

MINUTES OF ASSEMBLY

Wednesday, 15 May 2019
(7:03 - 7:30 pm)

PRESENT

Cllr Elizabeth Kangethe (Chair)
Cllr Faruk Choudhury (Deputy Chair)

Cllr Andrew Achilleos	Cllr Dorothy Akwaboah	Cllr Saima Ashraf
Cllr Abdul Aziz	Cllr Toni Bankole	Cllr Simon Bremner
Cllr Princess Bright	Cllr Sade Bright	Cllr Evelyn Carpenter
Cllr Peter Chand	Cllr John Dulwich	Cllr Edna Fergus
Cllr Irma Freeborn	Cllr Cameron Geddes	Cllr Syed Ghani
Cllr Rocky Gill	Cllr Kashif Haroon	Cllr Amardeep Singh Jamu
Cllr Jane Jones	Cllr Eileen Keller	Cllr Mohammed Khan
Cllr Donna Lumsden	Cllr Olawale Martins	Cllr Mick McCarthy
Cllr Giasuddin Miah	Cllr Dave Miles	Cllr Adegboyega Oluwole
Cllr Glenda Paddle	Cllr Simon Perry	Cllr Moin Quadri
Cllr Foyzur Rahman	Cllr Tony Ramsay	Cllr Chris Rice
Cllr Lynda Rice	Cllr Ingrid Robinson	Cllr Paul Robinson
Cllr Darren Rodwell	Cllr Emily Rodwell	Cllr Muhammad Saleem
Cllr Faraaz Shaukat	Cllr Bill Turner	Cllr Dominic Twomey
Cllr Phil Waker	Cllr Maureen Worby	

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllr Sanchia Alasia	Cllr Laila M. Butt	Cllr Josie Channer
Cllr Margaret Mullane	Cllr Lee Waker	

1. Appointment of Chair and Deputy Chair

The Chief Executive opened the meeting and invited nominations for the positions of Chair and Deputy Chair of the Assembly for the 2019/20 municipal year.

The Assembly **resolved** to appoint Councillors Kangethe and Choudhury as the Chair and Deputy Chair respectively.

2. Declaration of Members' Interests

There were no declarations of interest.

3. Minutes (27 February 2019)

The minutes of the meeting held on 27 February 2019 were confirmed as correct.

4. Leader's Statement

The Leader of the Council presented a verbal statement updating the Assembly on

a range of matters since the last meeting including:

- **London Markets** - The recent announcement by the City of London Corporation that the Borough had been selected as the preferred option for the relocation of Smithfield, New Spitalfields and Billingsgate Markets;
- **Youth Zone** - His Royal Highness The Duke of Sussex officially opened the Future Youth Zone in Parsloes Park on 19 April 2019 and young people will begin to use the state-of-the-art facilities from 18 May;
- **Home and Money Advice Hub** – The Council’s second Home and Money Advice Hub opened at the Dagenham Library, Heathway, on 13 May 2019;
- **Wall of Shame** - The Council’s Wall of Shame webpage, which encouraged the local community to report flytippers and others engaging in illegal and anti-social behaviour, had now received almost 100,000 hits;
- **Faith and Inclusion Charter** - Alongside the Barking and Dagenham Faith and Belief Forum, the Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Community Leadership and Engagement, Councillor Ashraf, had recently signed up to the Charter for Faith and Belief Inclusion on behalf of the Council;
- **Barking Folk Festival** - The first event in the Council’s Summer of Festivals programme, the Barking Folk Festival, would be taking place over the weekend of 8th and 9th June 2019 on Abbey Green; and.
- **Good Neighbour Guide** - The Council’s Good Neighbour Guide for 2019 would be published shortly.

5. **Appointments to the Political Structure and Other Bodies 2019/20**

The Director of Law and Governance introduced a report on the annual process of appointments to the various elements of the political structure and other internal and external bodies for the 2019/20 municipal year.

The Director drew Members’ attention to the schedule appended to the report and referred to amendments / updates since the papers had been published which related to:

- Members’ Corporate Parenting Group – The schedule should have listed Councillor Ingrid Robinson and not Councillor Paul Robinson;
- Registered Provider Forum – The vacancy would be filled by Councillor Bankole;
- Admissions Forum – The Council representation was to be increased by three, to be filled by Councillors Freeborn, Paddle and Turner.

