

The role of local government in supporting economic inclusion: unlocking talent to level up

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Programme

- LGA's recent work on equality, diversity and economic inclusion, and the key role that local government plays to ensure that people and places flourish.
- LGA's guiding principles underpinning equality, diversity and economic inclusion in employment and skills.
- Local government's economic inclusion work: showcase four case studies - Durham Country Council, Bristol City Council, Greater London Authority, Hampshire County Council.
- Local government and key stakeholder's panel session: how we can better support economic inclusion to achieve greater impact for people and places - exploring guidance and tools available.

Synopsis of the LGA equality, diversity and economic inclusion work

- Case for greater local leadership of public services to make us all more prosperous and united by tackling the regional and local inequalities that unfairly hold back communities.
- There is a both an economic and social case - we are one of the biggest and strongest economies in the world and one of the most unbalanced.
- Economic inclusion is key for building strong and resilient communities, reducing inequality and poverty, and promoting economic growth.
- Local government, as leaders of place, can play a key leadership role in supporting economic inclusion both as employers and enablers of economic growth.

Synopsis of the LGA equality, diversity and economic inclusion work

- LGA analysis of the employment and skills landscape revealed equality and diversity are not completely reflected in jobs, skills and training opportunities – stark inequalities are prevalent for both people and places.
- Local government is working hard to tackle these inequalities but more remains to be done to address longstanding and systemic issues for a more inclusive and equitable local economy.

LGA equality, diversity and economic inclusion Roundtables

- The roundtables explored how local government is working to improve equality and diversity in employment and skills outcomes to encourage economic inclusion for their communities.
- The discussions provided a snapshot of the challenges and how these are being addressed.
- If you would like to know more a ‘Equality, diversity and inclusion focus group: thematic summary’, is available at www.local.gov.uk/publications.

LGA guiding principles underpinning equality, diversity and economic inclusion in employment and skills

Principles

1. Economic inclusion strategies, action plans, and initiatives informed by data on individual needs and local labour market intelligence can be more effective.
2. Investment in infrastructure is vital to fully achieve economic growth and inclusion in people and places.
3. Local government should foster collaborative internal and external partnerships to maximise economic growth and inclusion
4. Local government should assist businesses and employers to support good work practices to maximise economic inclusion in local areas.
5. Local government should promote workforce equality, diversity and economic inclusion as an employer.
6. Local government should monitor and evaluate progress to ensure economic inclusion is achieved for everyone.