

Committee General Purposes Committee	Date 18th June, 2008	Classification Unrestricted	Report No.	Agenda Item No.
Report of: Service Head Democratic Services Originating Officer(s): John S. Williams		Title: General Purposes Committee – Terms of Reference, Membership and Dates of meetings Ward(s) affected: ALL		

1. SUMMARY

- 1.1 This report sets out for Members' information the Committee's Terms of Reference, membership and schedule of meeting dates for the municipal year 2008/09.

2. RECOMMENDATION

- 2.1 That the report be noted.

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

None

3. BACKGROUND

- 3.1 This report sets out for Members' information the Committee's terms of reference, the schedule of dates for future meetings together with details of the membership of the Committee.

4. TERMS OF REFERENCE

- 4.1 The Committee's terms of reference, as set out in the Council's Constitution as amended following the Annual Council Meeting on 21st May 2008, are detailed below:-

- (i) Elections: To exercise powers in relation to the holding of elections and the maintenance of the electoral register including:-
- the provision of assistance at European Parliamentary elections;
 - power to make submissions to the Local Government Commission in relation to the boundaries of the borough or ward boundaries;
 - the appointment of a proper officer for the purposes of giving various notices in relation to elections and referenda (e.g. in relation to the verification number for petitions for a referendum under LGA 2000).
- (ii) Appointments of officers or Members to external bodies including the Tower Hamlets Housing Board.
- (iii) To recommend to Council the introduction, amendment or revocation of by-laws.
- (iv) Responsibility for the appointment and revocation of local authority school governors in cases of competing nominations or where officer delegations cannot be exercised.
- (v) Any other functions which under the Local Authorities (Functions and Responsibilities) (England) Regulations 2000, may not be the responsibility of the Cabinet and which are not delegated elsewhere under this Constitution.
- (vi) To make changes to the membership and substitute membership of committees appointed by the Council and their subordinate bodies, consistent with the proportionality rules.
- (vii) To make non material changes to the Constitution upon the recommendation of the Monitoring Officer.

Quorum

3 Members of the Committee

5. MEMBERSHIP

5.1 The Annual Council Meeting held on Wednesday 21st May 2008 appointed the following Councillors to serve on the General Purposes Committee for the remainder of the 2008/09 municipal year:-

- Councillor Mohammed Shahid Ali (Chair)
- Councillor Carli Harper-Penman
- Councillor A. A. Sardar
- Councillor Salim Ullah
- Councillor Mohammed Mamun Rashid (Deputies - Councillors Abjol Miah, Fozol Miah and Md. Abdul Munim)
- Councillor Tim O'Flaherty (Deputies - Councillors Stephanie Eaton, Azizur Rahman Khan and Abdul Matin)

5.2 There is one vacancy on the Committee pending the nomination of a Member by the Conservative Group.

6. DATES OF MEETINGS

6.1 Council at its meeting held on Wednesday 23rd April 2008 agreed the programme of meetings for principal committees/panels etc for the forthcoming municipal year. Further meetings of the General Purposes Committee have been scheduled for the following dates (start time 7.30 p.m. in each case):-

- Wednesday 6th August 2008
- Wednesday 22nd October 2008
- Wednesday 21st January 2009
- Wednesday 25th March 2009

It may be necessary to convene additional meetings of the Committee should urgent business arise. Officers will keep the position under review and consult with the Chair and other Members as appropriate.

7. COMMENTS OF THE CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER

7.1 There are no significant financial implications arising from the recommendations in this report.

8. CONCURRENCE OF THE ASSISTANT CHIEF EXECUTIVE (LEGAL)

8.1 There are no immediate legal implications arising from this report.

9. ANTI-POVERTY IMPLICATIONS

9.1 There are no immediate anti-poverty implications arising from this report.

10. EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES IMPLICATIONS

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

11. SUSTAINABLE ACTION FOR A GREENER ENVIRONMENT

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

12. RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS

12.1 There are no immediate risk management implications arising from this report.

13. RECOMMENDATION

13.1 That the report be noted.