across the country, we have secured positive changes for local government. At the same time, we continued to support councils. We have delivered 115 peer challenges in the last year and 800 councillors took part in our leadership programmes.

Your support has helped us continue to be the national voice of local government and central government is listening to us. In the Budget, our influence helped deliver more than £1 billion of short-term funding. This included new money for adults and children's social care, road repairs, high streets regeneration and homelessness. Our focus will now turn to the Spending Review and longer-term, sustainable funding.

One of our major achievements last year was the scrapping of the housing borrowing cap. Government has finally recognised that councils must be part of the solution to our chronic housing shortage and that only an increase of all types of housing – including affordable and those for social rent – will solve the housing crisis.

Welcome to the Local Government Association 2019/20



In the continued absence of the Government's social care Green Paper we published our own – **'The lives we want to lead'** – widely recognised as leading the debate on how we fund and deliver social care in the future and the basis for our continued campaigning in the coming year.

Our work to support councils as we leave the European Union secured extra funding to help councils prepare for our departure and a guarantee from Government that EU funded projects would continue to be funded by the Treasury to the end of 2020.

Over the next year we will continue to work hard on your behalf, as we seek to build the strongest possible case for a long-term, sustainable funding solution for local government. By working together, as one family, councils can continue to influence the Government at this critical point for our nation.

Thank you for your continued support and we hope that this membership pack demonstrates the value of councils working together through the LGA as your single national voice. We look forward to continuing to represent and support you on the critical issues facing local government, your individual council and your residents in the coming year.

Lord Porter of Spalding CBE
Chairman

@GaryPorterLGA



Mark Lloyd
Chief Executive

@MarkLloydLGA



..... Your LGA

City of York Council

Keeping the cost of membership down

Value for money is always important and never more so than now, when councils must scrutinise every pound they spend. Our aim is always to ensure that the benefits of LGA membership far outweigh the cost of subscription.

For the seventh year running we have frozen subscriptions. Councils paying by 1 June will receive a 2.5 per cent early payment discount, with a further 2.5 per cent loyalty discount for those who have committed to membership for at least a full year.

City of York Council's subscription for 2019/20 is £37,037 - a reduction of 32 per cent since 2009.

At a glance

Supporting and speaking out for councils is why we exist. Here are just some of the benefits we have secured **for your council** and your local area over the past 12 months:

An additional £240 million in 2018/19 and £240 million in 2019/20 for adult social care, as well as a further £410 million in 2019/20 for adults and children's social care. **Your council received £731,801.**

Removal of the housing borrowing cap, which will allow councils to invest in the homes that people need and help solve our national housing crisis.

£420 million in 2018/19 to tackle potholes, repair damaged roads, and invest in keeping bridges open and safe. **Your council received £1,006,000.**

A further £100 million in 2018/19 of new money to repair local roads after winter damage. **Your council received £256,632.**

An additional £250 million over 2018/19 and 2019/20 for schools' high needs funding. **Your council received £392,608.**

An additional £100 million capital funding in 2019/20 for schools' special educational needs provision. **Your council received £274,781.**



..... Your LGA

City of York Council

An additional £55 million in 2018/19 from the Disabled Facilities Grant to provide home aids and adaptations for children with disabilities and adults on low incomes. **Your council received £145,309.**

A further £215 million of the Government's Flexible Homelessness Support Grant to support councils in 2019/20, along with a new £30 million fund to tackle rough sleeping. **Your council received £205,644 from the Government's Flexible Homelessness Support Grant and £193,565 to tackle rough sleeping.**

A further £26 million for local authorities to help with rough sleeping as part the 2019/20 phase of the Government's Rapid Rehousing Pathway programme.

£58 million for councils' preparations for Brexit, of which £40 million (£20 million in 2018/19 and 2019/20 each) will be allocated to all councils upfront. **Your council received £104,984.**

A power to increase the council tax premium on empty homes – up to 200 per cent council tax premium on homes that have been empty for between five and 10 years and up to 300 per cent premium on homes that have been empty for 10 years or more. This is in addition to existing plans to allow councils to double the council tax premium for homes that have been empty for two years or more.

New powers to fine householders who dump rubbish illegally up to £400 and access to a £10 million fund to support innovation in waste and recycling.

For councils with their own or housing association tower blocks – access to full funding for the removal and replacement of dangerous cladding plus financial support to carry out emergency remedial work on unsafe private sector buildings.

An uplift to new burdens funding for the extension of personal adviser support to looked after children aged 21-25. While the initial new burdens assessment estimated a cost of £7.8 million a year, local authorities will now receive £12.1 million a year on full implementation. **Your council received £9,872.**

£13 million funding pot to council projects to help support vulnerable young people, including those at risk of abuse.

Access to £17.7 million from the Early Intervention Youth Fund – allocated to local Community Safety Partnerships for projects that support and prevent young people from getting involved in crime.

Cross-party and politically-led



Cllr James Jamieson
Vice Chairman
Leader, Conservative Group
@JGJamieson



Cllr Nick Forbes
Senior Vice Chair
Leader, Labour Group
@nick_forbes



Cllr Howard Sykes MBE
Vice Chair
Leader, Liberal Democrat Group
@libdemlocalgov



Cllr Marianne Overton MBE
Vice Chair
Leader, Independent Group
@OvertonMarianne

The LGA is cross-party and politically-led, we work by consensus across all political parties.

