

Overview and Scrutiny – Outside Organisation Update from the Council’s appointed representatives

Councillor Richard Keeling
Organisation: LGA (Local Government
Association)

The Council’s representatives are invited to report on any meetings of the appointed outside organisation, the role the organisation(s) they represent plays in promoting and aligning with the Council's priorities, policies and strategies, their impact and results, and advising on partnership discussions which are open and in the public domain. Feedback is scheduled across a full year cycle once per annum for most organisations and twice where meetings are more frequent (greater than 5).

<p>Purpose of the Organisation:</p>	<p>The Local Government Association (LGA) is the national membership body for councils in England, working on their behalf to champion and be the voice of local government, ensuring it has the resources, powers and support to deliver the best possible outcomes.</p> <p>We are a politically led, cross-party organisation, providing advice, support and services to all local authorities in England and Wales – including non-member councils and combined authorities – on critical issues like social care, housing, and climate change. While headquartered in London, we have a local footprint, regional presence, and national reach, with staff located and working around the country.</p> <p>Our work is guided by four clear goals: to represent, improve and innovate local government, and to maintain a strong and sustainable LGA. Our behaviours and principles guide how we do so: through collaboration, inclusion, ambition, and respect.</p> <p>Our offer to our members includes training, peer reviews, and improvement programmes, which enhance council performance and governance. We also facilitate networking and collaboration between our members, sharing best</p>
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	<p>practice and fostering innovation to improve community outcomes.</p> <p>The LGA also represents councils in Wales through the Welsh LGA fire and rescue authorities and welcomes associate members like police and crime commissioners and national parks authorities.</p>
Attendance requirements/ meetings attended:	<p>I have attended all conference meetings held every year as well as Leaders from the opposition parties.</p> <p>I have also attended training made available on Finance (yearly refresher course) and the Leadership Academy. I am also qualified as a Member Peer.</p>
Feedback:	<p>I believe this membership is invaluable to advance knowledge of any Councillor in their field of engagement whether on any committee or organisation. The organisation in general pays for the courses the only cost to the Councillor is time and travel. Most courses are held at Warwick Scarmen House.</p>
Examples of where the brief above has been followed:	<p>Many Councillors on this council have attended courses provided.</p>
Additional information relevant to Overview & Scrutiny including the	<p>Leaders of your groups have access to information and Democratic Services can point you in the right direction.</p>

value that TDC brings to this organisation and/or why this organisation needs TDC:	<p>This organisation allows cross party conversation to highlight best practices at all levels of the council.</p> <p>It also provides a critical friend in Corporate Peer Challenges which all councils undertake every 4 years or so.</p>
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