

# MAYOR'S EXECUTIVE DECISION MAKING

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Friday, 11 December 2015

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Mayor's Decision Log No. 116

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## 1. APPOINTMENTS TO LHC COMMITTEE (Pages 1 - 6)

If you require any further information relating to this meeting, would like to request a large print, Braille or audio version of this document, or would like to discuss access arrangements or any other special requirements, please contact: Matthew Mannion, Committee Manager, Democratic Services

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# Agenda Item 1

<b>Individual Mayoral Decision</b>  Decision Log No: 116	 <b>TOWER HAMLETS</b>
<b>Report of:</b> Matthew Mannion, Committee Services Manager	<b>Classification:</b> Unrestricted
<b>Appointments to LHC Committee</b>	

<b>Is this a Key Decision?</b>	No
<b>Decision Notice Publication Date:</b>	N/A
<b>General Exception or Urgency Notice published?</b>	Not required
<b>Restrictions:</b>	None
<b>Reason for seeking an Individual Mayoral Decision:</b>	This decision is being taken outside of Cabinet as it requires a quick decision to enable the Councillors to take their positions as soon as possible. This is not a Key Decision.

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

As set out in the report to the General Purposes Committee on 3 July 2012, it is the responsibility of the Mayor to appoint representatives to certain External Bodies on behalf of Tower Hamlets Council.

This report contains proposed appointments to two positions for the remainder of the 2015/16 municipal year.

Full details of the decision sought, including setting out the reasons for the recommendations and/or all the options put forward; other options considered; background information; the comments of the Chief Finance Officer; the concurrent report of the Head of Legal Services; implications for One Tower Hamlets; Risk Assessment; Background Documents; **and other relevant matters are set out in the attached report.**

## DECISION

The Mayor is recommended:

1. To agree to appoint Councillors Sirajul Islam and John Pierce to the LHC Joint Members' Committee for the remainder of the 2015/16 municipal year.

**APPROVALS**

**1. Chief Finance Officer or his/her deputy**

I have been consulted on the content of the attached report which includes my comments.

Signed ..... *B. Scott* ..... Date *7/12/15*.....

**2. Monitoring Officer or his/her deputy**

I have been consulted on the content of the attached report which includes my comments.

(For Key Decision only – delete as applicable)

I confirm that this decision:-


(a) has been published in advance on the Council's Forward Plan OR  
(b) is urgent and subject to the 'General Exception' or 'Special Urgency' provision at paragraph 18 or 19 respectively of the Access to Information Procedure Rules.

Signed ..... *Graham* ..... Date *08/12/15*.....

**3. Mayor**

I agree the decision proposed in paragraph above for the reasons set out in paragraphs 1 and 3.1, 3.2 in the attached report.

Signed ..... *[Signature]* ..... Date *11/12/15*.....

<b>Individual Mayoral Decision</b>	 <b>TOWER HAMLETS</b>
<b>Report of:</b> Matthew Mannion, Committee Services Manager	<b>Classification:</b> Unrestricted
<b>Appointments to LHC Committee</b>	

<b>Lead Member</b>	<b>Mayor John Biggs</b>
<b>Originating Officer(s)</b>	Matthew Mannion, Committee Services Manager
<b>Wards affected</b>	All wards
<b>Community Plan Theme</b>	<b>All</b>
<b>Key Decision?</b>	No

### **Executive Summary**

As set out in the report to the General Purposes Committee on 3 July 2012, it is the responsibility of the Mayor to appoint representatives to certain External Bodies on behalf of Tower Hamlets Council.

This report contains proposed appointments to those two positions for the remainder of the 2015/16 municipal year.

### **Recommendations:**

The Mayor is recommended to:

1. To agree to appoint Councillors Sirajul Islam and John Pierce to the LHC Joint Members' Committee for the remainder of the 2015/16 municipal year.

**1. REASONS FOR THE DECISIONS**

- 1.1 Appointing representatives to outside bodies increases the Council's engagement with the local community and improves its potential to offer leadership and guidance in relation to activities taking place in the Borough.