The Assembly **resolved** to:

- (i) Approve the appointments to various Council committees and other internal and outside bodies, as set out in the document attached at Appendix 1; and

- (ii) Note the other appointments not requiring Assembly approval also included in Appendix 1.

6. Review of Council Governance Arrangements and Constitution Updates

Further to Minute 56 (28 February 2018) and Minute 8 (23 May 2018), the Cabinet Member for Finance, Performance and Core Services introduced a report on the outcome of a review of the new committee structure and governance arrangements that took effect from the start of the 2018/19 municipal year.

The Cabinet Member commented that the new arrangements appeared to be working very well, although the review process had highlighted some aspects that need refinement, such as:

- A “tidying up exercise” of the terms of reference of the Audit and Standards Committee, the Overview and Scrutiny Committee and the Health Scrutiny Committee, to properly reflect the committees’ areas of responsibility;
- Adding a July meeting to the Assembly programme, taking the Assembly back to a six-meeting schedule;
- Increasing the number of Health Scrutiny Committee meetings to six each year, as it became apparent during the first year that the quarterly meeting cycle was not sufficient for the Committee’s work programme; and
- Reinstating the provision in the Public Participation rules to give the Chair of a meeting some further discretion regarding public speaking at meetings.

The Cabinet Member also referred to the full schedule of changes, attached at Appendix 5 to the report, which included other changes to the Constitution which had been agreed by the Monitoring Officer in line with the review / revision provisions of the Constitution.

The Assembly **resolved** to:

- (i) Agree the revised Articles of the Audit and Standards Committee, as set out at Appendix 1 to the report;
- (ii) Agree the revised Articles of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee, as set out at Appendix 2 to the report;
- (iii) Agree the revised Articles of the Health Scrutiny Committee, including an increase to the meeting frequency to six meetings each municipal year, as set out at Appendix 3 to the report;
- (iv) Agree the increase to the meeting frequency of the Assembly to six meetings each municipal year;
- (v) Agree the revised ‘Meeting Rules - General’ Article, as set out at Appendix 4 to the report;
- (vi) Note the full schedule of amendments to the Constitution as set out at Appendix 5 to the report; and

- (vii) Note that the new Council Constitution shall be published on the Council's website once all the agreed changes had been made.

7. Members' Allowances Scheme 2019/20

The Director of Law and Governance and Monitoring Officer presented a report on the Members' Allowances Scheme 2019/20.

It was noted that, following the detailed review of allowances last year, it was proposed that all basic and special responsibility allowances should remain at the levels agreed by the Assembly on 18 July 2018.

The Assembly **resolved** to:

- (i) Agree that no increase be applied to Members' basic and special responsibility allowances for the 2019/20 municipal year; and
- (ii) Adopt the Members' Allowances Scheme 2019/20 at Appendix A to the report, to be effective from 16 May 2019.

8. Report of the Local Government Ombudsman on a matter relating to the Council's charging process for Residential Adult Care

The Cabinet Member for Social Care and Health Integration presented a report on the outcome of a complaint that had been determined by the Local Government Ombudsman (LGO) regarding the way that the Council handled payments for residential care.

The Cabinet Member explained that the matter principally concerned the practice of the Council making payments to the residential care home for only the Council's contribution and expecting the care home to pursue the service user contribution directly. There were also related issues regarding the Council's approach when third parties contributed to the cost of an individual's care and some deficiencies in the care planning process in the case in question. As a consequence, the LGO had determined that the Council's approach was contrary to statutory guidance under the Care Act 2014 and had caused injustice to the complainant. As a number of other Councils were operating similar processes, the LGO had chosen to issue a report in the public interest detailing the outcome of the complaint.

The Cabinet Member acknowledged the fault by the Council and referred to the action plan that had been developed, as set out in section 3 of the report, to ensure that the Council was fully complaint in the future. It was also noted that the Council had agreed to pay appropriate compensation to the complainant.

