



Issue 6
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News and links for everyone involved with the regulation of business by local authorities

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LBRO NEWS

Facing national threats at local level

Local regulation can tackle issues that go well beyond local authority borders. In some extreme cases, such as ports of entry for consumer goods (product safety), the issue is of national concern. Our report, *Addressing National Threats Through Local Service Delivery* has generated an authoritative evidence base, and has informed important policy developments.

www.lbro.org.uk/docs/national-threats-lbro-summary-report.pdf

£6m cost of data requests

Across England and Wales, local regulators spend around £6m a year dealing with central requests for data – roughly half the salary of an extra officer for every council. The Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy report, *Data Collections from Local Authority Regulatory Services*, found councils had to return 139 forms, requesting more than 15,000 pieces of information

www.lbro.org.uk/docs/cipfa-report-data-collection.pdf

Updated map – feedback welcome

LBRO has updated its report – *Mapping the Local Authority Regulatory Landscape* – which provides a snapshot of a very complex environment. Through this map we aim to provide information for those working within the system and encourage simplification of it. It shows the number of different policy outcomes, spanning better health, safer communities and fair trading.

www.lbro.org.uk/docs/mapping-full-report.pdf

Primary Authority grows in strength

The Primary Authority scheme, which meets the needs of business and saves money for local authorities by providing one point of contact for consistent regulatory advice, is going from strength to strength.

Recent agreements between Enterprise Inns and Westminster Council, DW Sports and Wigan Council; Good Food 2 Go and Horsham Council; and Cosatto and Bolton have brought the number of partnerships to 19 covering more than 14,000 business premises.

Significant upfront investment in developing and piloting guidance, introducing the secure IT system and supporting new partnerships is paying dividends. Annual ongoing costs of Primary Authority to LBRO are estimated at £60,000 to £70,000.

NEXT ISSUE:

Our first issue of 2010 will be out near the end of January