Each year after the local elections, the LGA calculates the share of votes across the country secured by our four political groups – Conservative, Labour, Liberal Democrat and Independent (which includes independent councillors and smaller political groups). That political balance is reflected in the make-up of all our political governance arrangements – our Leadership Board, Executive, policy boards and Fire Services Management Committee. Through these, elected members from across England and Wales help shape our priorities, campaigns, policy, media and public affairs work.

As Chairman, Gary – Lord Porter of Spalding – represents and speaks on behalf of local government as a whole, with ministers, with partner organisations, in the media and in Parliament.

Each political group elects a group leader and an executive, who are supported by a group office. The groups work closely with Government, shadow teams and party administrations, influencing manifestos and policies and challenging them where appropriate.

The group offices provide a wide programme of support and advice to councillors and groups of councillors, including briefings and events around the country, often involving senior political figures. They contribute to our councillor leadership programmes, co-ordinate political support to councils where it is needed, run sessions at the party conferences and manage appointments to our governance structures.

The four group leaders are also the LGA's vice chairs, elected annually by the General Assembly.



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@LGACons



www.labourgroup.lga.gov.uk 020 7664 3263
@LGA_Labour



www.libdemgroup.lga.gov.uk 020 7664 3293
@libdemlocalgov



www.lgaindependent.local.gov.uk 020 7664 3224
@LGA_Independent

The national voice of local government

The LGA works to influence the financial and policy decisions which affect your council, pressing for greater powers to be devolved from Whitehall to local government, influencing emerging government thinking and working to change and improve existing legislation.

Our work often takes place behind the scenes with Government, ministers and officials and a wide range of partners. As well as securing extra money, we have prevented additional costs and duties being placed on councils. Where you have told us that you need new legislation, or changes to existing laws, we have pressed Government on your behalf. Where councils need a strong legal voice, we have co-ordinated collective actions on your behalf, making your case more powerful and saving you money.



Councillor Anntoinette Bramble speaks at the Education Select Committee about the need to fully fund SEND provision



LGA Chairman, Lord Porter responds to the local government funding settlement on ITV News



A year in focus

Over the last year, we continued to make and take every opportunity to keep local government centre stage. Here are just a few highlights from the year:

APRIL 2018

The LGA-led **Homelessness Prevention Task and Finish Group** helped secure £30 million to help councils tackle rough sleeping.

Following sustained LGA lobbying, the Government pledged a crackdown on fly-tipping.

MAY 2018

The Department for Education announced £8.5 million for a new Early Years Social Mobility Peer Review programme, supporting councils working together to improve outcomes for the most disadvantaged children.

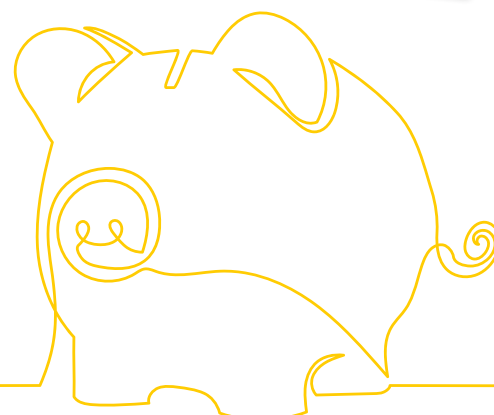
Following a sustained campaign for change by the LGA working with councils, the Government announced a reduction in the maximum stakes on fixed odds betting terminals from £100 to £2.

JUNE 2018

As part of our **Bright Futures** campaign, aimed at securing additional funding for children's services, the LGA hosted an exhibition in Parliament showcasing councils' early intervention and prevention work to support children and young people struggling with mental health issues.



Bright Futures campaign parliamentary exhibition



A year in focus

The LGA saw its **National Graduate Development Programme**, which attracts new talent into local government, ranked 25th in the Guardian UK 300 top employers, as voted by graduates.

JULY 2018

LGA Annual Conference, attended by 1600 senior delegates, saw the launch of our Spending Review preparation – **Moving the conversation on** – setting out why the Government must work with councils and focus on funding for local services and demonstrating how councils can be the solution to the challenges facing the country.

In the absence of the long-awaited Government green paper, the LGA launched its own nationwide consultation on adult social care **The lives we want to lead**, which received hundreds of responses.

AUGUST 2018

The LGA launched its **'Speeding up delivery'** work highlighting distinctive projects and practices from councils which are increasing the delivery of houses.

The LGA's warnings of the critical challenges councils face in meeting their statutory duties to support children with high needs or disabilities were widely reported in the national media.



A year in focus

SEPTEMBER 2018

Every council in England completed the LGA-led **cyber security stocktake** – part of a major drive to ensure that all local authorities have robust arrangements in place to keep their digital data secure.

The LGA launched phase four of our **Behavioural Insights** programme, making up to £25,000 matched funding available to councils for behavioural change work.



