

Housing, Communities and Local Government Committee

House of Commons, London SW1A 0AA

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Councillor Kevin Bentley
Chairman, Brexit Taskforce
Local Government Association

23 August 2018

Dear Councillor Bentley,

Thank you again for giving evidence to the Committee on 6 December 2017 at our first evidence session pursuant to our inquiry into Brexit and local government. Since then, we have held two further oral evidence sessions with representatives from across local government, which explored how Brexit would affect urban and rural local authorities. We have also exchanged a series of letters with the Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government, the full details of which are available on our website.

As part of our inquiry, the Committee has been considering which powers could be devolved from the EU directly to local authorities post-Brexit. Both the written and oral evidence to our inquiry refers to a wide range of policy areas, where devolution to local government may be welcomed. However, as our inquiry progresses, and Brexit draws nearer, the Committee would like to better understand which specific powers, that are due to be repatriated to the UK from the EU, local government would like to see devolved post-Brexit. During our most recent evidence session on 23 July, with representatives from local, district, and county councils, the Committee challenged the witnesses to go away and think about what specific powers they would like devolved to local government.

In this context, while I appreciate the challenges in being definitive about the devolution of powers given that the Brexit negotiations are ongoing, I would be grateful if you could also now elaborate on your written submission to our inquiry and provide the Committee with a detailed list of powers which the Local Government Association would like to see devolved to local government post-Brexit.

I look forward to hearing from you.



Clive Betts MP
Chair, Housing, Communities and Local Government Committee