


Non-Executive Report of the: Standards Advisory Committee Thursday, 25 November 2021	 TOWER HAMLETS
Report of: Director of Legal and Monitoring Officer	Classification: Open (Unrestricted)
Register of Gifts and Hospitality - Quarterly Update	

Originating Officer(s)	Matthew Mannion, Head of Democratic Services Patricia Attawia, Democratic Services Team Leader (Civic and Members)
Wards affected	

Executive Summary

This report provides an update on Members' declarations of gifts and hospitality received since the previous report to the committee on 30 September 2021.

The Council Code of Conduct requires Members to register any offer of gift or hospitality with an estimated value of at least £25.

The Standards Advisory Committee are receiving this report as it monitors compliance with this requirement.

Recommendations:

The Standards Advisory Committee is recommended to:

1. Review, comment on and note the report.

1. **REASONS FOR THE DECISIONS**

- 1.1 There is a statutory requirement for the Council to adopt a Code of Conduct for Members. For the purpose of the Code a member includes the Mayor, elected Councillors and Co-opted Members of the Authority.
- 1.2 The Council's Code of Conduct (paragraph 25) requires a Member to register the offer of any gift or hospitality with an estimated value of at least £25 and the person from whom it is received.

2. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

2.1 This is a noting report.

3. DETAILS OF THE REPORT

3.1 During the period 1 September to 31 October a total of 13 declarations were made. These declarations were made on time within the 28 day notification period.

The table below provides a copy of the Register of Gifts and Hospitality for this period and details of each declaration.

Name	Date offered	Type	Accepted/ Declined	Date declared	On time	Provided by	Estimated value	Description
Cllr Asma Begum	25/09/21	Hospitality	Accepted	27/09/21	Yes	Canary Wharf	£50.00	Labour conference, Leader's dinner hosted by Canary Wharf.
Cllr Danny Hassell	07/09/21	Hospitality	Accepted	09/09/21	Yes	Steve Partridge, Director Savills, 33 Margaret Street, London W1G 0JD	£45.00	Dinner offered by Savills, at conference (Chartered Institute of Housing)
	08/09/21	Hospitality	Accepted	09/09/21	Yes	Plumis Ltd, Unit 4, Phoenix Trading Estate, Bilton Rd, Perivale, UB6 7DZ	£45.00	Dinner at conference (Chartered Institute of Housing) by Plumis.
Cllr Mohammed Pappu	25/09/21	Hospitality	Accepted	25/09/21	Yes	Canary Wharf	£50.00	Canary wharf dinner at Labour conference on 25th September
Cllr Motin Uz-Zaman	25/09/21	Hospitality	Accepted	01/10/21	Yes	Canary Wharf Group	£50.00	Dinner with London Leaders
Cllr Peter Golds	04/10/21	Hospitality	Accepted	12/10/21	Yes	City of London Corporation	£50.00	Attended dinner - Conservative Party Conference. Do not drink alcohol, only consumed water.
	05/10/21	Hospitality	Accepted	12/10/21	Yes	Fleischman Hillard	£55.00	Attended dinner - Conservative Conference. Do not drink alcohol, only consumed water.
Cllr Rachel Blake	25/09/21	Hospitality	Declined	30/09/21	Yes	Canary Wharf Group	£50.00	Canary Wharf Group Dinner
	26/09/21	Hospitality	Accepted	30/09/21	Yes	Labour Friends of Bangladesh	£25.00	Labour Friends of Bangladesh Dinner
Cllr Sabina Akhtar	25/09/21	Hospitality	Accepted	30/09/21	Yes	Canary Wharf	£30.00	Canary Wharf Dinner at Labour Party conference
Cllr Shad Chowdhury	14/09/21	Hospitality	Accepted	30/09/21	Yes	Mr Azmal Hussain	£30.00	Mayor of Croydon's Charity Event
Cllr Tarik Khan	25/09/21	Hospitality	Accepted	30/09/21	Yes	Canary Wharf Group	£50.00	Dinner
Mayor John Biggs	20/09/21	Hospitality	Accepted	21/09/21	Yes	Yang Xiaokun - Minister Council	£25.00	Mid-Autumn Festival/Moon Festival offered by Yang Xiaokun - Minister Council

- 3.2 The impact of the Pandemic appears to be diminishing as the number of gifts and hospitality being received is rising. More events are taking place with Members attending, and this is likely to continue to increase as Christmas approaches, if no further restrictions are put in place.
- 3.3 A reminder to declare any offers of gifts or hospitality was included in the Members' Bulletin in November.

Register updates

- 3.4 Following quarterly reminders, all Members registers of interests have been updated or confirmed as unchanged within the last 6 months.

4. EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 None specific to this report.

5. OTHER STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 This section of the report is used to highlight further specific statutory implications that are either not covered in the main body of the report or are required to be highlighted to ensure decision makers give them proper consideration. Examples of other implications may be:

- Best Value Implications,
- Consultations,
- Environmental (including air quality),
- Risk Management,
- Crime Reduction,
- Safeguarding.
- Data Protection / Privacy Impact Assessment.

- 5.2 None specific to this report.

6. COMMENTS OF THE CHIEF FINANCE OFFICER

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

7. COMMENTS OF LEGAL SERVICES

- 7.1 Section 27 of the Localism Act 2011 requires a local authority to promote and maintain high standards of conduct by Members and co-opted Members of the authority. To that end, a local authority is required to adopt a Code of Conduct.
- 7.2 The Code of Conduct adopted by the Council requires Members to register any gift or hospitality valued over £25 offered to them, whether accepted or not, within 28 days.
- 7.3 This report demonstrates compliance with the above requirements.

Linked Reports, Appendices and Background Documents

Linked Report

- Gifts and Hospitality updates at each Standards Advisory Committee meeting

Appendices

- None

Local Government Act, 1972 Section 100D (As amended)

List of “Background Papers” used in the preparation of this report

List any background documents not already in the public domain including officer contact information.

- None

Officer contact details for documents:

N/A