OCTOBER 2018

The Prime Minister announced that the housing borrowing cap was to be scrapped – something the LGA, and our Chairman Lord Porter in particular, had long campaigned for.

Following sustained work – both publicly and behind the scenes with ministers and officials – the Chancellor announced over £1 billion in short term funding for councils in 2019/20 in the Autumn budget.



BBC News interviews LGA Chairman, Lord Porter on Budget Day 2018



A year in focus

NOVEMBER 2018

Almost 34,000 tweets were sent during the LGA-led **#OurDay**, reaching 26 million people globally.

The LGA released its winter readiness survey, highlighting councils' preparedness for bad weather.

DECEMBER 2018

Following sustained campaigning, the provisional local government settlement included an additional £240 million for social care services in 2018/19 and £650 million in 2019/20.

Following intensive LGA lobbying, a ban on combustible materials on high-rise residential buildings came into force and the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) set out plans for implementing the Hackitt Review recommendations to improve fire safety and make buildings safer.

JANUARY 2019

The LGA set out the key funding issues for councils, including Business Rates Retention, the Fair Funding Review and the 2019 Spending Review, at our sell-out Finance Conference attended by the Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government, the Shadow Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government and the Chief Secretary for the Treasury.



A packed auditorium for the Annual Local Government Finance Conference at 18 Smith Square



A year in focus

The Department of Transport announced £23 million in funding for eight councils to trial new materials for road surface and potholes.

FEBRUARY 2019

The LGA published research showing that with the funding gap for concessionary fares now at an estimated £650 million, nearly half of all bus routes were under threat.

Following sustained LGA lobbying, Government pledged to introduce national minimum standards and new legislation to update taxi licensing. This will build on the LGA's sector-led work to introduce a national register of licence refusals and revocations.

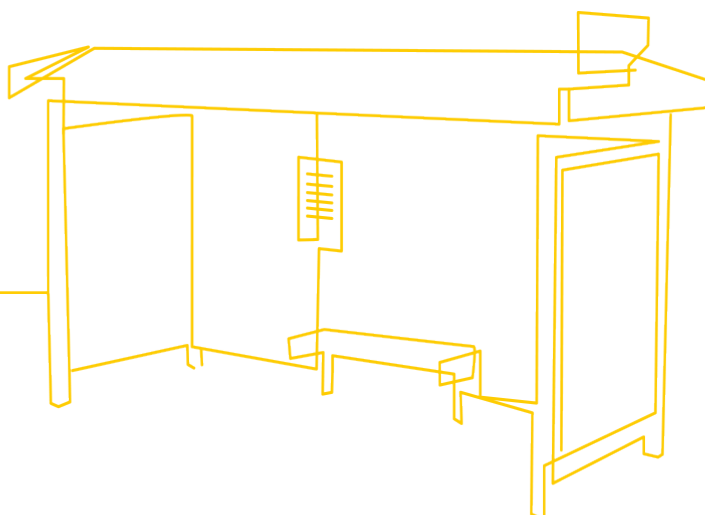
After continued LGA lobbying, Government announced a consultation into whether businesses and manufacturers will be required to pay for the cost of recycling and disposing of packaging. Government is also consulting on greater consistency in how and what materials are collected for recycling. The LGA will respond to these consultations.

MARCH 2019

Government announced £26 million for local authorities to help with rough sleeping as part of the 2019/20 phase of the Government's Rapid Rehousing Pathway programme.

Government announced a £1.6 billion Stronger Towns Fund to improve towns in England post-Brexit.

Following our engagement with Government, councils are set to receive £56.6 million in new resources to assist in Brexit preparedness. Despite the lack of clarity and gaps in information, councils have taken the lead on preparations with their local partners and are as prepared as they can be for Brexit.



Your voice in the media

Our media activity is a key channel for our campaigns and one of the main ways for councils to speak with one voice through local, regional and national media, increasing the number of positive stories that promote the very best of local government and defending its reputation.

Over the past year the LGA was featured **72,821** times in national, trade, regional, broadcast and online media – that's an average of **1,400 times a week** or **199 times a day**. On average, we have secured six national media hits every single day.

Along with front page stories in a number of national newspapers, our lead political spokespeople have been interviewed on BBC Breakfast, BBC News, the Daily Politics Show, Newsnight, ITV News, Sky News and Good Morning Britain and on Radio 4's Today Programme, World at One, You and Yours, BBC Radio 5 Live, LBC and on commercial stations such as Heart, Capital and Talk Radio.

You can sign up to receive our free daily news headline service at www.local.gov.uk/ebulletins

The LGA's voice is heard across the media



Influencing Parliament

You tell us that influencing Parliament is a top priority and we continue to provide a credible and influential voice speaking on your behalf. Using our network of vice-presidents in both Houses of Parliament, we are able to ensure local government's voice is heard in all key debates.

In the last year, we briefed parliamentarians for **85 debates** and provided evidence to more than **50 parliamentary inquiries**. We were quoted more than 500 times in Parliament on a range of subjects that are important to councils including council finances, social care, children's services, housing and licensing. We continue to use these debates and inquiries to build cross-party support and to influence policy development in Whitehall.

