

Support for individual authorities

Improvement East is committed to supporting individual authorities which are experiencing difficulties and support will be available if there is an identified service failure and/or the authority has an overall score of 1 in any area such as Organisational Assessment, Use of Resources or Managing Performance.

These authorities are referred to as 'individual authorities'. Funding for individual authorities is normally subject to the authority agreeing that it will (i) receive the support from a lead Chief Executive from another authority; and (ii) establish a Joint Agency Group/Improvement Board.

Role of the lead Chief Executive

All individual authorities in receipt of Improvement East funding will be assigned a lead Chief Executive from another authority in the region. It is not expected that this role will exceed the equivalent of one day per month. The lead Chief Executive should agree the time commitment with their own authority and that of the authority receiving this support. The role of the lead Chief Executive assigned to the authority is to:

1. support the authority to devise and implement its Improvement Plan
2. act as a critical friend and challenge the pace and extent of improvement
3. liaise with regional and national bodies on the authority's progress, including regular reports to Improvement East
4. assess and monitor that the authority is achieving optimum value for money from the funding allocated
5. if necessary, agree additional funding support of up to £20,000 subject to certain criteria (see below) and availability
6. attend the authority's Joint Agency Group/Improvement Board when appropriate, an Improvement East secretariat to deputise when necessary
7. promote opportunities to share best practice and learning from the authority
8. critique any future submissions for support from the authority
9. seek and promote good practice and opportunities to the authority
10. give support, including mentoring, to the authority's Chief Executive.