

National enforcement priorities Local Regulatory Services

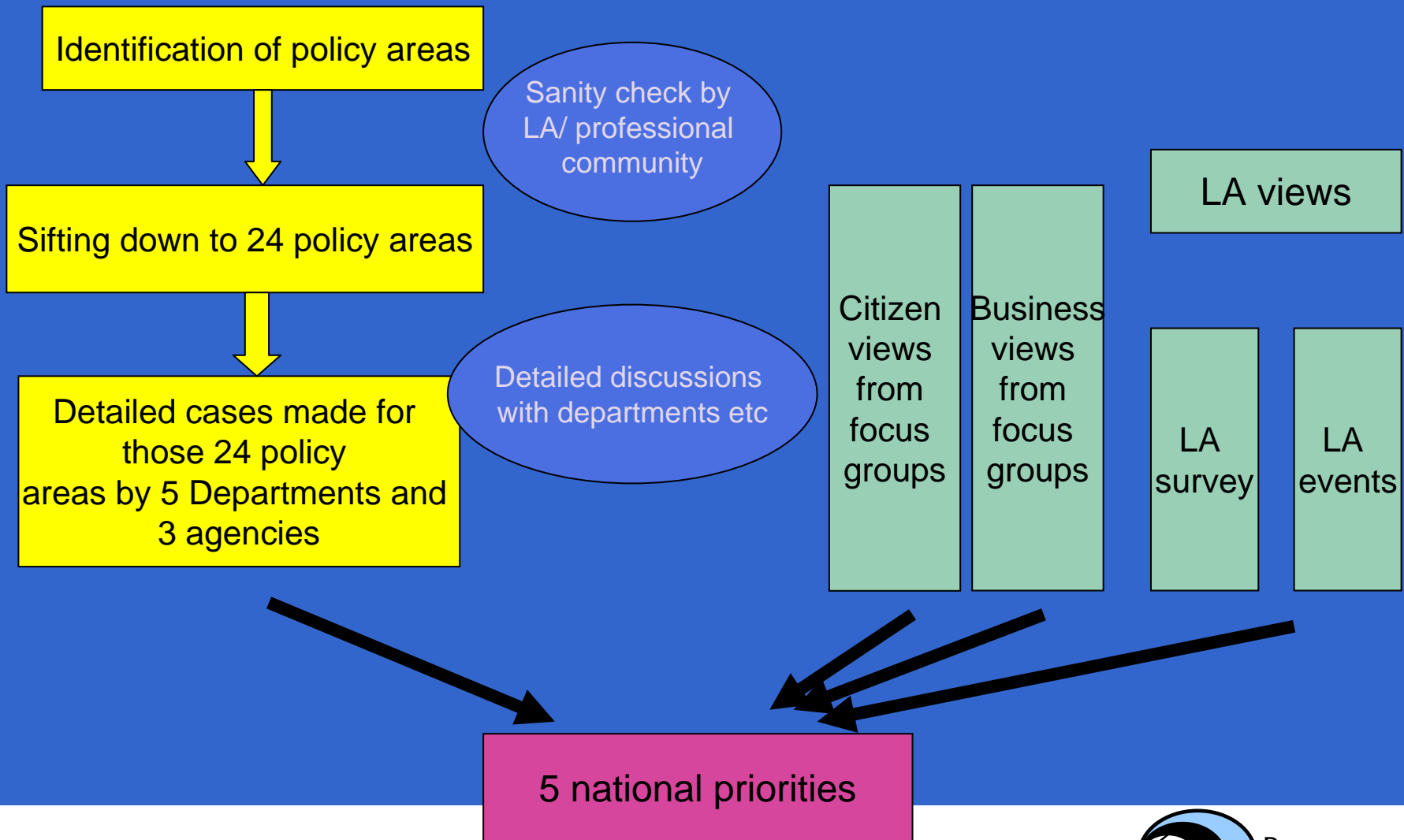
Peter Rogers

Chief Executive, Westminster City Council

The Review

- This is the first time clarity has been provided on what matters most to central government for local regulatory services
- The Review used an evidence-based approach, taking into account the views of all stakeholders
- Prioritising from over 60 policy areas enforced by local regulatory services

