

LGA Special Interest Group Annual Report to LGA Board

SIG Name: Special Interest Group of Municipal Authorities (SIGOMA)

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Membership

Membership: 47 Councils including Metropolitan Boroughs and Unitary Authorities

Barnsley
Blackburn with Darwen
Blackpool
Bolton
Bradford
Bury
Calderdale
County Durham
Coventry
Derby
Doncaster
Dudley
Gateshead
Halton
Kingston upon Hull
Kirklees
Knowsley
Leeds
Leicester
Liverpool
Manchester
Newcastle upon Tyne
North Tyneside
Nottingham
Oldham
Plymouth
Portsmouth

Rochdale
Rotherham
Salford
Sandwell
Sheffield
South Tyneside
Southampton
St. Helens
Stockport
Stockton-on-Tees
Stoke-on-Trent
Sunderland
Tameside
Trafford
Wakefield
Walsall
Warrington
Wigan
Wirral
Wolverhampton

Aim

To lobby central government in order to help secure sufficient, sustainable and fair funding so that our members can maintain vital services and continue to invest in improving their local areas.

Key Activities / Outcomes of work undertaken

Representing our member's interests on working and steering groups including the upcoming discussions on the Fair Funding Review.

Responding to a range of consultations and inquiries.

Participating in conference calls with government departments and other sector representatives to help facilitate information sharing with regards to Brexit and the Coronavirus pandemic, raising our members concerns and passing on the latest guidance.

Organising meetings of our officers and leaders' groups to share our research and detail the progress of our campaigns, providing an opportunity for our members to contribute their views and ideas.

Creating videos and infographics to better communicate our key messages that local government funding must be sufficient, sustainable and fairly allocated.

Producing PR and Op-ed pieces to communicate our stance in the local, regional and national press.

Building an active and growing presence on social media in order to ensure our content reaches an even wider audience.

Delivering creative campaigns across print, online and social media. Providing a regular email bulletin service to help SIGOMA finance officers keep abreast of the latest policy developments, legislation changes, funding allocations and technical insights in local government, including the funding mechanisms related to Coronavirus.

Providing insights, analysis and advice to finance officers regarding the local government finance settlement, spring and autumn statements and other milestones in the local government calendar including funding announcements related to coronavirus.

Issuing official correspondence and FOI requests to ministers and other organisations to ensure our members have a clear understanding of central government policy and to seek to hold power to account.