

## **CORE OFFER BUDGET FOR THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION**

### **WHY DOES THE COUNCIL HAVE TO PROVIDE THIS SERVICE AND WHAT DOES IT NEED TO COVER?**

Although subscription to the Local Government Association (LGA) is a discretionary requirement, membership gives the Council the ability to be involved in lobbying and access to Ministers on matters of concern, opportunities to participate in sector led improvement support (lead Member training, peer challenge, children's and adults improvement support for example) and information on policy developments within local government.

### **HOW DOES THE CORE OFFER BUDGET MEET THE COUNCIL'S OBLIGATIONS?**

Membership of the LGA enables officers to access specialist sector support concerning the particular issues of the day and on key areas of concern. We benefit from the expertise and experience of the LGA and from their work in coordinating and pooling local authority experience, sharing information, solutions and best practice. This facilitates efficiencies in cost, resource and time. For example the LGA has previously sought specialist legal advice in a number of areas of concern, which has then been shared to members at either nil cost or fractional cost. If we had not been a member we would have been unable to access this help and have had both to fund and resource any work on our own. The additional advantage of coming together on issues of common concern is that it makes possible the formulation of a unified position.

### **DOES THIS DIFFER FROM THE CURRENT SERVICE?**

The subscription is at the current annual level.

### **WHAT IS THE CORE BUDGET MADE UP OF?**

#### **2019/20 – £25,043**

£24,277	Subscription
£766	Overhead