The Assembly **resolved** to:

- (i) Note the report issued by the Local Government Ombudsman and published on 17 April 2019, as set out at Appendix 1 to the report, and that the required notice had been published by the Council on 24 April 2019;
- (ii) Note the remedies that had been offered to the complainant;

- (iii) Note the system improvements that were being worked on to prevent further recurrence; and
- (iv) Request the Overview and Scrutiny Committee to review progress against the action plan in six months' time, in order to provide reassurance that the system changes had being applied and further such incidents would not reoccur.

9. Appointment of Independent Persons

The Director of Law and Governance and Monitoring Officer introduced a report regarding the appointment of Independent Persons (IPs) who supported the Members' complaints and Chief Officer disciplinary processes.

The Director advised that officers had carried out a review of the current arrangements in view of the length of service of the current IPs. The review had shown that there had been a very low level of complaints lodged against Members that necessitated the involvement of IPs and there had been no Chief Officer disciplinaries since the Localism Act 2011 came into effect. Therefore, in view of the knowledge that the three IPs had gained and the costs associated with a fresh recruitment and training programme it was proposed that the IP appointments be extended for the full term of the current Council (beyond May 2022).

The Assembly **resolved** to agree the extension of the appointment of Mr Michael Carpenter, Dr Gurpreet Singh Bhatia and Pastor Thomas Adeyemi Aderounmu as Independent Persons, under the Localism Act 2011, until the next Assembly meeting following the Annual Assembly in 2022.

10. Motions

There were none.

11. Questions With Notice

There were none.

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Main Council Committee Appointments 2019/20

Committee	Appointee(s)
Assembly	Cllrs Kangethe (Chair); Choudhury (Deputy Chair) plus all other Councillors
Audit and Standards Committee	Cllrs P. Bright (Chair); Oluwole (Deputy Chair); Bankole, Bremner, Channer, Gill, Khan and Shaukat
Health Scrutiny Committee	Cllrs Keller (Chair); P Robinson (Deputy Chair); Khan, Lumsden, C. Rice and E. Rodwell
JNC Appointments, Structures and Salaries Panel	Councillors Alasia, Aziz, Haroon, Jones, Oluwole and P. Waker
Licensing and Regulatory Committee	Cllrs Quadri (Chair); L Waker (Deputy Chair); Butt, Chand, Haroon, Lumsden, Martins, Oluwole, Paddle and Rahman
Overview and Scrutiny Committee	Cllrs Jones (Chair); Achilleos (Deputy Chair); Akwaboah, Bankole, Butt, Gill, I. Robinson, P. Robinson, Turner and P. Waker
Pensions Committee	Cllrs Jamu and Ramsay (up to May 2020) (Cllrs Miles (Chair); Miah (Deputy Chair); S Bright, Haroon and Rahman appointed in May 2018 for two-year term up to May 2020)
Personnel Board	Cllrs Bremner (Chair); E Rodwell (Deputy Chair); Alasia, Choudhury, Jones, Keller, Rahman, I. Robinson and P. Waker
Planning Committee	Cllrs Saleem (Chair); Dulwich (Deputy Chair); Achilleos, Choudhury, Fergus, Geddes, McCarthy, Perry, Rahman and Twomey

Other Internal / Outside Body Appointments 2019/20

Body / Committee	Appointee(s)
Admissions Forum	Cllrs Freeborn, Paddle and Turner (up to May 2022) (Cabinet Member for Educational Attainment & School Improvement automatically appointed and Cllrs Dulwich, Keller, Martins and Oluwole appointed in May 2018 for 4-year term up to May 2022)
Barking Riverside Community Interest Company (CIC)	Cllrs Channer and Turner (substitute representatives) (Cabinet Member for Regeneration & Social Housing and the Leader automatically appointed)
Chadwell Heath Community Trust Board	Cllrs Achilleos, Jamu and Perry
East London Waste Authority	Cllr Akwaboah (Cabinet Member for Public Realm automatically appointed)
Elevate Strategic Partner Board	Cllr Oluwole (Cabinet Member for Finance, Performance & Core Services automatically appointed)
Employee Joint Consultative Committee	Cllrs Alasia, Ghani, Keller, Saleem and P. Waker (Cabinet Member for Finance, Performance & Core Services automatically appointed)

