

AGENDA ITEM 11.1 – TABLED ADDENDUM REPORT

LONDON BOROUGH OF TOWER HAMLETS

COUNCIL MEETING

18th SEPTEMBER 2013

STANDARDS ADVISORY COMMITTEE:
APPOINTMENT OF CO-OPTED MEMBERS

ADDENDUM REPORT OF THE SERVICE HEAD,
DEMOCRATIC SERVICES

1. SUMMARY

- 1.1 A report of the Service Head, Democratic Services regarding the appointment of co-opted members to the Standards Advisory Committee is included on the agenda for this Council meeting (agenda item 11.1).
- 1.2 As set out in the report, a cross-party panel of Members, chaired by the independent Chair of the Standards Advisory Committee, met on the evening of 9th September to interview candidates for the vacant positions.
- 1.3 The advertisement for co-opted members attracted a strong field and the panel interviewed seven candidates. Following the interviews, the panel agreed to recommend the Council to appoint both to the fully vacant position created by the resignation of Ms Sue Rossiter (four year appointment); and to the temporary vacancy arising from Mr Denzil Johnson's non-availability until the end of April 2014.
- 1.4 The candidates recommended for appointment are as follows:-

Mr John Pulford MBE (four year term of office)

Mr Pulford is currently Chairman of 16 Hoxton Square Limited, a social enterprise which provides business accommodation for start-ups and charities locally. He is also Honorary Vice President of Community Service Volunteers (CSV), a national charity with which he has been associated for over thirty years. In 1994 he was awarded the MBE for services to the Voluntary Sector.

Mr Pulford is retired from a commercial career and as Chief Executive of an employee-owned business in the area was involved in the establishment of the Shoreditch New Deal for Communities organisation, now the Shoreditch Trust. In 2010 he became director and then Chairman of the Cass Business School Centre for Charity Effectiveness Trust. Mr Pulford is a Tower Hamlets resident and is currently Chairman of the borough's Conservation and Design Advisory Panel.

Mr Grenville Mills (term of office to 30th April 2014)

Mr Mills is semi-retired from a successful career in international consulting, having served in senior positions in range of commercial and financial organisations worldwide. During a diverse career, Mr Mills gained experience of applying standards and codes of practice, crisis resolution and ICT systems implementation in service industries in a number of countries.

Mr Mills is a Tower Hamlets resident with a keen interest in, and commitment to, local democracy, ethical standards and the effective provision of public services.

- 1.5 Mr Pulford and Mr Mills have each confirmed that they would be prepared to accept the positions proposed and the Group Leaders and Mayor have been notified of the recommended appointments.
- 1.6 As set out in the report circulated with the agenda, it has also previously been proposed that Mr Barry O'Connor be re-appointed to the Standards Advisory Committee following the completion of his term of office as interim 'Independent Person'.

2. REVISED RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 That Mr Barry O'Connor and Mr John Pulford MBE each be appointed as co-opted members of the Standards Advisory Committee for a term of office of four years.
- 2.2 That the Council note that Mr Denzil Johnson has given notice that he will be unable to undertake his duties as a co-opted member of the SAC during the period from now until the end of April 2014
- 2.3 That Mr Grenville Mills be appointed as a co-opted member of the Standards Advisory Committee, to replace Mr Denzil Johnson for the period until 30th April 2014; and that Mr Denzil Johnson be re-appointed to the Committee with effect from 1st May 2014 until the expiry of his original term of office in May 2016.

3 COMMENTS OF THE CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER

- 3.1 The costs of the recruitment exercise and the co-opted members' remuneration will be met from within existing budgets in the Chief Executive's Directorate. The Council has previously agreed as part of the scheme of members' allowances that co-opted members shall be paid an allowance of £117 for each authorised attendance. This is broadly in line with the London Councils Independent Remuneration Panel (2010) recommended figure of £127.

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

4.1 The Localism Act 2011 introduced a number of changes to the Standards regime. The Authority has amended its own arrangements in line with those, including the establishment of a Standards Advisory Committee with provision for voting co-opted members under the provisions of S13 (4) (e) of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989.

5. ONE TOWER HAMLETS CONSIDERATIONS

5.1 The recruitment exercise was designed to attract a diverse range of candidates and the selection criteria against which candidates were assessed included demonstrating a commitment to promoting equality and an awareness of the issues affecting a diverse community in an inner London borough

6. SUSTAINABLE ACTION FOR A GREENER ENVIRONMENT

6.1 There are no implications arising from this report.

7. RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS

7.1 There are no implications arising from this report.

8. CRIME AND DISORDER REDUCTION IMPLICATIONS

8.1 There are no implications arising from this report.

9. EFFICIENCY STATEMENT

9.1 There are no implications arising from this report.

**Local Government Act, 1972 Section 100D (As amended)
List of "Background Papers" used in the preparation of this report**

Brief description of "background papers"	Name and telephone number of holder and address where open to inspection.
None	n/a