



ISLINGTON

Councillor Steve Hitchins

Leader of Islington Council
Town Hall
Upper Street
London N1 2UD
Steve.hitchins@islington.gov.uk

PA: Katherine McNamara
Tel: 020 7527 3090

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The Lyons Enquiry into Local Government
Room 3/12
1 Horse Guards Road
London SW1A 2HQ

Dear Sir Michael,

Re: The Lyons Enquiry into Local Government

Islington welcomes the Lyons Enquiry into the role of local government and the opportunity to review the way in which local government can perform more effectively to deliver accountable, tailored services to local people.

Central to the local delivery of high quality, universally accessible, value for money and democratically accountable public services is local government and in London that is the London Boroughs. There is and needs to be an acceptance that these boroughs do know what their residents and local communities want and can deliver it to them.

Local boroughs such as Islington should have a clearer understanding of their role. They should also have direct input into the development of regional strategies, and through this increase their transparency, public recognition and accountability. In general they should also be more directly accountable to the public and less to central government.

Local government's strength is its unique ability to the people it serves. It should be equipped to serve its citizens across the full range of local services, and shape the local environment.

We welcome the outcome of the enquiry and hope that our views go some way to shaping the future of local government .

Yours sincerely,

Steve Hitchins

Leader of the Council