

Committee Extraordinary General Purposes Committee	Date 3 November 2010	Classification Unrestricted	Report No.	Agenda Item No.
Report of: Service Head, Democratic Services		Title: APPOINTMENTS TO BILLINGSGATE MARKET CONSULTATIVE ADVISORY COMMITTEE		
Originating Officer(s): John S. Williams		Ward(s) affected: Millwall		

REASONS FOR URGENCY: The Billingsgate Market Consultative Advisory Committee needs to meet without delay to discuss proposals to amend the Market's by-laws. The Committee is convened by the City of London Corporation but its constitution provides for two members to be appointed by Tower Hamlets Council. The Committee is not quorate without the Tower Hamlets members and therefore cannot meet until they have been appointed.

1. SUMMARY

- 1.1 The General Purposes Committee has responsibility for appointing Councillors, officers or other nominees as appropriate to represent the authority on outside bodies. On 23rd June 2010 the Committee received nominations from the political groups and agreed the Council's appointments to a range of external bodies for the municipal year 2010/11.
- 1.2 Subsequently the Council has been invited to appoint two representatives to the Billingsgate Market Consultative Advisory Committee. An urgent meeting of the Consultative Advisory Committee has been requested in connection with proposed amendments to the Market's by-laws. The Constitution of the Consultative Advisory Committee requires the Tower Hamlets representatives to be appointed before the Committee can convene.
- 1.3 The Committee is therefore asked to appoint to the two vacant positions. The political groups have been notified of the vacancies and any nominations received prior to the Committee will be reported at the meeting. In the event that no such nominations are received before the meeting, the Committee is recommended to delegate to the Assistant Chief Executive (Legal Services) authority to make the appointments, after consultation with the Mayor and the political group leaders, in order to avoid the need for a further extraordinary meeting.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 That the Committee consider any nominations received and appoint two representatives to serve on the Billingsgate Market Consultative Advisory Committee;

or, in the event that no nominations are received before or at the meeting:

- 2.2 That the Committee delegate authority to the Assistant Chief Executive (Legal Services), after consultation with the Mayor and the leaders of the respective political groups on the Council, to agree the appointment of the Council's representatives on the Billingsgate Market Consultative Advisory Committee.

3. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 3.1 The General Purposes Committee has been established by Council to enable the efficient determination of non-executive matters, including appointments to committees, panels and external bodies. Appointments are made until the end of the current municipal year unless otherwise indicated.

- 3.2 The Billingsgate Market Consultative Advisory Committee was established by section 15 of the City of London (Various Powers) Act 1979, to make representations to the City Corporation on any matter concerning the management or operation of the market. The Committee's constitution includes 4 representatives of the City Corporation, 2 of Tower Hamlets Council and persons representing the traders (4), workers (2) and buyers (1) in the Market.

- 3.3 The Committee has met infrequently and no representatives have been nominated for some years. The City Corporation has now been asked to convene a meeting urgently in connection with proposals regarding the market byelaws. In accordance with its Constitution, the Committee cannot meet unless and until the Tower Hamlets representatives have been appointed. The City Corporation nominees to the Advisory Committee are officers. Tower Hamlets may appoint Councillors or officers to the Committee.

4. COMMENTS OF THE CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER

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

5. CONCURRENT REPORT OF THE ASSISTANT CHIEF EXECUTIVE (LEGAL SERVICES)

- 5.1 There are no legal implications arising directly from this report. Representatives to outside bodies are provided with guidance notes, as previously agreed by the Committee, addressing the legal issues and duties relating to their role.

6. IMPLICATIONS FOR ONE TOWER HAMLETS

- 6.1 The appointment of representatives to external bodies enables the Council to strengthen links with community. The appointment of representatives to external bodies also contributes to the Council's leadership role in the community.

7. ANTI POVERTY IMPLICATIONS

- 7.1 There are no immediate anti-poverty implications arising from this report.

8. SUSTAINABLE ACTION FOR A GREENER ENVIRONMENT (SAGE)

- 8.1 There are no immediate SAGE implications arising from this report.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT, 2000 (SECTION 97)

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

Brief description of "background paper"

**Name and telephone number of holder
and address where open to inspection**

External Bodies File

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