



Department for Levelling Up,  
Housing & Communities

**Lee Rowley MP**

*Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for  
Local Government and Building Safety*

**Department for Levelling Up, Housing and  
Communities**

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To All Council Leaders in England,  
copied to all Chief Executives

[www.gov.uk/dluhc](http://www.gov.uk/dluhc)

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Dear Leader,

### **Office for Local Government Chair Announcement**

I am writing following today's announcement from the Secretary of State that Lord Morse has been appointed as the interim chair of the Office for Local Government (Oflog). This will be confirmed today via a Written Ministerial Statement.

The new Office for Local Government was announced by the Secretary of State at the Local Government Association's conference in June 2022, with the clear objective of highlighting the work of local government, shining a light on excellence and providing data about the performance of authorities. The work of Oflog will be focused on providing a further authoritative source of information about the work that authorities do, up and down the land, every day. It also seeks to empower citizens with even more information, in an easy-to-find way, to understand what is happening in their localities. Alongside this, it seeks to strengthen local leaders' knowledge of their services even further, and to assist central government to better identify trends within and support which may be needed for the excellent work that colleagues in local government do every day.

The purpose of the chair is to act in an independent advisory capacity for Oflog. Lord Morse brings to the role a wealth of experience in public sector service delivery and performance. The focus of the chair will be to provide independent advice, support and challenge to Oflog's emerging strategic vision, functions, and delivery priorities; and provide public facing leadership for the organisation. As such, Lord Morse will focus on engagement to understand what the local government sector requires from Oflog and how it can add value to councils.

Co-design with local government partners will underpin the development and success of Oflog. We will continue to work with councils, councillors and mayors, and with the Local Government Association, to develop this new office and make sure it adds value, in the run up to the launch and implementation of Oflog later this year.

We will also publish a consultative policy document in the coming months setting out further detail about the future direction of travel for Oflog.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Lee', is centered on the page.

**LEE ROWLEY MP**  
**Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for**  
**Local Government and Building Safety**