



Issue 8  
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**News and links for everyone involved with the regulation of business by local authorities**

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# LBRO NEWS

## **Excellence Framework launched**

The Excellence Framework, which was launched at the Year Ahead Conference, provides for the first time a single description of good local authority regulatory services. Rigorous, thorough and practical, the Excellence Framework is the result of joint work between LBRO, local authorities and LACoRS, with contributions from national regulators, central government and professional bodies. It is being piloted for self-assessment and peer challenge with 50 local authorities. The evaluation will inform our forthcoming toolkit.

[www.lbro.org.uk/lbro-projects-excellence-framework.html](http://www.lbro.org.uk/lbro-projects-excellence-framework.html)

## **National survey of 2,000 businesses**

LBRO is working with the National Audit Office on its annual survey of 2,000 businesses to obtain views on the burdens of locally enforced food safety, fire safety, consumer protection, health and safety and licensing.

Fieldwork will take place during March and we expect initial results in April.

## **Director appointed**

Rob Powell has been appointed as LBRO's new Director of Service Improvement. He started off in local government with Cardiff Council and for the last 10 years has been with the Wales Audit Office. He starts on April 7<sup>th</sup>.

## **New kid on the blog**

LBRO Chief Executive Graham Russell has begun a new blog on the organisation's website to give his insight on the latest developments in better regulation.

[www.lbro.org.uk/blog-graham-russell.html](http://www.lbro.org.uk/blog-graham-russell.html)

## **Partnership boost from newsagents**

A new partnership with the National Federation of Retail Newsagents is set to boost the number of placements on LBRO's Trading Places scheme, which seeks to bring regulatory enforcement officers and businesses closer together. The NFRN says it wants all its 17,000 members to take part.

## **Trading Places on the forecourt**

Total, the service station operator, is running a series of Trading Places visits in South Wales and the South West. The initiative is an opportunity for Total to share its compliance methodology with regulators, to provide an insight into the daily challenges faced by the business.

[www.lbro.org.uk/total-pioneers-smoother-business-wales.html](http://www.lbro.org.uk/total-pioneers-smoother-business-wales.html)

## **First Scottish Primary Authority**

Since our last newsletter Scotland has celebrated its first Primary Authority partnership, between Renfrewshire Council and M&Co, a clothing retailer with nearly 300 stores UK wide. Others include Leeds City Council and BSS Group, a plumbing and heating trade supplier with over 300 branches; Portsmouth City Council and IBM UK; and Bolton Council and Hoover Candy.

**NEXT ISSUE: Trading Places update**

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