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LOCAL GOVERNMENT INFORMATION UNIT

FREEDOM TO INNOVATE

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Catching Up!

- Context
- Aims for partnership and joint working
- Potential
  - Well-being power
  - General competence

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Total Place Pilots

- Specific changes:
  - Data sharing, changes in bail requirements and licensing laws
- Broad changes:
  - Joint strategic commissioning
    - Strategic board v lead agency v collaboration
  - "letting go" real decentralisation

Specific Change > Broad Problems

- Mutual Insurance – problem solved?
- Able to take a purposive approach?
- Blast from the past: narrow and restrictive court decisions?
- Attitude to risk?
- Atmosphere of caution intensified?

Partnership

- Partnership and project work
  - Are limits financial or legal?
    - For councils
    - Between partner organisations?
  - Governance and accountability structures cumbersome?
  - Organisational and professional hurdles too great?

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Collaboration

- What scope for
  - Pooled budgets
  - Budget alignment
- Partners' different legislative requirements?
- Practical issues?
  - Standards
  - Accountability
  - Individual resistance?

Questions

- What is your council looking for?
- Would new powers make a difference?
- Would having greater general certainty help?

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Well- Being Power

- First resort?
- Current issues?
  - Impact of LAML decision?
  - Raising money?
  - General caution?
  - Negative legal advice?
- Scope and strengthening understanding

Power of General Competence

- Proposal for Decentralisation and Localism Bill
- How wide will it be?
- How could it work in practice?

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What do we want to achieve?

- Would it really be easier if you had different powers?
- What specific changes do you want to see?
- What is needed to create a general shift of decision-making from the centre?

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Resources

Draft Power of General Competence Bill

http://www.lga.gov.uk/lga/aio/10163517

The Well-Being Power: practical experience and perspectives

http://www.inlogov.bham.ac.uk/seminars/policy_practice/pdfs/well_being_power_08.pdf

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25 YEARS OF SHAPING THE FUTURE