

Case study

Client: Local Government Association

Project: Quinquennial Review of LACORS

Dates: December 2004 – April 2005

Carried out by: Peter Hyde and Derek Bell

Requirement

LACORS (the Local Authorities Coordinators of Regulatory Services) is a local government central body which derives a large part of its funding from “top sliced” Revenue Support Grant. One of the conditions of this funding is that it should be subject to a Quinquennial Review to confirm its continued fitness for purpose. Peter Hyde Management Consulting successfully tendered to undertake the Quinquennial Review due in 2005.

What we did

We interviewed a wide range of stakeholders: LACORS Board members, management and staff, staff from the four local government associations: LGA, WLGA, COSLA, NILGA, senior officials from a number of government departments and agencies, and consumer, professional and trade associations. We also critically assessed LACORS current structure and mode of operation.

The review confirmed that LACORS plays a valuable and valued role which has grown over time. The issues which now needed to be addressed resulted from its organic evolution and its weaknesses were generally the consequences of its strengths and success. The main recommendations concerned expanding its remit to better align with its core purpose and refreshing its mission, vision and strategy (and its presentation of these things through e.g. the website). Its role in performance improvement in regulatory services was also seen as needing development.

Outcomes

The report was accepted by the LGA and by LACORS’ own Board. LGA have increased LACORS’ funding and its remit has been expanded to include environmental protection. Most of the other recommendations have been implemented, or are in course of being worked on.