

LONDON BOROUGH OF TOWER HAMLETS

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE COUNCIL

WEDNESDAY 20th MAY 2009

**APPOINTMENT OF REPRESENTATIVES TO
LONDON COUNCILS COMMITTEES
AND FORUMS**

**REPORT OF THE SERVICE HEAD,
DEMOCRATIC SERVICES**

SUMMARY

1. This report requests the Council to consider making nominations to a number of London Councils Member bodies. London Councils have requested that the Council submit its nominations by 1st June, 2009 at the latest which precludes consideration by the General Purposes Committee, which does not meet until 17th June.

RECOMMENDATION

2. The Council is recommended to agree to appoint Members to London Councils committees and forums as listed in Appendix A to this report.

BACKGROUND

3. London Councils plays a unique role in London Government. It is part think-tank and part lobbying organisation and has also established a number of key pan-London bodies and cross-borough partnerships which contribute to the overall governance of London.
4. London Councils also works with and funds more than 400 voluntary groups across London providing grants to organisations to tackle a wide range of problems, including economic and social disadvantage and the promotion of social inclusion, as well as improving the lives of people who live, work in and visit London.
5. In addition London Councils delivers a range of transport-related services on behalf of London's boroughs, including the Freedom Pass and the Taxi Card Schemes; provides a specialist housing advice and

research analysis service on behalf of subscribing boroughs; and acts as the employers' organisation for the 32 London boroughs.

6. London Councils' main policy committee is the Leaders' Committee, which comprises Leaders drawn from all London boroughs including Tower Hamlets. To aid its work the organisation has also established a number of committees and forums covering specific policy and service areas. Each committee/forum reflects the overall political balance of London Councils. The London Councils Executive is not directly appointed by the boroughs but nominations to it come from the party groups. The arrangements for appointment to the London Councils member structures this year remain largely unchanged from 2008/09.

NOMINATIONS

7. Appointment of representatives to external bodies such as London Councils falls within the remit of the Council's General Purposes Committee. However, London Councils has asked for nominations by 1st June, 2009 and the General Purposes Committee is not scheduled to meet until 17th June, 2009. Accordingly this report has been prepared for consideration by full Council.
8. Any nominations received for the positions listed in Appendix A will be circulated to the Council Meeting.

APPENDIX A

LONDON BOROUGH OF TOWER HAMLETS

NOMINATIONS TO LONDON COUNCILS COMMITTEES/FORUMS 2009/10

Committees	Nominations sought and any guidance provided by London Councils
Leaders Committee (s101 Joint Committee)	One voting member (usually but not necessarily the Leader) and up to two named deputies.
Transport and Environment Committee (Associated Joint Committee)	One voting member (usually the lead member for transport and/or environmental issues) and up to four named deputies.
Grants Committee (Associated Joint Committee)	One voting member (preferably the member with responsibility for partnerships and the voluntary sector) and up to four named deputies. NB: Both the voting member and all of the deputies must be members of the Council's Executive.
Greater London Provincial Council	(GLPC Employers' Side now comprises 15 members nominated from the combined membership of the Leaders' Committee and the Greater London Employment Forum)
Forums	(Nominees will usually be the lead member in the relevant area. Appointment of officer positions are made by the Leaders' Committee)
Health and Adult Services Forum	One member (usually the lead member for health/social services) and one deputy
Housing Forum	One member (usually the lead member for housing) and one deputy
Culture, Tourism and 2012 Forum	One member (usually the lead member for culture, sport or 2012) and one deputy
Crime and Public Protection Forum	One member (usually the lead member for community safety) and one deputy

Economic Development Forum	One member (usually the lead member for regeneration/economic development) and one deputy
Children and Young People Forum	One member and one deputy (Note – meetings of this Forum are open to any member with an interest in Children’s Services and authorities will be able to send additional members to their voting member).
Greater London Employment Forum	One member (normally the member responsible for human resources issues) and one deputy
BME Councillors’ Network	A forum to enable London’s Black, Asian & minority ethnic councillors to discuss issues of common concern. Open to all BM&E councillors.
Women Councillors’ Network	A network for London’s women councillors to discuss issues of common concern. Open to all women councillors.
London Irish Councillors’ Network	A forum for all London councillors of Irish origin or background.
Lead Members	Lead Members for Equalities, Improvement and Sustainability are appointed by the Leaders’ Committee. These are not nominated directly by boroughs but appointed at the AGM from candidates put forward by the party groups.