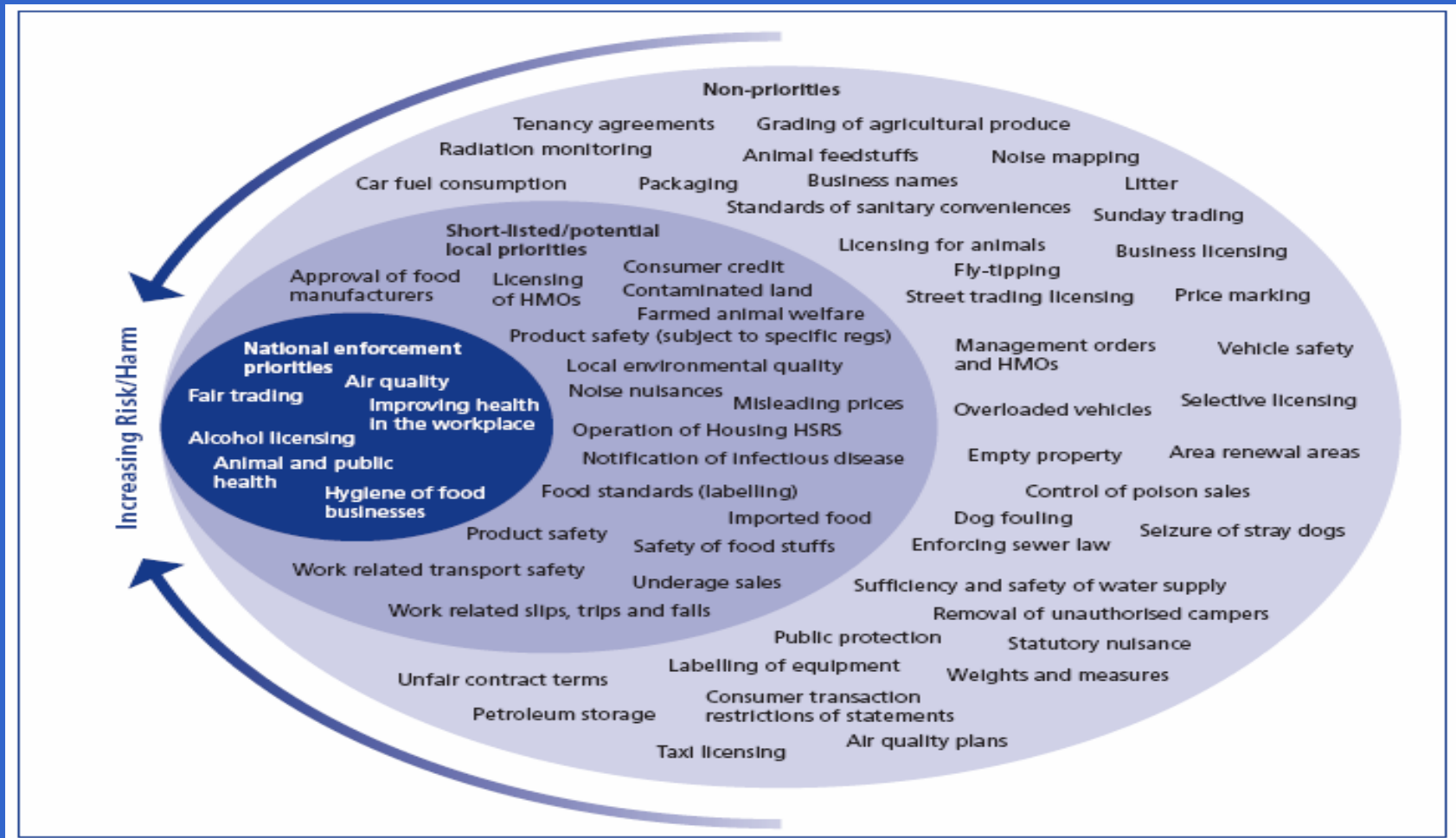
Process: Getting to five priorities



Criteria for national enforcement priorities

- **The policy area:**
 - Aims to prevent high levels of risk distributed through society, and local authority controls are capable of being effective in doing so, and/or
 - Requires a national control system where all parts of the enforcement regime are in place to prevent harm, and/or
 - Is a nationally important political priority

Sifting from over 60 policy areas to six national priorities



The national enforcement priorities

- **Air quality**, including regulation of pollution from factories and homes
- **Alcohol**, entertainment and late night refreshment licensing and its enforcement
- **Hygiene of businesses** selling, distributing and manufacturing food and the safety and fitness of food in the premises
- **Improving health in the workplace**
- **Fair trading** (trade description, trade marking, mis-description, doorstep selling)

Plus,

- **Animal and public health**, animal movements and identification – a time limited priority, but predominantly a rural issue

Criteria for local priorities

- These policy areas have the following characteristics:
 - they cause significant harm within a local authority area,
 - they generate high levels of local concern,
 - local authorities can make a difference to outcomes in their locality and
 - they can be dealt with by each local authority independently of what other local authorities do.

