



LOCAL PARTNERSHIPS

The public sector delivery specialists

LOCAL PARTNERSHIPS ASSURANCE REVIEWS

A service for local public bodies



“ Thank you very much to you and your team for a thorough and forward thinking review that will undoubtedly help us to do the project better.

Jill Campbell, Waste Project Manager, Bradford Council

Local Partnerships Assurance

The only Government accredited provider of assurance services in the Local Public Services realm, recommended by Government departments, respected pedigree in Public Services.





The setup and three days onsite work were challenging [...] We have now decided to continue the Gateway Reviews throughout the whole life cycle of this programme.

David O'Connor – Assistant Chief Executive, Lincolnshire County Council

The observations and recommendations will leave a legacy of learning and improvement far beyond the project.

Ian Watson – Assistant Chief Officer, Humberside Police

Who are Local Partnerships?

Local Partnerships is owned by the Treasury and the Local Government Association and provides commercial and delivery expertise to the public sector.

In the Assurance field, LP is the only provider of Assurance services accredited by Government to deliver full OGC Gateway Reviews to Local Government and other local public bodies.

What is Assurance?

Assurance is an essential element of strong Governance. It is a process that provides a Project Board and senior management with an independent assessment of the state of health of their project or programme, answering questions like:

- ▶ how likely is our project to succeed?
- ▶ how confident can we be that our investment will deliver the agreed benefits to the required quality, on time and within budget?
- ▶ what should we do to improve our chances of successful delivery?

Local Partnerships helps to answer these questions through a tailored range of assurance reviews.

What is an Assurance Review?

Assurance reviews are peer reviews carried out at key points in the life of a project or programme. They are carried out by trained and experienced practitioners often serving in local public bodies but also using independent consultant expertise when required.

Reviews consist of a series of interviews with stakeholders preceded by key document review and followed by a short focused report with findings and recommendations delivered to the Project Owner/ SRO before the review team leave site. Reviews offer informed constructive challenge and recognise good practice as well as setting out areas for improvement and recommendations for success.



The development of the Gateway process has provided a systematic mechanism for capturing and sharing knowledge about what will work in project and programme management.

NAO report, Helping Government Learn, 27 February 2009

We expected a professional, challenging review and that is what we got!

Geoff Kaufman for Mark Smith – Project Owner (for Procurement of Highway Maintenance and Engineering Services), Wirral Council

Flexibility is key

Local Partnerships reviews have been regularly used to provide effective support across a wide range of sectors and areas from the well understood infrastructure projects and programmes to business change and change management initiatives. Support has been provided in sectors from Transport and Property to Education, Leisure, Environment and Social Welfare.

Reviews are always tailored to suit the nature of the challenge being undertaken. LP will meet with the Authority's PO and discuss if, how and when maximum value can be added by undertaking a review. Flexibility and meeting the Authority's needs is the priority to the LP review.

Reviews can be short and focused lasting a day or two or can have a wider scope and take 3 or 4 or more days for the more complex initiatives. Uniquely, LP provides full OGC accredited Gateway Reviewers on all its reviews.

What sort of project or programme is suitable?

With the flexible approach offered by LP, any sort of project or programme can benefit from an assurance review. LP undertake reviews on projects large and small and in every sector including transport, "blue- light" services, back-office, education, social care, property, housing, regeneration and business change.

Local Partnerships has a successful 10 year track record delivering over 800 high quality reviews for a wide range of public sector clients

"The Review was efficiently managed, with a review team who brought directly relevant experience which added greatly to the process. The review recommendations have been helpful in moving the programme forward."

Pete Davies, Director Bus & Rapid Transport project, West of England Partnership

"The team was extremely experienced and skilled, very impressive... reassuring to have a thorough review of the project..."

Nigel Brook, Assistant Chief Officer West Yorkshire Police

About Local Partnerships

Local Partnerships is owned by HM Treasury and the Local Government Association providing commercial and delivery expertise to the public sector, helping translate policy into delivery through the design and implementation of infrastructure projects and programmes.

Our mission is to give trusted and professional support to local public bodies to improve their ability to source and deliver high-quality, cost-effective public services and infrastructure.

Operating at a local level, we work shoulder-to-shoulder with public bodies to develop and deliver innovative solutions to emerging problems.

This is achieved by working alongside local public bodies to focus on bringing improvements to areas such as:

- ▶ sourcing and commissioning skills
- ▶ programme and project management capabilities
- ▶ procurement, negotiation and contract management capacity and
- ▶ delivery, funding and partnering abilities.

Contact

If you would like further information on Assurance Reviews please contact or speak to:

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For a copy in Braille, larger print or audio, please contact us on 020 7664 3000. We consider requests on an individual basis.



I found your style of review both challenging and supportive, and very much focused on enabling us to improve, rather than telling us where we're not. Such a style is very welcome, and not always in evidence in such processes.

John Edwards – Deputy Director of Children's Services, Manchester City Council



Local Partnerships is jointly owned by



HM Treasury

Local Partnerships: the public sector delivery specialists

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