

MAYOR'S EXECUTIVE DECISION MAKING

Tuesday, 28 June 2016

Mayor's Decision Log No. 130


1. APPOINTMENTS TO EXTERNAL BODIES (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

Individual Mayoral Decision Proforma Decision Log No: 130	 TOWER HAMLETS
Report of: Matthew Mannion, Committees Manager, Democratic Services	Classification: Unrestricted
Nominations to a number of External Bodies	

Is this a Key Decision?	No
Decision Notice Publication Date:	N/A
General Exception or Urgency Notice published?	Not required
Restrictions:	None
Reason for Seeking an Individual Mayoral Decision	This is a Non-Key issue that requires a quick decision to allow representatives to be appointed to the Bodies.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Mayor has responsibility for appointing representatives to certain External Bodies on behalf of Tower Hamlets Council. This report sets out a request to make appointments to the following external bodies:

- Ricardo Community Foundation
- Stepney Relief in Need Charity
- Tower Hamlets Community Transport
- Tower Project
- Women's Environmental Network

DECISION


The Mayor is recommended to:

1. Agree the following nominations to external bodies:
 - a. Ricardo Foundation – Cllr Rachael Saunders
 - b. Stepney Relief in Need Charity – Cllr Ayas Miah
 - c. Tower Hamlets Community Transport – Cllr Ayas Miah
 - d. Tower Project – Cllr Rachel Blake
 - e. Women's Environmental Network – Cllr Shiria Khatun

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  Date 21 JUNE 2016

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  Date 23/06/16

3. Mayor

I agree the decision proposed in paragraph above for the reasons set out in paragraphs 3.1 to 3.3 in the attached report.

Signed  Date 22/6/16

Individual Mayoral Decision

Log No: 130



TOWER HAMLETS

Report of: Matthew Mannion, Committee Services Manager

Classification:
Unrestricted

Nominations to a number of External Bodies

Lead Member	Mayor John Biggs
Originating Officer(s)	Matthew Mannion, Committee Services Manager
Wards affected	All wards
Community Plan Theme	All
Key Decision?	No
Reason for Individual Mayoral Decision	This is a Non-Key issue that requires a quick decision to allow representatives to be appointed to the Bodies.

Executive Summary

The Mayor has responsibility for appointing representatives to certain External Bodies on behalf of Tower Hamlets Council. This report sets out a request to make appointments to the following external bodies:

- Ricardo Community Foundation
- Stepney Relief in Need Charity
- Tower Hamlets Community Transport
- Tower Project
- Women's Environmental Network

Recommendations:

The Mayor is recommended to:

1. Agree the following nominations to external bodies:
 - a. Ricardo Community Foundation – Cllr Rachael Saunders
 - b. Stepney Relief in Need Charity – Cllr Ayas Miah
 - c. Tower Hamlets Community Transport – Cllr Ayas Miah
 - d. Tower Project – Cllr Rachel Blake
 - e. Women's Environmental Network – Cllr Shiria Khatun

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, but there is provision where necessary for Members appointed by the Council to report back to a meeting of the Council.

Ricardo Community Foundation

- 3.3 The Ricardo Community Foundation is a new charity that has been set up in order to support charitable work in relation to the redeveloped St Clements Hospital site on Bow Road. There is provision for the Council to appoint one trustee.

Stepney Relief in Need Charity

- 3.4 There is provision to appoint trustees to the Stepney Relief in Need Charity. This charity considers requests for grants from individuals who reside in the Old Metropolitan Borough of Stepney.

Tower Hamlets Community Transport

- 3.5 There is provision for one nomination for this body. Tower Hamlets Community Transport manage an accessible transport fleet of minibuses for third sector organisations in Tower Hamlets who provide a range of services to residents of Tower Hamlets.

Tower Project

- 3.6 There is provision to appoint one person to the Tower Project. The project is a community based voluntary sector organisation providing services for children and adults with learning, sensory and/or physical disabilities, autism or health related issues.

Women's Environmental Network

- 3.7 The Council can make one, female, appointment to this body. The Women's Environmental Network aims to use campaigning, education and community work to empower women to become agents of change in their society for a fair, health and sustainable future.
- 3.8 In relation to all the above appointments, the Mayor will usually renew all appointments each municipal year but, for the avoidance of doubt, nominations continue until further notice is given.

4. COMMENTS OF THE CHIEF FINANCE OFFICER

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

5. LEGAL COMMENTS

- 5.1. The appointment of Councillors and others to outside bodies is an Executive decision when the appointment relates to executive functions.

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 By engaging with local organisations the Council can help ensure best value is achieved from their work in the local area.

7. SUSTAINABLE ACTION FOR A GREENER ENVIRONMENT

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

8. RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS

- 8.1. 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.
- 8.2. 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.

9. CRIME AND DISORDER REDUCTION IMPLICATIONS

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

10. SAFEGUARDING IMPLICATIONS

- 10.1 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