



OPERATION IN COOPERATION: SHARED SERVICES

Criteria for developing successful collaborative working arrangements in regulatory services are provided in the summary of a report on current practice we commissioned earlier this year. The subsequent benefits of this course of action are given, although barriers to sharing services across or within local authorities are acknowledged. More innovative approaches are addressing issues such as capacity, resourcing and efficiency. For a copy of the summary, see:

www.lbro.org.uk/publications-external-research.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.

ON RECORD: ANNUAL REPORT

A comprehensive summary of our recent work is provided in our Annual Report and Accounts 2008-2009, together with seven 'spotlights' illuminating specific aspects of what we have achieved. We are pleased to announce that over 200 UK local authorities were engaged with our projects during this time, including 93 per cent of the unitaries and counties in England and Wales. Collaborative delivery is at the heart of our approach: our initiatives are shaped and launched in partnership. For a copy of the document – available in English or Welsh – see:

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

Local Better Regulation Office

The Axis, 10 Holliday Street
Birmingham B1 1TG

0121 226 4000

ben.davies@lbro.org.uk

www.lbro.org.uk

AGE MATTERS: ALCOHOL REPORT

Successful initiatives to reduce underage sales of alcohol and prevent it getting into the hands of the under 18s are detailed in a new study. LBRO urges others to adopt the best practice undertaken by local authorities and police forces across the UK. For a copy of Protecting Young People from Alcohol-related Harm, see:

www.lbro.org.uk/publications-external-research.html

POWERS FOR THE PEOPLE?: CONSUMER REDRESS

In a key initiative proposed in the Consumer White Paper, LBRO would work with BIS on pilots developing the approach to awarding local authorities alternative sanctions such as restorative justice in order to secure compensation for consumers. For further information, see:

www.lbro.org.uk/news-lbro-to-help-councils-acquire-new-powers.html

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BEATING THE BUG: SWINE FLU

Practical steps to take in the event of a swine flu pandemic are given in a publication that the Government is suggesting local authorities could make available to businesses in their areas. For a copy of the booklet, see:

www.cabinetoffice.gov.uk/media/187638/flu_businesses_risk_guidance.pdf

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