

**REVIEW OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT REFORM PROGRAMME  
STRUCTURES – FINAL REPORT**

**Agenda:** 9

**Summary:** This paper presents the final report on the review of the LG Reform Programme Structures along with recommendations on the rotation of the chair of PDPs and maintaining political balance on the Regional Transition Committee.

**Action Required:** SLB members are asked to:-

- note the final report;
- note that existing chairs of PDPs will remain in post;
- agree the arrangements for a small top up to the RTC, if it is required to ensure political balance.

**BACKGROUND**

1. The draft report, outlining key findings and recommendations in relation to the review of the current structures for managing and integrating the Local Government Reform Programme, was agreed at the SLB meeting on 14<sup>th</sup> August 2009 subject to the inclusion of a number of minor changes. The report has been amended to take account of these amendments and the final version, which is attached as an Annex to this note, is presented to the Strategic Leadership Board (SLB) for information.
2. It was also agreed at the SLB meeting that Parties, through NILGA, would give further consideration to the issues of political representation on the Regional Transition Committee (RTC) and the rotation of chairs of PDPs.

## **DETAIL**

3. Following discussion at a meeting of the NILGA Office Bearers held on 21 August it was agreed that, to avoid unnecessary disruption, the Chairs of the PDPs should not change.
4. Members also agreed that it is essential that the RTC is politically balanced. NILGA members would therefore propose that, subsequent to Statutory Transition Committees electing their chairs, NILGA Nominating Officers should review the political balance and if required make recommendations for a small top up (not likely to exceed more than 5 members). NILGA have agreed to develop a further more detailed paper for further consideration on how a top up could be achieved.
5. This would ensure that all councils will have the opportunity to fully engage in driving forward the process and the political balance will not be compromised.

## **RECOMMENDATION**

6. SLB members are asked to
  - note the final report
  - note that existing chairs of PDPs will remain in post
  - Await a further detailed paper from NILGA outlining how a top up procedure could work in practice.

**Joint Secretariat**

**October 2009**