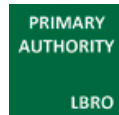


## Primary Authority: Impact for Business



**imPAct Partnerships**  
"where simplicity meets success"

Primary Authority is a new way to regulate businesses that operate across council boundaries. Its key impacts depend on the particular circumstances of the business, but include reducing the cost of compliance, reducing risk, and reducing the cost of failure.

### **Reducing the Cost of Compliance**

The cost of demonstrating compliance is often a major irritant to the business, and Primary Authority drives it down. Primary authorities can confirm compliance, signal this to all local authorities, and supply the relevant documentation to them electronically. This avoids repeated information checks and repeated checks of the business. Primary authorities can also assist local authorities in more accurately assessing the level of risk posed by the business, reducing the need for inspection.

Primary authorities collate the detailed feedback received from all local authorities, providing the business with valuable insight into its level of compliance.

### **Reducing Risk**

Sometimes businesses are unclear how to comply with regulations. This is common for smaller businesses, or those supplying innovative products and services. Of course, many businesses know exactly how they plan to comply with regulations. What they need is to confirm compliance at a single point in the local regulatory system. Primary authorities are providing detailed, tailored advice to business in both these situations, with the assurance that it will be respected by all local regulators. Some large businesses are now looking at how the assurance provided by Primary Authority can extend to the reduction of risk in their supply chains.

### **Reducing the Cost of Failure**

Primary authorities are receiving feedback from inspections conducted across the UK. They know how well procedures are working, and can make recommendations to local regulators on how to quickly remedy any problem that arises. Their advice helps to ensure a proportionate response from local regulators, as well as a quicker remedy.

### **Business Feedback**

*"At the end of the day, we all have the same ultimate goal: to provide a safe place to shop and work. Reputable businesses are generally well-intended and well-informed, and if enforcing officers are freed to focus on high-risk business, persistent offenders and rogue traders then this is a win-win situation."*

Stuart Wiggans, Trading Law Manager, Asda

*“Why wouldn’t businesses want a primary authority? After all, you succeed with regulators by working with rather than against them.”*

Gary Howells, Safety Advisor, B&Q

*“The formation of partnerships by companies is a positive step, showing their intention to improve their standards and level of compliance.”*

Stephen Dean, Health and Safety Manager, Iceland Foods

*“We now make changes with confidence, knowing that they will be supported by our partner.”*

Jonathan Hayes, Head of Risk Management, Moto

More information is available at [www.lbro.org.uk](http://www.lbro.org.uk) or by contacting: Duncan Johnson on 0121 226 4000 or at [duncan.johnson@lbro.org.uk](mailto:duncan.johnson@lbro.org.uk)