

LONDON BOROUGH OF TOWER HAMLETS

COUNCIL MEETING

WEDNESDAY 8th DECEMBER 2010

**STRATEGIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE:
APPOINTMENT OF MEMBER**

REPORT OF THE SERVICE HEAD, DEMOCRATIC SERVICES

1. SUMMARY

- 1.1 Council on 27th October 2010 undertook a review of proportionality and allocation of places on committees following the change in political composition of the Council that occurred on 4th October.
- 1.2 Each political group may notify the Assistant Chief Executive (Legal Services) of their nominations within the committee places allocated to the group.
- 1.3 In relation to the committee seats allocated to 'ungrouped' Councillors, Council authorised the Assistant Chief Executive (Legal Services) to invite expressions of interest from those Councillors and to make appointments following consultation with the Chair of Council.
- 1.4 In respect of most committees, it was possible to accommodate all of the expressions of interest received within the places available and the Assistant Chief Executive (Legal Services) has therefore agreed the appointments in accordance with the above procedure. However, in respect of the Strategic Development Committee there are more 'ungrouped' Councillors wishing to serve on the Committee than there are places available and the Council is therefore asked to determine the appointment.
- 1.5 The Members who have so far expressed an interest in being appointed to the committee are listed at paragraph 3.5 overleaf. Any further expressions of interest received before the meeting will be reported verbally.

2. RECOMMENDATION

- 2.1 That the Council appoint one 'ungrouped' Councillor to serve as a member of the Strategic Development Committee for the remainder of the Municipal Year 2010/11 or until a successor is appointed, if sooner.

3. STRATEGIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

3.1 The Strategic Development Committee has been established by the Council to consider any matter within the terms of reference of the Development Committee that also meets one of a number of specified criteria relating to the size or significance of the development; or which is referred to the committee by the Development Committee or the Corporate Director; or where three or more members of the Development Committee are disqualified from considering the matter.

3.2 The membership of the Strategic Development Committee is seven Councillors and following the review of proportionality on 27th October, the Council has determined that these shall be allocated as follows:-

- Five places to the Labour Group;
- One place to the Conservative Group; and
- The remaining one place available for an 'ungrouped' Councillor.

3.3 Within this allocation the Council has flexibility to appoint any member from the relevant 'group' to serve on the committee. The previous requirement for the membership of the Strategic Development Committee to include in its membership two Cabinet Members and three members of the Development Committee has not been included in the Constitution since March 2007 and therefore no longer applies.

3.4 The current membership of the Strategic Development Committee is as follows:-

Labour Group nominees (5): Councillor Carli Harper-Penman (Chair), Councillors Kabir Ahmed, Shahed Ali, David Edgar and Bill Turner

Conservative Group nominee (1): Councillor Dr. Emma Jones (Deputies – Councillors Tim Archer, Peter Golds and Gloria Thienel)

'Ungrouped' Councillor (1): one vacancy

3.5 In relation to the 'ungrouped' place, two Councillors have so far expressed an interest in serving on the committee as listed below:-

- Councillor Stephanie Eaton
- Councillor Aminur Khan

Any further expressions of interest received before the Council meeting will be reported verbally. The Council is asked to appoint a member to serve on the Strategic Development Committee from amongst those Councillors who have expressed an interest.

4. CONCURRENT REPORT OF THE ASSISTANT CHIEF EXECUTIVE (LEGAL)

4.1 The Council is required to allocate committee places in accordance with the provisions of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 and associated regulations.

5. COMMENTS OF THE CHIEF FINANCE OFFICER

5.1 There are no direct financial considerations arising from this report.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT, 1972 SECTION 100D (AS AMENDED)

LIST OF "BACKGROUND PAPERS" USED IN THE PREPARATION OF THIS REPORT

Brief description of background papers:	Name and telephone number of holder and address where open to inspection
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- None