

APSE Northern Ireland Regional Meeting 18 October 2007

UPDATE ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT REFORM & MODERNISATION



Agenda

- **Improving Relationships**
- **Update on Progress on the Review**
- **Modernisation Agenda**
- **Questions & Answers**



Improving Relationships



- Increased contact
- More interaction
- Working together



Improving Relationships

- **Strategic Leadership Board (SLB)**
- **SLB Sub-Groups**



 **Association for Public Service Excellence**

socitm 


SOLACE
NORTHERN IRELAND

LGT



 **nilga** Northern Ireland
Local Government Association

changing
for the
better

Update on Review Progress



Department of the
Environment
www.doeni.gov.uk

- **July 2006 – 9 Taskforce Sub Group Reports**
- **May 2007 – New Minister for Local Government**
- **July 2007 – Executive agree Review of Local Government aspects of RPA (3 Strands):**
 - ✓ **Developing shared vision for Local Government**
 - ✓ **Number of Councils**
 - ✓ **Transfer of functions**

Update on Review Progress



- **Review overseen by Sub Committee of Executive, chaired by DOE Minister**
- **Oct 2007 - Emerging Findings of Review to Executive**
- **Oct/Nov 2007 – Stakeholder events**
- **Jan 2008 – Final Report to Executive for decision**

Update on Review Progress



Department of the
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Role of SLB

- **Agree a joint overall vision for Local Government**
- **Be the pinnacle of and driver for modernisation and RPA implementation programme**
- **Agree the remit, functions, priorities and composition of SLB Sub Groups**
- **Approve the programme of work to be taken forward by the SLB Sub Groups**
- **Approve/monitor the programme communication strategy**
- **Advise the Minister in key decisions in relation to the programme.**

Modernisation Agenda



SLB Sub-Groups

- **Sub Group A – Legislative Framework & Capacity Building (includes HR, Performance Management, Governance)**
- **Sub Group B – Service Improvement (includes front office, back office and infrastructure)**

Modernisation Agenda



SLB Sub-Groups

- **Chaired/Vice Chaired by SLB members**
- **+ 8 Elected members, +3 senior Council officers,**
- **Work with other sub-groups or task & finish groups**
- **To develop proposals for prioritised, costed and timetabled programme of work**
- **Joint secretariat – DOE/NILGA**

Modernisation Agenda



SLB Sub-Groups

- **Sub Groups - subject to review**
- **External consultancy support likely**
- **To maximise the development of co-operative & collaborative ventures across groups of Councils**
- **SLB Sub-Group proposals provide detail to support bids for central government funds**

Modernisation Agenda



SLB Sub-Group A – Legislative Framework & Capacity Building

- **Early Modernisation Order proposed**
- **Likely to be consulted on in Spring 2008**
- **Followed by legislation on restructuring when way forward is clear**

Modernisation Agenda

SLB Sub-Group A – Legislative Framework & Capacity Building

**Early
Modernisation
order**

- Modernising financial arrangements
- Facility to develop remuneration and severance schemes
- Mandatory codes of conduct and ethical standards
- Updated companies provisions

- Assess potential for inclusion of Power of Wellbeing

Modernisation Agenda



SLB Sub-Group A – Legislative Framework & Capacity Building

- **Capacity Building – to identify priorities, costs/Benefits etc**
- **Performance management**
- **Governance**
- **HR**

Modernisation Agenda



SLB Sub-Group B – Service Improvement

- Intended to improve way in which Councils work
- To deliver business-related services – standardised, simple, VFM
- To enable resources to be released to improve front-line service delivery

Modernisation Agenda



SLB Sub-Group B – Service Improvement

- **Front-line customer service mechanisms**
- **Back-office service delivery (HR, finance, procurement, & estates)**
- **Common ICT infrastructure for local government**

Scoping, options, costs, benefits, timescales

Modernisation Agenda



SLB Sub-Group B – Service Improvement

- **Network Infrastructure - NIRAN**
- **Local Authority Customer Relationship Management (LA CRM)**
- **Procurement (including e-procurement)**
- **Shared services (feasibility)**
- **EU/ERNACT**

Modernisation Agenda



SLB Sub-Group B – Service Improvement

- **Finance (systems)**
- **Estates (systems, asset management and Public Service Office concept)**
- **Geographic Information Systems (GIS)**
- **Environmental Health**
- **Land and Property Service/Building Control**
- **Customer Service and Customer Insight**

Modernisation Agenda



SLB Sub-Group B – Service Improvement

- **Working With NILGA E-Gov Sub-Groups**
- **Mobile Working Pilots (Environmental Health & Building Control)**
- **IS Strategy for Local Government**
- **NI Direct**



Questions and Answers





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