



The Context and Role of the Local Government Employers Panel

Why are we here?



The purpose of the East of England Local Government Association



- To provide for consultation as to the common interests of its members and for the discussion of matters relating to local government in the region
- Members comprise the councils in Bedfordshire, Cambridgeshire, Essex, Hertfordshire, Norfolk and Suffolk.

Priorities from the Business Plan 1



- **Coordination** - Helping local authorities work together so they are better-placed to take strategic decisions, learn from each other and prevent duplication and to champion their work nationally.
 - **Efficiency**- Working collaboratively and providing expertise to help councils transform services to deliver better value for residents.
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Priorities from the business Plan 2



- **Improvement-** Helping councils to be self-aware and to ensure that authorities or services facing difficulty are supported by the sector.



Governance



- Full Assembly, consists of all Leaders or Elected Mayors of the members of the Association
 - Management Committee is the Chair and Vice Chair of the Association and one nominee from each political group within the Assembly.
 - Other special interest groups, panels or working groups appointed by the Management Committee on the nomination of political group leaders
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The Role of the Local Government Employers Panel



The objectives and the powers of the assembly include;

- The regulation of relations between member authorities as employers and workers or trade unions and to represent the interests of member authorities as employers and carry out other regional responsibilities on behalf of local government.

This is done through the Local Government Employers Panel

Local Government Employers Panel Terms of Reference include



- To represent local authority employers' interests on the East of England Regional Council for Local Government Services.
 - To provide conciliation services for member local authorities regarding individual or collective disputes affecting employees within scope of the NJC and JNC.
 - To represent the views of local authorities on any employment and skills issue and to appoint representatives to serve on regional or national bodies as appropriate.
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Purpose of the Regional Council



- ▶ The object of the Council is to secure the largest measure of agreement between the Employer and Trade Union Sides regarding matters affecting the employment of those local authority employees within the Council's area who fall within scope of the National Joint Council for Local Government Services.
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Regional Council Terms of Reference



- To negotiate and consult on any matter, which may affect relevant local authority employees within the area of the Council, and to enter into agreements, as appropriate. Questions of individual discipline shall be outside the scope of the Council.
 - To represent the views of the Council to the National Joint Council for Local Government Services and to such other regional or national bodies as may be appropriate.
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Regional Council Terms of Reference Continued



- To consider matters referred to the Council by the National Joint Council for Local Government Services and to take appropriate action regarding decisions of the National Joint Council.
 - To provide conciliation services regarding individual or collective disputes affecting employees within scope.
 - To consider and encourage the provision of training.
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Governance Review



The review of the East of England LGA undertaken in 2012 highlighted the strength of the current governance arrangements but recommended:

“that a clear and transparent governance structure be developed and maintained at the heart of the new arrangements with the East of England Assembly having overarching decision making supported by the Management Committee”

Joint Secretaries



- The Council shall appoint two Joint Secretaries (one of whom shall be nominated by the Employers' Side and the other by the Trade Union Side), and such other officers as it may think fit.
 - Local differences will be referred to the Joint Secretaries for settlement
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