



BUSINESS RECOVERY: ADVICE AND GUIDANCE

Getting full value from regulatory services by maximizing their contribution to local economic prosperity is the central theme of our new advice and guidance. This advocates greater innovation and collaboration, and is intended for local authority leaders, elected members, chief executives and service directors in England and Wales. 'Supporting Businesses Towards Recovery' proposes practical ways in which councils can harness the potential of their regulatory services. It has been welcomed by organizations including CIEH and TSI, and will be launched at the LGA Conference in Harrogate next week. For a copy of the publication on or after 30/06, see:

www.lbro.org.uk/publications-guidance.html

LBRO NEWS

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News and useful links for everyone involved with or interested in the regulation of businesses by local authorities.

INNOVATIVE PRACTICE: BEACONS CASE STUDIES

Innovative, risk-based approaches to inspection and enforcement that give effective support to law-abiding businesses have been implemented by the winning councils in the Beacons 'Cutting Red Tape' category, which we sponsored. The achievements of local authorities with excellent front-line services are highlighted in this competition, with the aim of encouraging learning and development. The initiatives demonstrate how a focus on outcomes can deliver local solutions geared to local circumstances, providing wider benefits to communities, the economy and the environment. For informative case studies of best practice, see:

www.lbro.org.uk/lbro-projects-beacons.html

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REGULATORY CONSISTENCY: PRIMARY AUTHORITY

The opportunity to participate in making local regulation more consistent across the UK is offered by the Primary Authority scheme, which commenced on 6 April. Companies can now form a statutory partnership with a single local authority, which then provides robust advice other councils must take into account when carrying out inspections or dealing with non-compliance. Regulatory services can focus on securing compliance by supplying proactive advice to businesses that appreciate its value, with the option of cost recovery. The operation of the scheme is our responsibility. For our statutory guidance and associated resources, see:

www.lbro.org.uk/lbro-projects-primary-authority.html

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COMMERCIAL INSIGHT: TRADING PLACES

Valuable insight into how companies are run and the challenges they can face in abiding by the rules is provided by our Trading Places initiative, launched in March 2009. An intensive two-day study visit at leading UK companies offers the chance for council personnel to step into their customers' commercial shoes. This practical learning experience is open to all environmental health, fire safety, licensing and trading standards officers working in local authorities, as well as businesses from any sector. It is endorsed by the CBI, British Chambers of Commerce, the British Retail Consortium, CIEH and TSI, and attracts CPD accreditation. For further details, see:

www.lbro.org.uk/lbro-projects-trading-places.html

Improving the local regulation of business by environmental health, fire safety, licensing and trading standards services