Contenders for local priorities

- Consumer credit
- Contaminated land
- Imported food
- Licensing of houses in multiple occupation
- Local environmental quality
- Noise nuisances
- Operation of the housing health and safety rating scheme
- Underage sales

Implications for different local authorities

Priority	District	County	Single tier
Air quality	✓		✓
Alcohol licensing	✓		✓
Animal health		✓	✓
Hygiene of business	✓		✓
Improving H&S at work	✓		✓
Fair trading		✓	

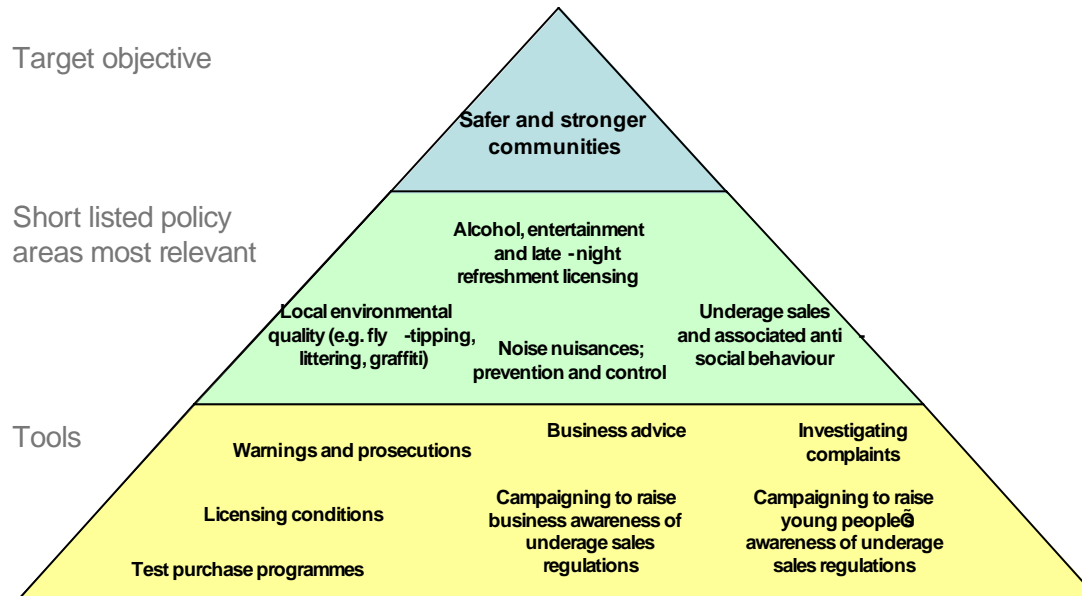
Implications of the priorities

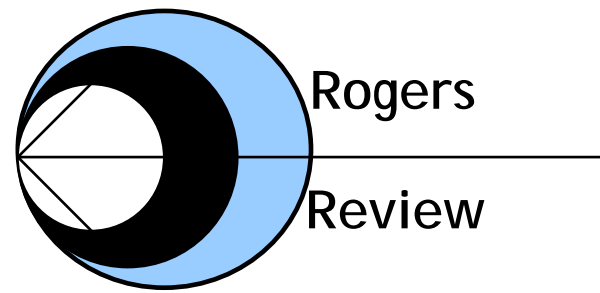
- Local authorities will:
 - Benefit from devolution promised by the Local Government White Paper without compromising regulatory outcomes or exposing business to inconsistent enforcement
 - Be able to focus on national and local priorities to improve the delivery and consistency of services to the benefit of consumers and businesses
 - Still need to carry out activities involving EU obligations and statutory duty

Putting the priorities into practice

For example

Safer and stronger communities





The full report and supplementary volume can be found at:

http://www.cabinetoffice.gov.uk/regulation/reviewing_regulation/rogers_review/