


Cabinet Decision	
24 April 2019	
Report of: David Courcoux, Head of the Mayor's Office	Classification: Unrestricted
Nominations to Outside Bodies 2018/19	

Lead Member	Mayor John Biggs
Originating Officer(s)	Matthew Mannion, Head of Democratic Services
Wards affected	All wards
Key Decision?	No
Forward Plan Notice Published	N/A
Strategic Plan Priority / Outcome	A dynamic outcomes-based Council using digital innovation and partnership working to respond to the changing needs of our borough

Executive Summary

It is the responsibility of the Mayor to nominate representatives to certain Outside Bodies on behalf of Tower Hamlets Council.

Paragraph 3.4 of the report lists two proposed appointments to Outside Bodies for the Mayor to consider. Although all appointments are reviewed regularly, they are, unless stated elsewhere in this report, valid until such time as they are amended or renewed by a Mayoral decision. Paragraph 3.6 includes a list of Outside Bodies for which nominations are recommended to be discontinued following the recommendation of a review by the General Purposes Committee.

Recommendations:

The Mayor in Cabinet is recommended to:

1. Agree the nominations to outside bodies as shown in Paragraph 3.4.
2. Agree to discontinue nominations to the outside bodies as shown in Paragraph 3.6 as proposed by the General Purposes Committee review.

1. REASONS FOR THE DECISIONS

- 1.1 Having representatives on 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.

- 1.2 A review of the Councils outside bodies was conducted by the General Purposes Committee in 2018 and recommendations were made to the Mayor, including a list of outside bodies to which the Committee felt the Council should no longer appoint representatives.

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.
- 2.2 The Mayor could decide to continue nominating representatives to the outside bodies listed in Paragraph 3.6. However, this is not recommended as it would be contrary to the recommendation of the General Purposes Committee, which followed a full review of both the process of outside body nominations and the bodies themselves.

3. DETAILS OF THE REPORT

- 3.1 Participating in the work of outside 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 nominated to outside bodies.
- 3.2 A key part of this role is ensuring that information about the activities of outside 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.
- 3.3 This is the fourth round of nominations to Outside Bodies in 2018/19. The previous rounds of nominations were made as Mayoral Decision Numbers 181 to 183.

3.4 The nominations to be made to Outside Bodies are:

Outside Body	Mayor or Council Nomination	Nominees permitted	2018/19 nominee(s)
Stepney Relief in Need Charity	Mayor	3	Councillor James King; Councillor Dipa Das
Docklands Sailing and Water Sports Centre	Mayor	1 +1 deputy	Councillor Bex White

3.5 At the request of the Mayor, a review of the Council's outside bodies was undertaken by the General Purposes Committee in 2018. The Committee made several recommendations to the Mayor, including a recommendation that the Council should no longer nominate representatives to some outside bodies. In addition, some outside bodies are no longer operational or have changed their governing documents and so no longer allow for LBTH representatives. The Mayor, having considered the above, has indicated he no longer wishes to nominate representatives to some bodies previously on the Council's outside bodies list.

3.6 The Outside Bodies proposed to be removed from the list are

- Cultural Industries Development Agency
- Green Candle Dance Company
- Merchant Navy Welfare Board
- The Henderson Charity
- Women's Library Council
- Jagonari Women's Education and Resource Centre
- East London Nursing Society Trust.

4. EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

4.1 Nominating 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.

5. OTHER STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS

5.1 This section of the report is used to highlight further specific statutory implications that are either not covered in the main body of the report or are required to be highlighted to ensure decision makers give them proper consideration. Examples of other implications may be:

- Best Value Implications,
- Consultations,
- Environmental (including air quality),
- Risk Management,
- Crime Reduction,

- Safeguarding,
- Data protection.

Risk Management Implications

- 5.2 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.
- 5.3 The nomination of representatives to outside bodies enables the Council to strengthen links with the community. The nomination of representatives also contributes to the Council's leadership role in the community.

6. COMMENTS OF THE CHIEF FINANCE OFFICER

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

7. COMMENTS OF LEGAL SERVICES

- 7.1 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").
- 7.2 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 any body, 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.
- 7.3 All of the appointments in paragraphs 3.4 and 3.6 relate to local choice functions and are the responsibility of the executive. The Mayor therefore has responsibility for these appointments under the Constitution.
- 7.4 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.
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Linked Reports, Appendices and Background Documents

Linked Report

- Review of External Appointments, General Purposes Committee, [8 February 2018](#)
- Mayoral Decision 181 - Nominations to Outside Bodies 2018/19 – Tranche 1, Mayor's Executive Decision Making, [Thursday, 30th August, 2018](#).
- Mayoral Decision 182 - Nominations to Outside Bodies 2018-19 Tranche 2, Mayor's Executive Decision Making, [Monday, 1st October, 2018](#)
- Mayor's Executive Decision Making 183 - Nomination to Outside Bodies 2018-19 - Tranche 3, [Monday, 29th October, 2018](#).

Appendices

- None

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

- NONE.

Officer contact details for documents:

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