

APPENDIX 1 – CORPORATE POLICY ARRANGEMENTS: LOCAL AUTHORITY BENCHMARKING

Council	Political Balance	Description of team	Core Functions					
			Corp Plan	Policy Dev't / Strategies	Policy Briefs	Research & Data	LSP	Other
<i>Bolton Metropolitan</i>	Labour	Corporate Policy and Performance team - covering policy, performance monitoring and equalities & diversities	Yes	Yes – on cross-cutting issues	Ad hoc	Yes	Yes	There are also policy officers within each of the service departments
<i>Bradford Metropolitan</i>	No Overall Control. Minority Labour administration.	Wider Corporate Support team, which includes corporate policy.	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Bradford is undergoing a re-structure. A Strategy & Policy register is maintained at a corporate level, including whether an activity is a statutory duty.
<i>Bury Metropolitan</i>	Labour	Policy & Improvement team, covering policy, performance, consultation and research	Yes	Cross-cutting issues	On major issues only	Yes	LSP Framework	The team leads on Bury's 'Plan for Change', which includes a major consultation exercise.
<i>Cheshire West & Chester</i>	Conservative	Corporate Policy team of 6 officers	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	Policy Development Boards, including member input, are used to develop policy.
<i>Dudley Metropolitan</i>	Conservative	Policy & Improvement unit, covering policy, performance monitoring, Change team, Research & Intelligence and Emergency Planning	Yes	Cross-cutting issues only	Not regular	Yes	Yes	Also six policy officers in other directorates.

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<i>Gateshead Metropolitan</i>	Labour	Currently Policy & Equalities team		Yes				Major review of the core functions of Gateshead council is taking place. Likely outcome is a larger "One team approach".
<i>Halton Borough Council</i>	Labour	Policy Unit - also responsible for Research & Intelligence	Yes	Yes	Yes	Wider team function	Yes	Support scrutiny reviews into specific areas of policy.
<i>Kirklees Metropolitan</i>	No Overall Control. Minority Labour Administration.	Part of a wider team covering Policy, Geographical Research, Corporate Research & Consultation, Overview & Scrutiny and Partnerships.	No	Involved but do not lead	Yes	Wider team function	Wider team function	
<i>Knowsley Metropolitan</i>	Labour	Policy, Performance and Research & Intelligence Unit	Yes	Yes especially strategic issues	Yes	Wider team function	Needs assessment work only	Some members of the Policy team are working specifically on transformation projects.

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<i>Leeds City Council</i>	Labour	Impending re-structure. Soon to be part of Corporate Support – will include Policy, Business Change and Engagement.	Uncertain due to restructure	Cross-cutting issues	Yes	No	No	Provide general support service to the Chief Executive.
<i>Rochdale Metropolitan</i>	Labour	Policy Hub is part of same team as research	No	Mainly cross-cutting issues	Yes	Wider team function	No	Corporate Plan is led by the Performance & Improvement team
<i>Sefton Metropolitan</i>	No Overall Control. Three-party Administration.	Policy Unit is part of the Business Intelligence team, which includes policy, performance management, Equality Impact Assessments, and Consultation & Engagement.	Yes	Yes via service and departmental plans	Yes	Yes	No	Sefton is undergoing a re-structure – outcome unknown.
<i>Solihull Metropolitan</i>	Conservative	Policy and Performance Team, although in reality (due to capacity issues) the majority of work relates to performance.	Yes	A little – on major policy issues only	No (provided by Legal function)	No	No	
<i>St Helens Borough</i>	Labour	Policy & Partnership Unit of 4 officers led by a Chief Officer	No	Yes on cross-cutting issues	Yes	No	Yes	Major emphasis on the emerging Public Health and Health & Wellbeing Board agendas

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<i>South Tyneside Metropolitan</i>	Labour	Part of a wider Performance and Strategy Team.	Yes	Yes	Yes, although use made of LGiU	Yes	Yes	Following a recent review, greater emphasis for the reduced team is on 'horizon scanning' and innovation.
<i>Stockport Metropolitan</i>	No Overall Control. Minority Liberal Democrat Administration.	Dedicated Policy Team reporting directly to the Chief Executive. Created earlier in 2011.	Yes	Initial focus on corporate strategy – though plans to strengthen links with departments.	Yes	No	Yes	Maintain a successful Policy Calendar to monitor policy 'events' across the council. Provide general support service to the Chief Executive, through Duty Week rota. Support scrutiny reviews into specific areas of policy.
<i>Tower Hamlets</i>	Elected Mayor – Independent. Majority Labour Council.	Policy is part of the Corporate Strategy, Policy and Performance Unit	Yes	Yes, though mainly cross-cutting issues. Support also provided to directorates.	Yes	No	Wider team function	Support scrutiny reviews into specific areas of policy – no separate scrutiny function.
<i>(City of) Westminster</i>	Conservative	Dedicated Policy & Strategy Team	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Some	Sell policy-related services to other local authorities through the Council's trading arm, WestCo.