

LONDON BOROUGH OF TOWER HAMLETS

ANNUAL COUNCIL MEETING

WEDNESDAY, 11 JUNE 2014

AGENDA ITEM 7 – TABLED REPORT

**COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP, REVIEW OF PROPORTIONALITY AND
ESTABLISHMENT OF COMMITTEES AND PANELS**

REPORT OF THE SERVICE HEAD, DEMOCRATIC SERVICES

1. SUMMARY

- 1.1 This report sets out the membership of the Council following the elections held on 22 May 2014 and reviews proportionality as required by section 15 of the Local Government & Housing Act 1989 ('The 1989 Act'). The report further recommends the establishment of committees and panels as set out in the Council's constitution and proposes the allocation of places on those committees and panels between the political groups represented on the Authority.
- 1.2 The nominations from the groups for membership of those committees and panels in accordance with the allocation of places; and certain other bodies not covered by the proportionality rules, will follow at the next agenda item.
- 1.3 Part 4.1 of the constitution states that the Annual Council Meeting will establish an Overview & Scrutiny Committee and such other committees/panels as it considers appropriate to deal with matters which are neither Executive Functions nor reserved to the Council. The committees, panels and other bodies appointed by the Council are listed at Part 3.3 of the constitution.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 That the Council note the membership of the Authority following the Council elections on 22 May 2014 as set out at Appendix A; and the review of proportionality as at section 3 of the report overleaf.
- 2.2 That committees and panels be established for the Municipal Year 2014/15, and places be allocated on those committees and panels, as set out at paragraph 4.2 overleaf.

3. BACKGROUND AND REVIEW OF PROPORTIONALITY

- 3.1 The membership of Tower Hamlets Council following the local elections held on 22 May 2014 is listed at Appendix A to this report, showing for each Councillor the ward represented and the political group of which he/she is a member.
- 3.2 Section 15(1) of the 1989 Act requires the Council at, or as soon as practicable after, the Annual Meeting to carry out a review to determine the allocation to the political groups of seats on the committees/panels of the Council. The principles which must be adopted are:
- (i) that in relation to each body covered by the Act, all seats are not allocated to the same political group;
 - (ii) that where a political group has a majority of seats on the Council, the majority of seats on each body must go to that political group;
 - (iii) that subject to (i) and (ii) the number of seats on the total of all the ordinary committees/panels of the authority allocated to each group bears the same proportion as that group's proportion of the seats on the full Council; and
 - (iv) that subject to the above three principles, the number of seats on each ordinary committee/panel of the authority allocated to each political group bears the same proportion as that group's proportion of the seats on the full Council.
- 3.3 Following the Council elections on 22 May, notice has been received in accordance with the Local Government (Committees and Political Groups) Regulations 1990 that the following groups have been constituted:-

Group	seats	%
Labour	20	47.6%
Tower Hamlets First	18	42.8%
Conservative	4	9.5%
Total	42	

- 3.4 The remaining three places on the Council will be filled by the successful candidates in the Blackwall and Cubitt Town Ward election, which was countermanded on 22 May due to the death of a candidate and which will be held on 3 July 2014. A further review of proportionality will be conducted at the next Council Meeting in the light of the political composition of the authority at that point.

4. ESTABLISHMENT OF COMMITTEES AND PANELS

4.1 The Council is recommended to re-establish the committees and panels listed below for the municipal year 2014/15. These provide for a total of 91 committee/panel seats, which will be allocated to the political groups in proportion to their numbers on the full Council as follows:-

Labour: 43 places
Tower Hamlets First: 39 places
Conservative: 9 places

4.2 Applying the principles at paragraph 3.2 above as closely as is reasonably practicable the proposed allocation of places on the committees and panels covered by the requirement for proportionality for the remainder of the municipal year 2014/15 (or until the next review of proportionality, whichever is sooner) is as follows:-

