

LONDON BOROUGH OF TOWER HAMLETS

MINUTES OF THE GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE

HELD AT 6.30 P.M. ON WEDNESDAY, 23 NOVEMBER 2011

**COMMITTEE ROOM 1,1ST FLOOR, TOWN HALL, MULBERRY PLACE, 5 CLOVE
CRESCENT, LONDON, E14 2BG**

Members Present:

Councillor Shiria Khatun (Chair)

Councillor Sirajul Islam (Vice-Chair)
Councillor Mizan Chaudhury
Councillor Mohammed Abdul Mukit MBE
Councillor Md. Maium Miah

Councillor Craig Aston

Other Councillors Present:

Officers Present:

Louise Stamp – (Electoral Services Manager, Chief Executive's)
John Williams – (Service Head, Democratic Services, Chief Executive's)
Zoe Folley – (Committee Officer, Democratic Services Chief Executive's)

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Gloria Thienel for whom Councillor Craig Aston was deputising.

RESOLVED

That the apologies for absence be noted.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Craig Aston declared a personal interest in Agenda item 3.1 Parliamentary Constituency Boundary Review 2013 - Council Response to Consultation. The declaration of interest was made due to his involvement in Parliamentary boundary review for the Conservative Party.

3. REPORTS FOR CONSIDERATION

3.1 Parliamentary Constituency Boundary Review 2013 - Council Response to Consultation

Reasons for lateness and urgency **Agreed.**

John Williams (Service Head, Democratic Services) and Louise Stamp (Electoral Services Manager) presented the report regarding the Parliamentary Constituency Boundary review.

It was reported that at its last meeting, the Committee gave initial consideration to the recommendations of the Boundary Commission for England in respect of the review, subject to consultation until 5th December 2011. The Committee also considered the draft response of the Mayor and agreed that they meet again to agree the Council's response in light of any comments received.

The report before the Committee now sets out the responses received from Political Groups, and in view of this, the Council's proposed submission attached at Appendix A.

RESOLVED:

That the proposed response on behalf of the Council to the Boundary Commission for England's initial recommendations as set out at Appendix 'A' of the report be agreed .

3.2 Local Electoral Review 2012 - Update

John Williams (Service Head, Democratic Services) and Louise Stamp (Electoral Services Manager) gave a verbal update regarding the Local Electoral Review 2012.

Mr Williams confirmed that the deadline for submitting responses to the Local Electoral Review was 20th January 2011. To support this, Louise Stamp circulated statistics to help inform responses (This comprised population/ward growth predications supplied by the GLA and)

Mr Williams also confirmed the details of the Member Briefing on the Electoral Review to be held at 7pm before the Council meeting (29th November 2011). The Briefing would attended by representatives of the Boundary Commission and would give Members the opportunity to put questions to then regarding the review.

Members then raised issues for consideration including the likely impact of Individual Registration - particularly whether this would be factored into electoral role projections. Members also expressed views on likely population

growth for some wards, based on their own experiences and the differences between population/development numbers and numbers on the electoral roll.

Louise Stamp also offered to circulate further statistics for Members to help them with their responses.

RESOLVED:

That the update be noted.

3.3 Appointments to Outside Bodies

Reasons for lateness and urgency **Agreed.**

Mr John Williams (Service Head, Democratic Services) presented the report regarding appointments to outside bodies . It was noted that since June 2011, a number of vacancies on outside bodies had arisen as set out in the circulated report. The Committee were asked to consider the schedule of vacancies and appoint to them accordingly.

London City Airport Consultative Committee

Councillor Josh Peck was appointed to the above Committee in June, however due to work commitments cannot make the 4:30pm start time for meetings. The deputy position was already vacant.

Therefore the Committee were asked to appoint to both positions on the Committee (One Member and One Deputy).

The Chair **moved** that Steve Mutton? be appointed to serve as the Council's representative on the Committee . This was **agreed** by the Committee.

London Councils Health and Adult Services Forum.

It was noted that the Council's representative on the forum was normally the lead Member for health/social services.

Therefore, the Committee were invited to appoint Councillor Abdul Asad to this position following his recent appointment by the Mayor as Cabinet Member for Health and Wellbeing. (replacing Councillor Ohid Ahmed appointed on 22nd June 2011)

The Committee **agreed** that as this nomination concerned an Executive Member, that it should be referred to the Executive for appointment.

Local Government Group Urban Commission

The Committee were asked to appoint a second person to represent the Council alongside Councillor David Edgar.

One nomination had been received for the position, Councillor Stephanie Eaton. The Committee **agreed** that Councillor Eaton should be appointed to the position.

London Youth Games Ltd

It was noted on 22nd June 2011, the Committee appointed Councillor Kabir Ahmed to serve as one of the Council's two representatives on this body.

Following changes in the political composition of the Authority, The Labour Group had asked that the Committee reconsidered this appointment and have nominated Councillor Lesley Pavitt. There were no other nominations. The Committee **agreed** that Councillor Lesley Pavitt be appointed to the position.

Olympics Ambassador

In light of Councillor Anna Lynch's intention to step down from the position, the Labour Group had nominated Councillor Lesley Pavitt to take her place as the Council's Olympic Ambassador for the remainder of the municipal year 2011/12. There were no other nominations. The Committee **agreed** that Councillor Lesley Pavitt be appointed to the position.

Tower Hamlets College Board

It was noted on 22nd June 2011, the Committee appointed Councillor Kabir Ahmed to serve as one of the Council's two representatives on this body.

Following changes in the political composition of the Authority, The Labour Group had asked that the Committee reconsidered this appointment and have nominated Councillor Mizan Chaudhury to replace Councillor Kabir Ahmed as one of the Council's two representatives on this body.. There were no other nominations. The Committee **agreed** that Councillor Mizan Chaudhury be appointed to the position.

Tower Hamlets Community Housing.

Following changes in the political composition of the Authority, the Labour Group had asked that the Committee reconsidered this appointment and have nominated Councillor Helal Uddin to replace Councillor Kabir Ahmed as one of the Council's representatives on this body.. There were no other nominations. The Committee **agreed** that Councillor Helal Uddin be appointed to the position.

Tower Hamlets Homes Board

Following changes in the political composition of the Authority, the Labour Group had asked that the Committee reconsidered this appointment and have nominated Councillor Helal Uddin to replace Councillor Kabir Ahmed as one of the Council's representatives on this board. There were no other nominations. The Committee **agreed** that Councillor Helal Uddin be appointed to the position.

RESOLVED:

That the nominations made and appointments to the positions as set out in the table attached at Appendix A to this report be agreed..

The meeting ended at 6.45 p.m.

Chair, Councillor Shiria Khatun
General Purposes Committee