

Department for Communities and Local Government Structural Reform Plan: Monthly Implementation Update	July 2010
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(1) Actions due to be completed by end of July 2010

Action	Status
Design and announce scheme, working with HM Treasury, for strong and transparent incentives for local authorities to build new homes	Complete
Publish consultation response on options for the Housing Revenue Account, including voluntary arrangements	Not complete
Revoke Regional Strategies with immediate effect	Complete
Set out initial expectations for local authorities regarding data transparency	Complete
Online discussion forum on local authority publication of expenditure data launched	Complete

(2) Actions due to be started by end July 2010

Action	Status
Consider abolition of remaining Government Offices as part of the Spending Review (end Oct 2010)	Work started
Terminate RDA functions (regional planning and housing functions) (end Apr 2012)	Work started
Transfer RDA functions (Business Link, Tourism, etc) to other bodies as appropriate (end Apr 2012)	Work started
Complete RDA and GOL projects (stand-alone ongoing major developments) (end Apr 2012)	Work started
Develop and consult on functions, governance, funding arrangements and responsibilities of Local Enterprise Partnerships including possible transfer of functions from Regional Development Agencies (end Sep 2010)	Work started
Develop options to give neighbourhoods and local authorities the powers and freedoms to lead economic growth and regeneration (including through the Regional Growth Fund) as part of the Spending Review (end Oct 2010)	Work started
Develop and put in place options to help social tenants own or part-own their home (end Apr 2011)	Work started
Develop options to bring more empty homes back into use, working with the local authorities and housing associations and some of the property owners, neighbours and others affected (end Dec 2010)	Work started
Develop options to ensure continuous improvements in energy efficiency of new housing looking specifically at zero-carbon homes and non-domestic buildings (end Dec 2010)	Work started
Consider options for implementation of options for the Housing Revenue Account, including through the Localism Bill (end Nov 2010)	Work started

Abolish Comprehensive Area Assessment and cut local government inspection (end Oct 2010)	Work started
Develop options to free local government from central control, including guidance, rules and funding mechanisms imposed by central departments (end Oct 2010)	Work started
Develop options and put in place measures to make better use of existing public buildings, land and capital investment in public building projects (end Jul 2011)	Work started
Phase out ring-fencing of government grants to local government (end Oct 2010)	Work started
Consider the most appropriate framework for local incentives for local authorities to support growth, including allowing local authorities to reinvest the benefits of growth into local communities (end Apr 2012)	Work started
Encourage data use by inviting range of third parties to create different online analyses of local authority performance data (end Dec 2010)	Work started
Prepare local authorities for publication, in an open and standardised format, of items of spending, contracts and tenders above £500 (end Dec 2010)	Work started
Prepare local authorities for publication, in an open and standardised format, of job titles and salaries above SCS Pay Band 1 (end Dec 2010)	Work started
Run public awareness campaign to encourage use and put pressure on opaque councils, including public demonstration of transparency of other local authorities (end Dec 2010)	Work started
Work with the Home Office to review the Regulation of Investigatory Powers Act (RIPA) to stop councils unnecessarily using surveillance powers, banning local authority use of powers unless signed off by a magistrate (end Oct 2010)	Work started

(3) Explanation of missed deadlines

As of July 2010, the Department missed the following deadlines:

Deadline missed	Reason
Publish consultation response on options for the Housing Revenue Account, including voluntary arrangements (due Jul 2010)	The consultation concluded on 6 July: Responses have been analysed, but pressures of government business have prevented a response by end July. An announcement will be made on the intended way forward on HRA reform by early September