

MINISTER'S STATE/LOCAL GOVERNMENT FORUM - 2006 REVIEW

- When the Forum was established in 2002, it was agreed that it be reviewed at the end of its first year of operation. In the first review process, Forum members decided that an annual review of the Forum and its operations would be helpful in ensuring that the Forum remains an effective mechanism for progressing issues of importance to both State and Local Government. Annual reviews have been undertaken since that time.
- In early 2006, the Office for State/Local Government Relations (OSLGR) commenced a comprehensive review of the Forum. After initial discussions within OSLGR, the Local Government Association (LGA) was approached for suggestions on possible improvements. It was agreed that several areas of the Forum could usefully be reviewed, while maintaining its current intent and direction.
- At the June 2006 Forum meeting, members considered a 12-month review of the Forum and agreed on proposed changes relating to its Terms of Reference, membership and processes for the management of issues.
- At this meeting, Forum members endorsed the drafting of a submission to the LGA State Executive Committee and Cabinet to gain endorsement of the suggested changes to the Terms of Reference and Processes document. The LGA State Executive Committee endorsed the recommended changes at its meeting in July 2006. The submission to Cabinet, which also outlined the Forum's work and achievements over the past 12 months, was endorsed in September 2006.
- Copies of the updated Terms of Reference and Processes document are attached for your information.
- As part of this Review, the LGA proposed that the Forum be re-named the Minister's State/Local Government Forum to reflect the Minister's portfolio and to better reflect the nature of its work. The Minister for State/Local Government Relations has agreed to the change of name which is now in effect.
- The Office for State/Local Government Relations will continue to review the Forum, in consultation with the LGA, to ensure that it remains an effective tool for pursuing solutions to the issues on its agenda.