**2. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS**

- 2.1 The Mayor could decide not to make appointments to outside bodies at all. However, this is not recommended as it would reduce the Council's opportunity to be involved in and to support good work within the community and it would also reduce the Council's leadership opportunities. There are also a number of bodies where the Council is required, or expected to provide a representative.

**3. DETAILS OF REPORT**

- 3.1 Participating in the work of external bodies is an important part of the role of elected members but is different in nature from other aspects such as being a member of a local authority executive or sitting on regulatory committees. In some cases it will involve actively representing and defending the authority's interests on local authority associations. In others it will involve becoming a trustee of a charity or a director of a company limited by guarantee. In this case Members have a duty to act in the best interests of the organisation to which they have been appointed rather than exclusively pursue the authority's interests. There are potential tensions in carrying out this role effectively. To this end guidance will be sent to all those appointed to external bodies.
- 3.2 A key part of this role is ensuring that information about the activities of external bodies is communicated to the Council. Much of this may take place through day to day contact with colleagues or with officers responsible for that area of work.

**4. COMMENTS OF THE CHIEF FINANCE OFFICER**

- 4.1. There are no direct financial implications arising from this report.

**5. LEGAL COMMENTS**

- 5.1. Pursuant to section 9D(2) of the Local Government Act 2000, any function of the Council which is not specified in regulations is to be the responsibility of the Council's executive under executive arrangements. The relevant regulations which specify non-executive functions are the Local Authorities (Functions and Responsibilities) (England) Regulations 2000 ("the Functions Regulations").
- 5.2. The Functions Regulations specify a category of functions which may be (but need not be) the responsibility of a local authority's executive. These are

sometimes referred to as local choice functions. Included in the category of local choice functions is the appointment of any individual to anybody, other than the Council or a joint committee, and the revocation of any such appointment. The Council's Constitution (part 3.2.2) specifies that responsibility for such appointments lies with the Mayor if the appointment is made in relation to or in support of an executive function.

- 5.3. The appointments referenced in this report relate to functions which are the responsibility of the executive. The Mayor therefore has responsibility for these appointments under the Constitution.
- 5.4. Pursuant to Regulation 12 of the Local Authorities (arrangements for the discharge of functions) (England) Regulations 2012 where a joint committee discharges executive functions and the joint committee comprises more than 5 Local Authorities (as is the case with LHC Joint Members' Committee) then provided one member is an executive member, the other member need not be and may be a non executive member.
- 5.5. When considering appointments or the approach to be taken to appointments, the Council must have due regard to the need to eliminate unlawful conduct under the Equality Act 2010, the need to advance equality of opportunity and the need to foster good relations between persons who share a protected characteristic and those who don't (the public sector equality duty). It is important to be satisfied that any process followed is supportive of equal opportunity.

## **6. ONE TOWER HAMLETS CONSIDERATIONS**

- 6.1 Appointing representatives to outside bodies increases the Council's engagement with the local community and improves its potential to offer leadership and guidance in relation to activities taking place in the Borough.

## **7. BEST VALUE (BV IMPLICATIONS)**

- 7.1 There are no specific implications arising from this report.

## **8. SUSTAINABLE ACTION FOR A GREENER ENVIRONMENT**

- 8.1 There are no specific implications arising from this report.

## **9. RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS**

- 9.1 Where appropriate it is important that any training/support needs of new appointees are identified by the bodies concerned and that appropriate training and support is delivered.
- 9.2 The appointment of representatives to external bodies enables the Council to strengthen links with the community. The appointment of representatives also contributes to the Council's leadership role in the community.

**10. CRIME AND DISORDER REDUCTION IMPLICATIONS**

10.1 There are no specific implications arising from this report.

**11. SAFEGUARDING IMPLICATIONS**

11.1 There are no specific implications arising from this report.

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**Linked Reports, Appendices and Background Documents**

**Linked Report**

- None.

**Appendices**

- None.

**Background Documents – Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements)(Access to Information)(England) Regulations 2012**

- None.

**Officer contact details for documents:**

- N/A