

Committee General Purposes Committee	Date 15th November, 2006	Classification Unrestricted	Report No. GPC006/067	Agenda Item No.
Report of: Interim Head of Democratic Renewal and Engagement Originating Officer(s): Tim Revell / Tim Hogan		Title APPOINTMENTS TO EXTERNAL BODIES Ward(s) affected: All		

SUMMARY

1. The Committee is requested to consider nominations to the external bodies received from the political groups on the Council. The Committee at its meeting on 14th June, 2006 deferred consideration of a number of appointments and since the meeting a number of organisation have requested the Council to consider its nominations.

RECOMMENDATIONS

2. That further appointments be made to the external bodies for the Municipal Year 2006/2007 as listed in Appendix A to the 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
General Purposes Minute Book

Tim Hogan
020 7364 4850

BACKGROUND

3. The General Purposes Committee was established by Council on 13th April, 2005 to enable the swift determination of non-strategic issues, including appointments to external bodies. The Committee at its meeting on 14th June, 2006 considered a report on the appointment of members and officers to external bodies for 2006/2007 and deferred consideration of a number of appointments. Since the June meeting of the Committee a number of organisations have requested the Council to consider its nominations.

The Committee at its meeting held on 14th June, 2006 agreed:-

- 1 That the revised schedule of appointments to External Bodies for the Municipal Year 2006 / 2007 attached as an appendix to these minutes be agreed;
 - 2 That the guidance for members on external bodies at Appendix B to the report be noted;
 - 3 That an appropriate pro-forma be drawn up for use by Members and officers appointed to external bodies so as to enable Members and officers to report back on a six monthly basis;
 - 4 That the letter of appointment include details of the Council's Calendar of Meetings for 2006/2007 so as to avoid where ever possible commitment clashes;
 - 5 That External Bodies be invited to provide the Council with electronic versions of minutes, agendas and constitutional arrangements to build up an electronic reference library for use by members and officers; and
 - 6 That the Guidance Note for Members representing the Council on External Bodies be forwarded for information to the Council's Standards Committee, as part of its remit to oversee the Council's ethical governance arrangements.
4. The Committee is requested to consider further nominations for appointment to external bodies, which have been received from the political groups on the Council.

ROLE OF MEMBERS

5. Participating in the work of external bodies is a key 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 the guidance considered at the last meeting was formulated to assist members in carrying out this role. The guidance was circulated to all members of the Council and placed on the members' intranet.

6. 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.
7. To ensure that this communication takes place consistently and effectively a framework has been agreed whereby Members appointed by the Council to external bodies will report regularly to this Committee on the work of the organisation with particular emphasis on any implications for the Council.

CONSULTATION

8. The political groups on the Council have been consulted prior to the finalising of the schedule. A revised schedule will be tabled at the meeting.

COMMENTS OF THE CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER

9. There are no financial implications arising from this report.

CONCURRENT REPORT OF THE ASSISTANT CHIEF EXECUTIVE (LEGAL)

10. There are no legal comments arising from this report.

EQUAL OPPORTUNITY IMPLICATIONS

11. There are no immediate equal opportunity implications arising from this report.

ANTI POVERTY IMPLICATIONS

12. There are no immediate environmental implications arising from this report.

SUSTAINABLE ACTION FOR A GREENER ENVIRONMENT

13. There are no immediate SAGE implications arising from this report.

RISK ASSESSMENT

14. 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. The introduction of more robust reporting arrangements will reduce the risk of misunderstanding between external bodies and the Council.

Appendix A

ORGANISATION	NUMBER OF REPS. TO BE APPOINTED	ON-GOING APPOINTMENTS	CURRENT APPOINTMENTS	LABOUR GROUP NOMINATIONS COUNCILLOR 2006/2007	RESPECT GROUP NOMINATIONS COUNCILLOR 2006/2007	CONSERVATIVE GROUP NOMINATIONS COUNCILLOR 2006/2007	LIBERAL DEMOCRAT GROUP NOMINATIONS COUNCILLOR 2006/2007	APPOINTED AT GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE 15 th November, 2006
Futures Charitable Trust	1		Cllr Khaled Khan (appointed GPC 16/6/05)					
Merchant Navy Welfare Board	1		Cllr Akikur Kahn (appointed at GPC 16/6/05)					
Norton Folgate Almhouse Charities	1 vacancy		Cllr Bill Turner Ms Jill Iremonger (appointed at GPC 14/6/06)					
Isle of Dogs Community Foundation	2 1 Member 1 Officer		Cllr Alan Amos Cllr Brian Son (appointed at GPC at GPC 16/6/05)			Cllr Tim Archer Cllr Phil Briscoe		
Jagonari	1		Cllr Denise Jones (appointed at GPC 16/6/05)	Cllr Shiria Katun	Cllr Rania Khan			
Samuda Estate Management Board (EMB)			Cllr Julian Sharpe (appointed at GPC 16/6/05)					

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<p>East London Homes</p> <p>1. ELH are seeking to reduce the number of directors appointed by LBTH to 2.</p> <p>2. ELH are seeking confirmation that the Council is agreeable to ELH 's changing its articles to reflect the reduction in directors appointed by LBTH.</p>		<p>Cllr Denise Jones Cllr Motin Uz-Zaman</p>						

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<p>Tower Hamlets Sport Council (THSC)</p> <p>THSC has written to the Council seeking a reduction in LBTH's current 10 representatives to 7, its suggested that this is undertaken on a proportionate basis.</p>			<p>Cllr Clair Hawkins Cllr Luftur Rahman Cllr Marc Francis Cllr Alibor Choudhury Cllr Shiria Khatun Cllr Shahed Ali Cllr Oliur Rahman Cllr Rania Khan Cllr Simon Rouse Cllr Stephanie Eaton (appointed at GPC 14/6/06)</p>					
<p>London Authorities Mutual Limited</p> <p>Cabinet on 8/10/2006 agreed to participate in the insurance company. It is propose to appoint the Director of Finance or his nominee as the Authority's representative</p>	1							

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<p>London Thames Gateway Development Corporation</p> <p>The appointment is subject to approval by the Secretary of State. 2 nominations are sought, the Secretary of State making the final choice.</p>			Mr Michael Keith (appointed 2004)					

ORGANISATION ALG	NUMBER OF REPS. TO BE APPOINTED	CURRENT APPOINTMENTS	APPOINTED AT COUNCIL ON 24TH MAY, 2006
Culture & Tourism Forum	1+1dep	Cllr Denise Jones Cllr Helal Rahman (Deputy) (Appointed at GPC 16 th June, 2005)	Cllr Lutfur Rahman Cllr Alibor Choudhury (Deputy)
2012 Forum	1+dep		Cllr Ohid Ahmed Cllr Lutfur Rahman (Deputy)

The London Councils organisation has advised the Authority that the Culture & Tourism Forum and 2012 Forum have now been merged and therefore only one nomination together with a deputy is being sought. Councillor Lutfur Rahman was appointed to the Culture & Tourism Forum and Councillor Ohid Ahmed to the 2012 Forum.