



The Local Government Technical Advisers

TAG Business Plan

2013 - 2016

**THE MOST REPRESENTATIVE GROUP OF TECHNICAL
PROFESSIONALS SERVING LOCAL GOVERNMENT**



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TAG The Local Government Technical Advisors Group
<http://www.lgtag.com/>



TAG Business Plan

2013-2016

Executing Summary

Introduction and Mission statement

This business plan is for the three year period 2013 to 2016 and it is to be reviewed and updated annually with the intention of it being a rolling three year business plan.

The aim on this plan is to provide the structure and framework to inform members and guide the business and development of the Local Government Technical Advisers Group (TAG). It should also enable prospective members to appreciate the merits of joining TAG.

The TAG is a professional association incorporated in 1995.

It endeavours to serve all levels of local government covering the whole range of local authority technical based services.

TAG's main aim is to represent members' interests, by responding to European and UK Government initiatives and consultations, by promoting initiatives aimed at influencing Government policy and through the development of best practices.

TAG also provides coordinated and comprehensive advice and support to technical professionals employed by local authorities directly or indirectly to manage and advise on their services.

TAG continues to be at the forefront of establishing and disseminating best practice and works closely with other bodies to ensure opportunities are maximised.



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Organisation Background

How it began

TAG was formed from the Association of Metropolitan District Engineers (AMDE), the Association of London Borough Engineers and Surveyors (ALBES) and the Association of Chief Technical Officers (ACTO) (in District authorities in areas where local government responsibilities are divided between Counties and Districts).

To achieve these aims, TAG works through its network of Regions, Technical Committees, Topic Groups and individual contacts to provide a hugely diverse and representative network of professionals.

Membership of TAG is by a council authority or technical organisation and once an organisation is a member any number of individuals in that organisation can take part in TAG.

TAG serves all levels of local government to cover the whole range of local authority technical services including:

- Highways construction and maintenance
- Lighting
- Waste
- Sustainability
- Regeneration
- Development
- Transport Planning
- Traffic, street scene and parking
- Asset Management
- Flood and Coastal Risk Management
- Buildings and structures

TAG Membership enables employees in member organisations to play an active part in TAG. This not only strengthens the work TAG does, but also facilitates wider understanding of national and international issues within TAG's membership. This also allows TAG to better represent the communities we serve.

TAG organisations are responsible for:

- Over half the road network serving the major conurbations and Unitary authorities
- Three-quarters of the brown field development land
- Over half of the population of England and Wales.
- Half of the coast line of England



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- Two thirds of the most susceptible areas to flooding and coastal erosion

The focus of activity for TAG, through the network of TAG Members, is representing TAG member interests and providing advice to:

- Technical professionals serving local government
- The Local Government Associations(LGA and NILGA) at both officer and Member level
- Professional working groups (such as the Waste Network Chairs)
- Central government through responding to consultations
- Government working groups on specific issues such as the NI Waste Programme Board

TAG achieves these objectives by developing policy and best practice through:

- Research by individual officers and the work of TAG committees and TAG topic groups
- The promotion of a seminar programme in conjunction with other associations or as standalone TAG events
- Co-operation with other associations at a national, and where appropriate European and international level.

Key characteristics

TAG membership allows any number of individuals from the member organisations to participate and benefit from the membership.

It is not only about supporting and representing the aims and aspirations of local government but is about sharing best practice and allowing individuals to gain knowledge/experience on a wider basis than in just their own organisations. This helps to encourage personal development, particularly important to younger staff, and enables organisations to 'grow their own' and to help satisfy the requirements and benefits of continual professional development.

Relationships

TAG works closely with other organisations to ensure the efforts of its committees and working groups can be maximised.

TAG works with the following organisations depending on the subject and requirements;

- ADEPT



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- CIHT
- UK Roads Board
- CIWM
- RoSPA
- LGA
- ICE
- DEFRA/EA
- LARAC

Current TAG Membership

TAG MEMBERSHIP

	Corporate	Retired	Life	Honorary	Companion	Total
East Midlands	1	2				3
Eastern	5					5
London	50	3				53
North East	13	1				14
North West	6	4				10
Northern Ireland	37	1				38
South East	10	2				12
South West	2	2	1			5
Wales	1	1				2
West Midlands		1				1
Yorkshire & The Humber	3	1				4
Unallocated		1	14	6	1	22
	128	19	15	6	1	169

Aims and Objectives for next Three Years

Aims are to represent the views of its membership through the committees and interest groups by:

- Responding to consultations within prescribed days
- Writing papers and attending conferences
- Meeting with LGA
- Meeting with Defra/EA
- Meeting with DfT
- Meeting with other policy making bodies
- Providing representations on bodies such a UK Roads Board
- Responding to media requests

Dissemination of consultations, information and best practice through:



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- Bulletins-Regular monthly bulletins to members and key personnel (TAG Secretary)
- Tweeting (TAG Secretary)
- Meetings at national and regional level
- World Wide Web-Posting papers and presentations on the web site for members to access
- Conferences-Attendance and participation at conferences
- Technical Papers-Presenting papers at conference

Support existing regional groups

Establish additional regional sub-groups.

Foster closer working relationships with other organisations:

CHIT

ADEPT

ICE through the Municipal Expert Panel

LGA-Through Boards and Special Interest Groups

Defra/EA Stakeholder Forums

Marketing and Publicity

It is intended to make TAG a credible 'first port of call' to the Media and others through;

Displaying boards and other publicity material at conferences and meetings (these need to be updated)

Twitter - TAG Secretary

Web site – Information Officer

Regional group secretaries

Topic group secretaries

TAG secretary

Raising of profile through responding to requests for information and comments and articles from the press. These activities are to be coordinated through the Information Officer.



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After every Council meeting a press release to be produced on one of the key topics discussed at the meeting.

Finance

Determine what we need to achieve to make TAG sustainable over the period of the Plan.

Monitoring and Evaluation

Create a system which monitors TAG Membership and activity.

Create a questionnaire for TAG Members to let us know how we are doing and what needs to improve/change.

Create some Key Performance Indicators and Critical Success Factors which can readily be measured.

Carryout a Strategic Risk Assessment showing key risks and scoring now and ongoing and measureable against Targets.

Implementation Plan

Create an action plan for Years1/2/3 with outcomes linked to KPIs and CSFs.

