Changing Approaches to Performance Assessment and Benchmarking

ESRC Knowledge Exchange Roundtable
Local Government House, Smith Square, London, 11th December 2012

1.00 Lunch

1.30 Welcome and introductions
   Professor Steve Martin (Cardiff Business School)

1.40 Comparing for Improvement: the Knowledge Exchange Programme
   James Downe (Cardiff Business School)
   - Overview of evidence
   - Key questions for the ESRC Knowledge Exchange Programme
   - Key issues arising from events to date

1.55 Discussion – Learning lessons from elsewhere

2.10 Taking the Lead: Progress and Challenges
   Carolyn Downs (Local Government Association)
   - Achievements to date of the sector led approach
   - Risks and challenges
   - Next Steps

2.30 Ensuring Accountability: Data Requirements and Prospects
   Lynda McMullan (National Audit Office)
   - What processes are in place for detecting risks?
   - Are current plans and processes adequate to ensure accountability?

2.50 Discussion – Future Evidence Needs
   - What the advantages and risks of a sector led approach?
   - What improvements, if any, are needed in the current arrangements?
   - What research evidence would assist policy makers to develop the sector led approach?

3.20 Final reflections

3.30 Close and tea