Committee/panel	Total	Labour	Tower Hamlets First	Conser-vative
Overview & Scrutiny Committee (plus 6 co-optees)	9	4	4	1
Health Scrutiny Panel	7	4	3	-
Appeals Committee	9	4	4	1
Audit Committee	7	3	3	1
Development Committee	7	3	3	1
Strategic Development Committee	9	4	4	1
General Purposes Committee	7	3	3	1
Human Resources Committee	7	3	3	1
Licensing Committee	15	8	6	1
Pensions Committee	7	4	3	-
Standards Advisory Committee (plus 7 co-optees)	7	3	3	1

4.3 Each political group has been invited to submit nominations for the places allocated to that group. A schedule of proposed appointments will be tabled at the Annual Council Meeting.

4.4 Neither the Cabinet and any executive sub-groups of the Cabinet; nor the Tower Hamlets Health and Wellbeing Board, are covered by the requirement for proportionality.

5. CONCURRENT REPORT OF THE CHIEF LEGAL OFFICER

5.1 The legal position is set out in the main body of the report.

6. COMMENTS OF THE CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER

6.1 There are no direct financial implications arising from this report.

**LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT, 1972, AS AMENDED
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
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None.

APPENDIX A

MEMBERSHIP OF TOWER HAMLETS COUNCIL – MAY 2014

Name	Ward	Political Group
Amy Whitelock Gibbs	Bethnal Green	Labour
Shafiqul Haque	Bethnal Green	Tower Hamlets First
Sirajul Islam	Bethnal Green	Labour
Vacancy	Blackwall & Cubitt Town	Countermanded Poll to be held on 3 July 2014
Vacancy	Blackwall & Cubitt Town	
Vacancy	Blackwall & Cubitt Town	
Amina Ali	Bow East	Labour
Rachel Blake	Bow East	Labour
Marc Francis	Bow East	Labour
Asma Begum	Bow West	Labour
Joshua Peck	Bow West	Labour
Khales Uddin Ahmed	Bromley North	Labour
Md. Mufti Miah	Bromley North	Tower Hamlets First
Danny Hassell	Bromley South	Labour
Helal Uddin	Bromley South	Labour
Md. Maium Miah	Canary Wharf	Tower Hamlets First
Andrew Wood	Canary Wharf	Conservative
Andrew Cregan	Island Gardens	Labour
Peter Golds	Island Gardens	Conservative
Ohid Ahmed	Lansbury	Tower Hamlets First
Rajib Ahmed	Lansbury	Labour
Shiria Khatun	Lansbury	Labour
Craig Aston	Limehouse	Conservative
Shah Alam	Mile End	Tower Hamlets First
David Edgar	Mile End	Labour
Rachael Saunders	Mile End	Labour
Gulam Kibria Choudhury	Poplar	Tower Hamlets First
Rabina Khan	Shadwell	Tower Hamlets First
Harun Miah	Shadwell	Tower Hamlets First

Name	Ward	Political Group
Suluk Ahmed	Spitalfields & Banglatown	Tower Hamlets First
Gulam Robbani	Spitalfields & Banglatown	Tower Hamlets First
Mahbub Alam	St Dunstan's	Tower Hamlets First
Ayas Miah	St Dunstan's	Labour
Julia Louise Dockerill	St Katharine's & Wapping	Conservative
Denise Jones	St Katharine's & Wapping	Labour
Clare Harrisson	St Peter's	Labour
Abjol Miah	St Peter's	Tower Hamlets First
Md. Ansar Mustaquim	St Peter's	Tower Hamlets First
Alibor Choudhury	Stepney Green	Tower Hamlets First
Oliur Rahman	Stepney Green	Tower Hamlets First
Abdul Chunu Mukit	Weavers	Labour
John Pierce	Weavers	Labour
Shahed Ali	Whitechapel	Tower Hamlets First
Abdul Asad	Whitechapel	Tower Hamlets First
Aminur Khan	Whitechapel	Tower Hamlets First