Our policy recommendations have been supported by a range of influential cross-party parliamentary committees including the Housing, Communities and Local Government Committee, the Public Accounts Committee and the Health and Social Care Committee. Independent polling of parliamentarians shows significant support for our campaigns on council finances, social care, housing, children's services and skills.

Outside of Parliament, local government also enjoyed a successful party conference season with councillors speaking at a range of high profile events and the Government announcing new money for councils and the scrapping of the housing borrowing cap.

In the next year we will continue to lobby on your behalf to shape the legislative and policy changes being debated and agreed in Parliament and to work with parliamentarians to ensure the views of local government are represented in national political debate.



Deputy Chief Executive, Sarah Pickup at the APPG for adult social care



Vice President, Clive Betts MP speaks at PMQs to highlight the LGA warning about councils' overspend on children's services

A packed programme of events

Last year we ran over 100 events for councillors and officers, from small seminars to large residential conferences. Our 2018 flagship LGA Annual Conference in Birmingham was attended by over 1,600 delegates. This year we will return to Bournemouth from 2-4 July 2019 for what will to be a packed programme of debates, discussions and presentations, including senior national politicians and other high profile speakers.

More than a third of our events are held outside London, whilst most of our one-day events take place in our 18 Smith Square Conference Centre in Westminster. Around 80 per cent are for member councils only and are free to attend. Member councils also receive discounts of 42 per cent on one-day events from our wider programme and 21 per cent on residential conferences.

For an up-to-date programme of events, visit www.local.gov.uk/events



A packed Innovation Zone at our annual conference 2018



Taking action on your behalf

Bringing action through the courts is complex, time-consuming and very expensive for individual councils. Through our collective legal actions we co-ordinate and support groups of councils to fight actions – negotiating fees, securing third party funding where appropriate and seeking extra funding for councils where legislation has created new financial burdens.

We have a number of actions underway:

COUNCILLORS' EXEMPTION FROM DATA PROTECTION REGISTRATION FEES PAYMENT

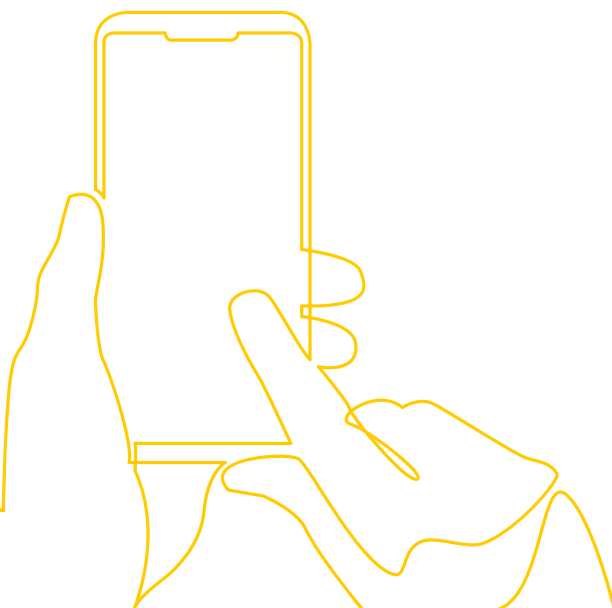
After much lobbying, we secured agreement from Government that councillors would be exempt from paying data protection registration fees, saving every councillor £40 a year.

CLAIM AGAINST MASTERCARD AND VISA

In 2016 the courts found that Visa and MasterCard had breached European Competition Law in their charging. We are co-ordinating a £23 million claim on behalf of 97 member councils, funded by private litigation funders who will bear the costs if the claim is unsuccessful.

LARGE VEHICLES CARTEL CLAIM

A 2016 investigation found that a number of trucks manufacturers had broken EU rules by colluding on prices. We are co-ordinating a £70 million claim on behalf of councils, fire and rescue authorities and national parks, funded by private litigation funders who will bear the costs if the claim is unsuccessful. **Yours is one of the 177 councils who have expressed an interest in joining a collective action.**



Taking action on your behalf

BUSINESS RATE RELIEF – CLAIM BY NHS TRUSTS

NHS Trusts in England are claiming refunds of 80 per cent of their business rates, backdated six years. If successful, councils will have to repay significant sums and see future income reduced. We are fighting the action and advising on new burdens implications if claims are upheld. **Your council is part of the LGA's collective, potentially saving up to £100,000 in legal fees if fought alone.**

BLUE BADGE SCHEME EXTENSION

In July 2018, Government announced that the blue badge scheme would be extended to people with hidden disabilities. We are assessing the cost of the change and co-ordinating a bid to Government to ensure that the new service is properly funded, for the benefit of its many new users. **We have made a New Burdens application on behalf of your council to cover this additional cost.**

LOCAL LAND CHARGES REGISTERS TRANSFER TO LAND REGISTRY

We worked with councils to deliver a seamless transfer of Local Land Charges registers to HM Land Registry. We are now seeking further funding to cover councils' post-transfer costs. **We have made a New Burdens application on behalf of your council to cover this additional cost.**

WATER CHARGES

Your council is part of a collective seeking to overturn a previous court ruling on water and sewage charge collection, which would see councils required to repay significant sums of money.

