



LSB/24/011

There will be a meeting of the **Leadership Sounding Board** on **Friday 9th February 2024 at 1pm** Verity House, Edinburgh and via Microsoft Teams

Jane O'Donnell
Chief Executive

AGENDA

Private Session (Private and Confidential)

1. Welcome and Apologies
2. Draft Minutes: 12th January 2024 (**LSB/24/012**)
3. COSLA Update – verbal
4. Communications update – paper (**LSB/24/013**)
5. Annual Conference 2024- Paper (**LSB/24/014**)
6. Review of Pay negotiation arrangements – paper (**LSB/24/015**)
7. Pay Claims 24/25 Update – paper - Stuart – paper to follow (**LSB/24/016**)
8. LG Finance update – verbal
9. SLARC Final Report – paper (**LSB/24/017**)
10. Education Assurance – paper (**LSB/24/018**)
11. Free School Meals – paper – Matthew (**LSB/24/019**)
12. National Care Service – Verbal update

Date of Next meeting is Friday 8th of March 2024.

Proposed items for Leaders on 22nd February 2024

1. **Local Government Finance** – to update Leaders on relevant finance issues, including the Scottish Budget and COSLA's lobbying activity
2. **Pay Update paper: 24/25 Claims and Review of Pay Negotiation Machinery** – To provide a summary and provisional costing of the pay claims received from the SJC, Craft, and SNCT unions; to provide feedback on discussions about pay at the SJC Steering Group meeting on 1 February 2024; and to provide Leaders with a progress report on the pay negotiations review, including the initial draft findings
3. **Update on Innovating, Developing and Transforming SIG** – this paper will provide an overview of the work ongoing in relation to the Local Governance Review and broader Public Service Reform agenda. It will seek a political steer from Leaders on the next steps and wider engagement with Councils.
4. **SLARC update** – Provide leaders with an overview of the published SLARC report and seek their political steer on a summary of the findings and an initial COSLA view.
5. **Free School Meals – Scottish Child Payment Expansion** – this paper will provide an update on the expansion of Free School Meals in light of announcements made in the Scottish Budget 2024/25.
6. **Cruise Ship Levy** – this paper will provide Leaders with an update regarding ongoing work being conducted by COSLA officers on the development of a Cruise Ship Levy policy proposal. This paper will ask Leaders for a steer on the contents of the proposal and next steps.
7. **Education Assurance** – LSB discussion dependent
8. **£12p/h Children's Social Care** – this paper will seek Leaders agreement on the proposed approach to implementing the Real Living Wage of £12p/h for those providing direct care in children's social care, in line with ELC and adult social care, which was part of the Programme for Government commitment.
9. **New Scots Refugee Integration Strategy** - this paper will seek Leaders agreement for the third iteration of the New Scots Refugee Integration Strategy.
10. **Active Travel Transformation Project** – this was held over from January and will give Leaders an opportunity to agree a new model for active travel funding.
11. **National Care Service** – this paper will update Leaders on ongoing discussions and seek a political steer on next steps for outstanding areas on NCS, NCS Board, the National Social Work Agency and Public Protection in the context of NCS.

12. **10 Year Population Health Plan** – this paper will seek Leaders agreement on taking a joint approach to the development and implementation of the Plan.
13. **Digital – Update** – this paper provides an update on ongoing digital work with Scottish Government and highlights areas where detailed reports will be required to Leaders over the coming months.
14. **Distribution** - to seek agreement on distributions for a variety of funding streams