
Responsibilities Working Group Update

1. Since the last Steering Group meeting the Responsibilities Working Group has met once and organised and held a 'deep dive' workshop during August to help inform the sector response to the Government consultation.
2. The Responsibilities Working Group meeting on 21 July briefly discussed the then recent **publication of the consultation** and noted that the criteria agreed by the working and steering groups to guide decision making was included. The group also noted the consultation list of responsibilities and the opportunity for consultation responses to suggest additional or alternative options in addition to commenting on those listed. The group felt the workshop would be important in helping to identify potential new candidates – particularly around growth related activities.
3. The remainder of the meeting focussed on the structure and content of the **deep dive workshop** with sector experts. The group agreed the aim of the workshop would be to explore what the role of local government should be in the areas of economic growth (primarily skills), welfare and health and social care integration, and identify new responsibilities that local government might take on alongside implementation of 100% business rates retention.
4. The group agreed they would want to consider the outputs of the workshop over the summer to inform consideration of the response to the current consultation. A paper would be drafted for the Steering Group on that basis following the workshop the group would aim to have this ready for discussion at the Steering Group's meeting on 7 September.
5. The workshop on the themes of **economic growth and welfare was held on 4 August** with good attendance from a range sector experts and a paper for discussion is included on the agenda for the Steering Group meeting. Due to issues of availability, the health and social care integration theme is being considered by a 'virtual workshop', the outputs of which will be considered by the working group and a subsequent Steering Group paper prepared for the October meeting.