VAT EXEMPTION ON COMMERCIAL WASTE COLLECTION

We are fighting a private waste company's claim that council commercial waste collections should not be VAT exempt which, if successful, would add 20 per cent to the cost of the service.

ALLIED HEALTHCARE

We procured specialist legal advice to assist those councils affected by the failure of Allied Healthcare.

STATUTORY INQUIRY INTO HISTORICAL CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE (IICSA)

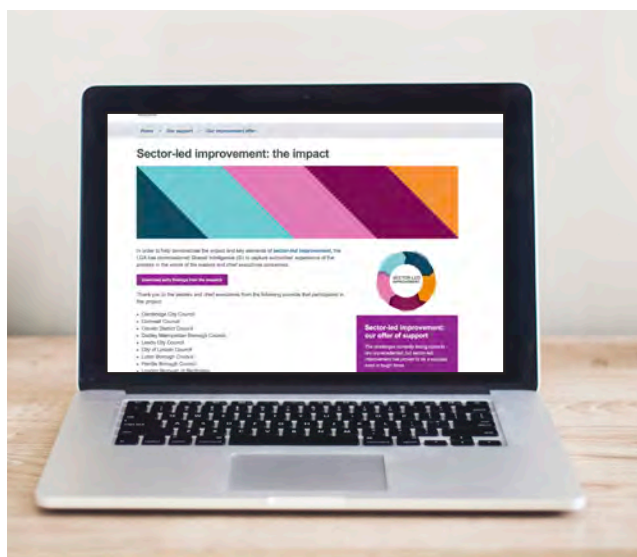
We are supporting councils in this complex and difficult inquiry. Our paper on the significant changes to the statutory framework, child protection practice and support for looked after children over the decades will be included in the evidence submitted.

Sector-led improvement

Our sector-led improvement approach was jointly developed by councils and the LGA and is largely funded through a grant secured from Government. Over the past few years it has helped councils deliver millions of pounds of savings, improve services and enhance the lives of residents.

This support is outlined in the following sections:

For further information please contact your Principal Adviser, Mark Edgell on mark.xxxxxx@xxxxx.xxv.uk and 07747 636 910.



Our sector-led improvement resource is online at www.local.gov.uk



FutureComms showcases the very best communications practice across local government



Supporting improvement and innovation

Local government has learnt from experience that key to driving improvement are strong political and managerial leadership, challenge from one's peers, benchmarking performance with others, practical support on productivity and efficiency and sharing good practice.

Our flexible improvement offer, tailored to individual councils' needs, includes:

- One **fully-funded corporate or finance peer challenge** every four to five years, with one free follow up visit and further bespoke support if required.
- **Themed peer challenges** including communications, adults and children's safeguarding, housing and planning.
- **Extended finance support** including support from a specialist adviser and access to a suite of financial diagnostic tools.
- **Bespoke peer support** ranging from up to five days change of control/leader support for new leaders/cabinet members; top team development; peer mentoring support for individual councillors from experienced councillors and support across a range of individual service areas.
- **Productivity support** – support to increase financial sustainability under three broad themes – transforming services, smarter sourcing and generating income.
- **Cyber security support** – designed to help senior councillors and officers understand the risks and importance of cyber security and ensure proper recognition, resources and priority.
- **Advanced Commercialisation Group** – encourages councils experienced in commercial activity to deliver greater benefits through collaboration and sharing good practice.
- **LG Inform** – free online benchmarking service with up-to-date performance data in an easy to read report format to help you understand your local area and compare it with others. Find out more at lginform.local.gov.uk
- **LG Inform Plus** – our premium data and information management service providing ward reports free of charge to member councils.

In the past 12 months your council has accessed the following from the programme: top team development; and cyber security support.

Supporting children's and adult services

Adult services

Our Care and Health Improvement Programme (CHIP) is delivered jointly by the LGA and the Association of Directors of Adult Social Services. Through our team of experienced Care and Health Improvement Advisers, CHIP offers fully funded and tailored support to lead members and Health and Wellbeing Boards, as well as individuals, teams and partners working in social care, integration and health.

Our offer includes access to case studies, tools and guidance along with support to:

- **Improve** adult safeguarding support and develop approaches to managing demand and risk in services for vulnerable adults.
- **Strengthen** provider relationships and contingency planning in response to growing concerns over market fragility.
- **Implement** the Better Care Fund and drive use of digital technology, integration of systems and better information sharing across care and health.
- **Maximise** opportunities to prevent poor health and reduce health inequalities.
- **Identify and manage** the causes and extent of delayed hospital to home transfers.
- **Improve** community-based care and support for adults and young people with autism and learning disabilities through the Transforming Care programme.

In the last 12 months, your council has received information and advice to support your response to provider failure; support with Better Care Fund implementation and integration to maximise the impact on wellbeing; assistance to you and your partners in managing delays in hospital to home transfers; and access to our national Transforming Care programme for you and your Transforming Care Partnership.

