

## **Draft COSLA Progress Update 2017-18**

### **Strategic Development**

This paper provides Convention with a draft progress update report highlighting COSLA's key activities and impact since June 2017. It will be accompanied by verbal presentations from COSLA's political leadership team at the meeting.

### **Summary and Recommendations**

As part of the COSLA Strategic Review agreed by Convention in March 2017, it was agreed that COSLA should introduce a more formal system of planning built around a common set of strategic objectives. To deliver this, in June 2017 Convention unanimously agreed 8 priorities as part of the COSLA Plan 2017-22, and each Policy Board also developed a detailed workplan covering their areas of activity. While the priorities cover a 5-year period, it was agreed that annual arrangements should be made through Convention to provide a high-level overview of progress, and to review any potential changes to the priorities.

The attached draft COSLA Progress Update forms part of this commitment. The information it sets out has been provided via relevant policy teams, and will be supplemented by verbal updates by the Presidential Team and Spokespersons on their portfolios.

This is the first time COSLA has produced an annual update of this kind. It builds on a wider commitment to actively communicate with our membership and key stakeholders, and is therefore designed to provide as high level and accessible an overview of key work as possible, rather than replicate the detailed reports that are routinely considered via Leaders and Policy Boards, and which are accessible via the COSLA website.

Finally, the report proposes that two additional COSLA priorities are created. The first focuses on the commitment by Leaders in November 2017, and wider work by councils, to a programme of work around improving equality, representation and diversity across Local Government. The second proposed priority recognises significant Local Government activity around housing, welfare reform and social security, and local accountability in community justice and police governance.

Convention is invited to:

- i. Consider the attached draft progress update report;
- ii. Agree proposals to introduce additional priorities in relation to "Equality, Representation and Diversity", and "Strong, Safe and Sustainable Communities"; and
- iii. Note that once finalised, the update will be shared with all elected members.

### **References**

- COSLA Plan 2017-22, Convention June 2017
- COSLA Strategic Review, Convention March 2017