


Individual Mayoral Decision Log No: 148	 TOWER HAMLETS
Report of: Charles Yankiah, Senior Committee Officer	Classification: Unrestricted
Nominations to East End Homes, Tower Hamlets Community Housing and Davenant Centre	

Lead Member	Mayor John Biggs
Originating Officer(s)	Charles Yankiah, Senior Committee Officer
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 prompt decision to allow representatives to be appointed to the Trust

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Mayor has responsibility for appointing representatives to certain External Bodies on behalf of Tower Hamlets Council. This report sets out the appointments that are required to East End Homes, Tower Hamlets Community Housing and Davenant Centre. These appointments are until further notice.

Recommendation:

The Mayor is recommended to:

1. Agree the nomination of Councillor Rachael Saunders to replace Councillor Andrew Cregan to serve on the Board of East End Homes until further notice;
2. Agree the nomination of Councillor Abdul Mukit MBE to serve on the Board of the Tower Hamlets Community Housing until further notice; and
3. To appoint Andy Scott, Acting Divisional Director for Economic Development to serve on the Board of the Davenant Centre.

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 and officers, 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 and Officers 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 and Officers appointed by the Council to report back to a meeting of the Council.
- 3.3 There is provision for one appointee to serve on the Board of East End Homes (replacement), one appointee to serve on the Board of Tower Hamlets Community Housing and one appointee to serve on the Davenant Centre. Appointments are made until further notice.

4. COMMENTS OF THE CHIEF FINANCE OFFICER

- 4.1 The Chief Financial Officer has been consulted on this report and confirms that there are no direct financial implications arising from it.

5. LEGAL COMMENTS

- 5.1 Pursuant to the Council's Constitution the Mayor has the power in relation to or in support of an Executive function to appoint any individual (i.e. a Member

and/ or an officer) to any body other than the authority. The Mayor therefore has the authority to appoint.

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. 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. EFFICIENCY STATEMENT

- 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