Children's services

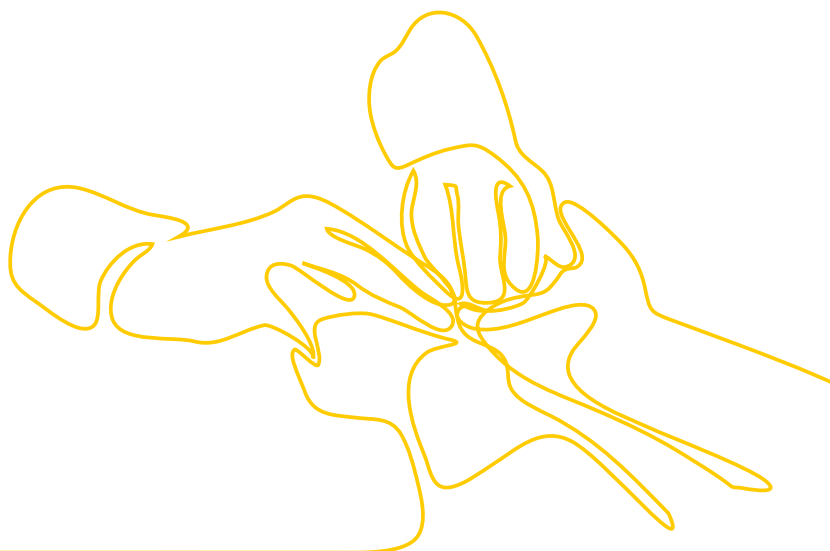
Our team of Children's Improvement Advisers work with leading members, chief executives and directors of children's services first to understand their particular challenges and then to identify innovative solutions and improvement strategies, commissioning additional capacity and expertise where it is needed.

In response to continuing demand from local authorities and the on-going roll out of the Ofsted single inspection framework, we offer a suite of safeguarding peer reviews and diagnostics, comprising:

- childrens' safeguarding peer review
- safeguarding practice diagnostic
- care practice diagnostic
- local safeguarding children's board diagnostic
- special educational need and disabilities peer review.

We have also been commissioned by the Department for Education to develop and deliver a programme of peer reviews on early years social mobility, leadership and financial management in children's services.

For further information please contact your Principal Adviser, Mark Edgell on marx.xxxxxx@xxxxx.xxv.uk and 07747 636 910.



Leadership programmes for councillors

We offer a range of free or subsidised programmes, courses and materials to support councillors and groups of councillors in their various leadership roles.

- **Leading Edge:** a unique opportunity for council leaders to work with chief executives on key leadership challenges.
- **Leadership Academy:** three two-day residential modules delivered in a cross-party setting for councillors in leadership positions to learn more about the latest in political leadership.
- **Leadership Essentials:** themed programmes and workshops for councillors in leadership positions to share experiences with others who face similar challenges.
- **Next Generation:** a prestigious leadership development programme for ambitious councillors delivered in a political group setting – free to nominated members.
- **Change of Control:** five days free consultancy support to new political administrations, to enable them to ‘hit the ground running’ following a change of control.
- **Leaders’ Programme:** a leadership development programme designed around the needs of leaders and delivered in modules.
- **Focus On Leadership:** development programmes for councillors with potential or aspirations to move into leadership positions.
- **Community Leadership:** free support for councillors in their community leadership role including in-house training programmes, workbooks and e-Learning modules.
- **Be a Councillor:** a modular programme designed to increase the pool of talent from which councillors are elected and which can be tailored to meet local needs and circumstances.
- **The Councillors’ Guide:** a comprehensive guide to support new councillors to be as effective as possible in their new role.

Find out more on our website: www.local.gov.uk/our-support

Managing today's and developing tomorrow's workforce

Our workforce team offers practical advice and guidance on employment and workforce issues. We combine a knowledge of current best practice and the sector's diverse needs, with up-to-date research into future organisational development and HR practice. We also represent councils' interests in regular dialogue with central government and others on workforce-related legislation and regulations.

During 2018/19, the team delivered training and briefings for HR staff on teachers' pay and conditions, NJC pay spine assimilation and health and wellbeing. We provided direct support on organisational design and implementation; employee engagement surveys and action planning; wellbeing health checks; HR service reviews; flexible employment and recruitment practices and achieving accreditation as Leaders in the Disability Confident scheme.

Please contact your Principal Adviser if you would like to discuss workforce issues with one of our expert team.

In the past 12 months your council has received the following support: support through our apprenticeship programme to help increase numbers of apprentices and maximise levy investment.

Our National Graduate Development Programme (NGDP) recruits high calibre graduates into local government on a two-year programme.

Local Government Challenge: aspiring top managers compete for the £10,000 Bruce-Lockhart scholarship in a six-month long competition hosted by councils across the country. Wiltshire Council's Kartar Singh won the 2018 Challenge.

Leadership Development Programmes for Officers: we have partnered with SOLACE to deliver managerial leadership programmes to develop the leadership skills of the sector's future senior managers.

RETURNERS' PROGRAMMES

In 2018 our **Return to Social Work** pilot programme attracted more than 50 qualified social workers back into the profession. In 2019 we are planning an expansion of the social work programme and the introduction of new returner programmes for planning and ICT professionals.

