

## LGA/MHCLG Steering Group

### Forward look – January 2019

In October 2018, the Steering Group approved a forward look of issues that it might consider for the rest of this year, but this now needs refreshing. This high-level forward look proposes a programme leading to implementation of the Business Rates Retention Reforms in 2020/21. We expect to be able to expand on these in greater detail following the close of the BRR and RRNR consultations and further engagement with the technical working groups. The plans are also affected by current uncertainties over the timing of events such as the Spending Review. We will of course keep the Steering Group updated on any changes necessary.

#### Key Milestones

December 2018	Consultations on Business Rates Retention and the Review of Relative Needs and Resources published alongside the Provisional Settlement.
Winter 2018/19	MHCLG/ LGA regional events.
21 February 2019	Consultations close.
Spring 2019	Analysis of consultation responses.
Spring/ Summer 2019	Further policy development, including on transition and implementation, in collaboration with technical working groups jointly chaired by MHCLG and the LGA.
Before the 2019 Provisional Settlement	The Government will publish a further consultation on the proposed reform of the system including details of implementation and transition.
Winter 2019	Reforms to be implemented in 2020/21 announced.
Winter / Spring 2020	MHCLG will work with local authorities in helping them implement reforms, ready for 2020-21.

## **Steering Group**

We propose the programme below:

<b>Meeting date</b>	<b>Issue</b>	<b>Issues</b>
January 2019	Business Rates Retention  Needs and Redistribution  Spending Review	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Steering Group views on consultation</li> <li>• Steering Group views on consultation</li><li>• Update</li></ul>
March 2019	System Design  Needs and Redistribution  Spending Review  Business Rates Avoidance  Pilots	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Result of Consultations</li> <li>• Update</li><li>• Discussion</li> <li>• Evaluation</li></ul>
May 2019	System Design  Needs and Redistribution  Spending Review	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Progress report on outstanding issues</li> <li>• Update</li></ul>
July 2019	System Design  Needs and Redistribution  Spending Review	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The agenda for this meeting will be determined nearer the time, dependant on Spending Review timings.</li> <li>• Update</li></ul>

## **Technical Working Groups**

We expect to reconvene the technical working groups following the close of the consultations. We will engage with them to review what further discussions would be helpful to inform Ministerial decisions on what the reformed system will look like in the round, to develop a proposed path to the publication of further consultations, and to inform the approach to implementation and transition. We invite comment from the Steering Group on possible agenda items for the technical working groups and how this feeds into the Steering Group programme.