

Committee <b>General Purposes Committee</b>	Date <b>13<sup>th</sup> June, 2007</b>	Classification <b>Unrestricted</b>	Report No.	Agenda Item No.
Report of: <b>Service Head Democratic Services</b>		Title: <b>APPOINTMENTS TO EXTERNAL BODIES</b>		
Originating Officer(s): <b>Angus Dixon</b>		Ward(s) affected: <b>All</b>		

### SUMMARY

1. The Committee is requested to consider nominations to the external bodies received from the political groups on the Council. Attached at Appendix A, is the schedule of appointments to be made, which has been revised to show the appointments made in 2006/2007 and those required in 2007/2008.
2. It should be noted that appointments to London Councils (formerly known as the ALG Association of Local Government) were considered by Council on 16<sup>th</sup> May, 2007 because they required nominations by 1<sup>st</sup> June, 2007.

### RECOMMENDATIONS

3. (i) That appointments be made to the external bodies for the Municipal Year 2007/2008 as listed in Appendix A to the report;
- (ii) That the appointments to London Councils and its bodies made by Council on 16<sup>th</sup> May, 2007 as listed in Appendix B to the report be noted; and
- (iii) That the guidance for members on external bodies at Appendix C be noted.

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## LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT, 2000 (SECTION 97) LIST OF "BACKGROUND PAPERS" USED IN THE PREPARATION OF THIS REPORT

### Brief description of "background paper"

External Bodies File  
General Purposes Minute Book

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

Angus Dixon  
020 7364 4850

## **BACKGROUND**

4. The General Purposes Committee has been established by Council to enable the swift determination of non-strategic issues, including appointments to external bodies. A report elsewhere on the agenda provides details of the Committee's terms of reference, membership and quorum.
5. The Committee is requested to consider the nominations for appointment to External Bodies, which have been received from the political groups on the Council.
6. The schedule of appointments to external bodies has been revised to show the appointments made in 2006/2007, and those required in 2007/2008. Appointments are made for one municipal year unless otherwise indicated.

## **ROLE OF MEMBERS**

7. 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 in Appendix C has been formulated to assist members in carrying out this role. The Committee is invited to note the guidance which will subsequently be circulated to all members of the Council and placed on the members' intranet.
8. 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.
9. 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**

10. The political groups on the Council have been consulted prior to finalising the schedule.

## **COMMENTS OF THE CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER**

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

## **CONCURRENT REPORT OF THE ASSISTANT CHIEF EXECUTIVE (LEGAL)**

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

## **EQUAL OPPORTUNITY IMPLICATIONS**

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

## **ANTI POVERTY IMPLICATIONS**

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

## **SUSTAINABLE ACTION FOR A GREENER ENVIRONMENT**

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

## **RISK ASSESSMENT**

16. 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.