Other specialist support

COMMUNICATIONS SUPPORT

includes one-day communication 'health checks', in-depth three-day communications reviews, strategic communications assistance, crisis communications support and help with resident satisfaction research. Our communications hub includes a comprehensive photo library, best practice case studies and online resources.

This year, in partnership with the Society of Local Authority Chief Executives (SOLACE), LGcommunications and the Public Relations and Communications Association (PRCA), we launched our #FutureComms resource to support councils' political and managerial leadership of communications.

ONE PUBLIC ESTATE

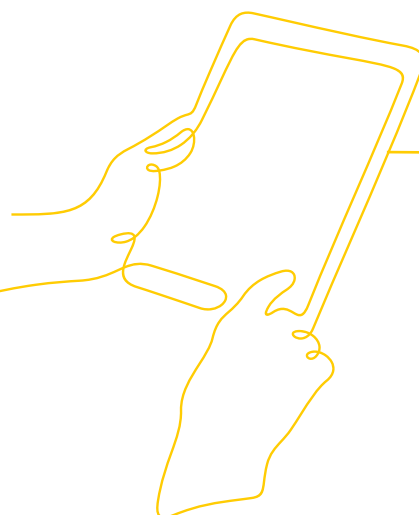
supports councils to work with other public bodies on land and property initiatives to deliver capital receipts, reduce running costs, support local growth and offer integrated services.

HOUSING ADVISERS PROGRAMME

helping over 20 councils to meet their communities' housing needs, including planning, supply and homelessness policy. The programme will capture and share learning and best practice through events, reports, and toolkits.

COMMUNITY SAFETY PROGRAMME

leadership courses, masterclasses, events and publications to help councils tackle extremism and modern slavery, prevent radicalisation and strengthen community cohesion. We have developed a new national register of taxi/Private Hire Vehicle licence refusals and revocations.



PLANNING ADVISORY SERVICE (PAS)

advice, support, training and best-practice sharing on a range of planning issues to keep members and officers up to date in a constantly changing environment.

CENTRE FOR PUBLIC SCRUTINY (CFPS)

support and advice to councils on improving governance or developing new governance arrangements as part of a reorganisation or devolution deal.

DEVOLUTION SUPPORT

Bespoke packages to help councils secure the benefits of devolution; including support on negotiating with government departments; setting up new governance arrangements; developing business cases; financial modelling; implementing deals and engaging with residents and communities.

For more information on developing devolution deals or forming a combined authority, including a range of practical tools and resources, visit www.local.gov.uk/devolution for more information.

In 2018/19, your council received support from the following programmes: One Public Estate; and Planning Advisory Service (PAS).

Local Partnerships

Since 2009, Local Partnerships has delivered expert support to councils and other public sector organisations in a range of areas – from service transformation and commercialisation to energy and waste, major project assurance and integrating health and social care. Jointly owned by the LGA, HM Treasury and the Welsh Government, Local Partnerships provides additional capacity and commercial capability to councils, helping to make best use of limited resources as demands for services rise.

For further information on how to access support and advice go to www.localpartnerships.org.uk



Looking forward – our priority campaigns for 2019/20

With you, we have identified seven priority campaigns for 2019/20.

FUNDING FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Reforms to the finance system and a fair and sustainable funding settlement enable councils to plan and deliver essential public services beyond the short term, to raise more funds locally and to promote greater collective working across local public services.

ADULT SOCIAL CARE AND HEALTH

Sustainable long term funding and more effective integration with health services enables councils to continue to support people to live safe, healthy, active lives and to remain at home and be independent for as long as possible.

CHILDREN, EDUCATION AND SCHOOLS

Councils have the powers and resources they need to bring partners together in their local place so that all children get the support and high quality education they deserve.

HOUSING

Councils have a leading role in building the new homes that are needed and in creating strong and healthy communities that are great places to live.

INCLUSIVE GROWTH, JOBS AND DEVOLUTION

Councils are central to revitalising local economies and providing decent life chances and safer communities for all residents. A radical re-think of local governance and accountability achieves a real shift in power to local people and a refocus on local democratic leadership.

BRITAIN'S EXIT FROM THE EU

Local government has a strong and influential voice during Britain's exit from the European Union, securing the best deal for councils and ensuring that the different local communities are fully recognised.

SUPPORTING COUNCILS

Councils are responsible for their own performance, effectiveness and efficiency, accountable before all else to their local communities. Our range of peer-based support helps councils continue to improve and meet the challenges they face.

For more information

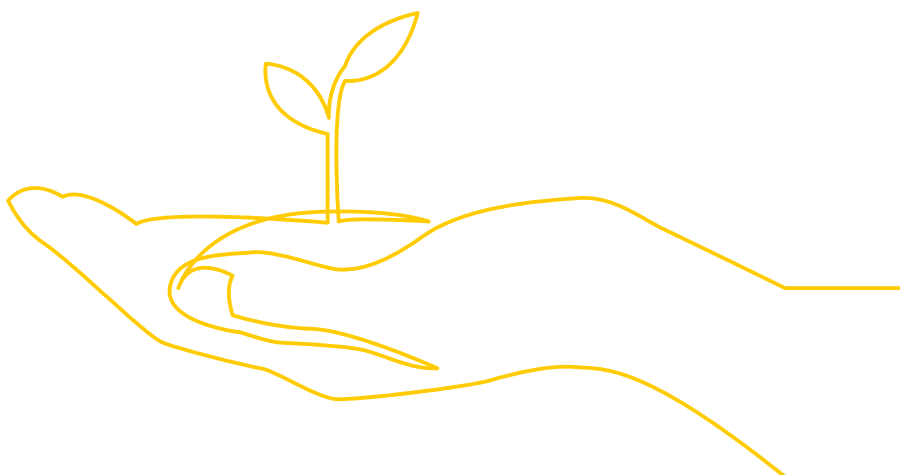
See the LGA Business Plan

Local Government Mutual

The Local Government Mutual offers LGA member councils a cost-effective alternative to traditional insurance products and services. Designed by local government for local government, it is owned by and operated solely for the benefit of its members with no shareholders expecting a return on their investment. It opens for business from April 2019. To arrange a meeting or find out more, please contact James Alexander at james.alexander@lgmutual.co.uk

GeoPlace

Place-related data is becoming ever more important and commercially valuable. GeoPlace, our joint venture with Ordnance Survey, works with local authorities to turn the unique property and streets data that they produce into a range of commercial products, which are sold through Ordnance Survey. Public sector organisations can access the data free of charge at point of use and the income from sales funds additional support services to our member councils.



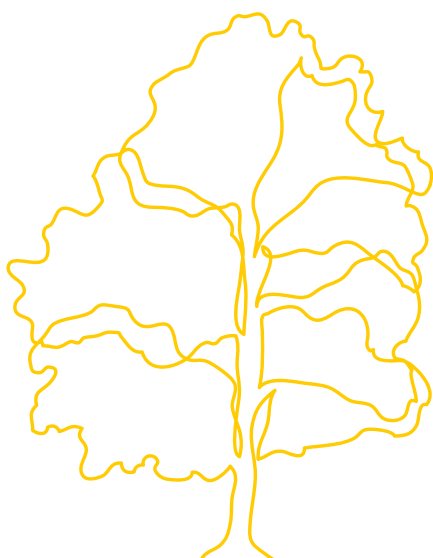
Getting involved

The LGA General Assembly acts as the Parliament for local government and every member council is allocated a number of voting places. It takes place every summer at the start of Annual Conference to elect office holders, hear from our Chairman and debate matters of importance to local government.

You can also get involved in the work of the LGA through:

- Taking part in discussions that help shape national policy affecting local government at the six-weekly Councillors' Forum or at one of our Smith Square Debates.
- Contributing to the work of the policy boards, committees or task groups, which together cover every area of local government.
- Joining one of our many special interest groups that cover a wide range of topics – from coastal authorities and small rural authorities to councils with ALMOs or markets. They include the County Councils' Network (CCN), District Councils' Network (DCN), the Special Interest Group of Municipal Authorities (SIGOMA).
- Talking to your political group office about support, specialist training, peer reviews and peer support available to you and to your council.

For further information please contact your Political Group Office or our Member Services Team: memberserxxxxx@xxxxx.xxv.uk

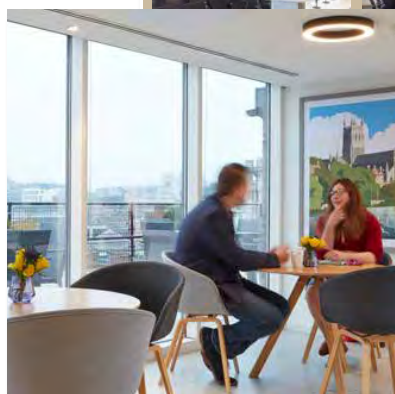
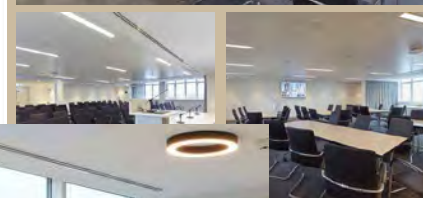
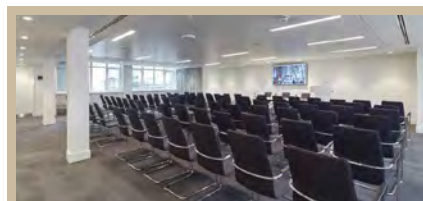


18 Smith Square – your base in Westminster

Our headquarters at 18 Smith Square includes a fully equipped ground floor conference centre, along with a suite of meeting rooms on the seventh and eighth floors and the Open Council coffee lounge and terrace on the seventh floor.

Member councils can book a meeting room twice a year, free of charge – so if you're looking to hold an away day for your cabinet or your senior management team, contact our venue team for further information at venxx@xxxxx.xxv.uk. Further bookings can be made at our preferential members' rate. For informal working over a coffee, Open Council is open to all members and officers of LGA member councils – Monday to Friday, all year round.

For more details on room sizes and layouts, or to hire the conference centre, go to www.18smithsquare.co.uk





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please contact us on 020 7664 3000.
We consider requests on an individual basis.

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