**Appointments made by Leader, Cabinet Members and/or other appointments
not requiring Assembly approval 2019/20 - For information only**

Body / Committee	Appointee(s)
Barking and Dagenham Adoption and Permanence Panel	Cllr Lumsden (appointed up to May 2022)
Barking & Dagenham Citizens' Advice Bureau	Cllrs I Robinson and Saleem (appointed up to May 2022)
Barking and Dagenham Fostering Panel	Cllrs Lumsden and I Robinson (appointed up to May 2022)
Barking and Dagenham Reside	Cllr Geddes (observer status with no voting rights)
Barking and Dagenham Safeguarding Adult's Board	Cabinet Member for Social Care & Health Integration (automatic appointment)
Barking and Dagenham Safeguarding Children Board	Cabinet Member for Social Care & Health Integration (automatic appointment)
Barking and Ilford United Charities	Cllrs Lumsden and Quadri (appointed up to May 2022)
Barking Riverside Limited Board	Cabinet Member for Regeneration & Social Housing (automatic appointment) (observer status only)
Cabinet	Cllrs D Rodwell (Chair); Ashraf and Twomey (Deputy Chair); S Bright, Carpenter, Geddes, Ghani, Mullane, L Rice and Worby

Colin Pond Bursaries for Higher Education	Cabinet Member for Educational Attainment & School Improvement, the statutory Chief Financial Officer, the statutory Director of Children's Services and the Director of Law and Governance
Community Safety Partnership	Cabinet Members for Enforcement & Community Safety and Social Care & Health Integration (automatic appointments)
Dagenham United Charity	Cllrs Chand, Keller, Mullane and L Waker (appointed up to May 2022)
East London Housing Partnership	Cabinet Member for Regeneration & Social Housing (automatic appointment)
East London Solutions Leaders' Group	Leader of the Council (automatic appointment)
Elevate Limited Liability Partnership Board	Cabinet Member for Finance, Performance & Core Services (automatic appointment) Deputy: Cllr Oluwole
Health and Wellbeing Board	Cabinet Member for Social Care & Health Integration (automatically appointed as the Chair) and Cllrs Ashraf, S. Bright, Carpenter and L. Rice
Housing Forum - Barking	All Councillors from the following Wards are invited (one voting right per Ward): Abbey, Becontree, Eastbury, Gascoigne, Goresbrook, Longbridge, Mayesbrook and Thames
Housing Forum - Dagenham	All Councillors from the following Wards are invited (one voting right per Ward): Alibon, Chadwell Heath, Eastbrook, Heath, Parsloes, River, Village, Valence and Whalebone
Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee	Three Councillors (to be appointed by the Health Scrutiny Committee)

Kallar Lodge and Fewes Lodge Trust Fund	Cllrs Chand and Keller (appointed up to May 2022)
King George V Silver Jubilee Trust Fund	The Mayor and the statutory Director of Children's Services
Local Government Association (LGA) General Assembly	Leader and Deputy Leader (Cabinet Member for Community Leadership and Engagement) (automatic appointments) and Cllrs S. Bright and Twomey
Local London Joint Committee	Leader of the Council and Chief Executive
Local Plan Steering Group	The Leader of the Council and Cabinet Members for Regeneration & Social Housing and Social Care & Health Integration (voting Members) plus Chair and Deputy Chair of the Planning Committee (non-voting)
London Councils Children and Young People Lead Member	Cabinet Member for Educational Attainment & School Improvement (automatic appointment)
London Councils Crime and Public Protection Lead Member	Cabinet Member for Enforcement & Community Safety (automatic appointment)
London Councils Culture, Tourism and Sport Lead Member	Cabinet Member for Community Leadership & Engagement (automatic appointment)
London Councils Economic Development / Regeneration Lead Member	Cabinet Member for Regeneration and Social Housing (automatic appointment)
London Councils Employment and Skills Lead Member	Cabinet Member for Employment, Skills & Aspiration (automatic appointment)
London Councils Grants Committee	Cabinet Member for Community Leadership & Engagement (automatic appointment) Deputy: Cllr S Bright

London Councils Greater London Employment Forum	Cabinet Member for Employment, Skills & Aspiration (automatic appointment) Deputy: Cllr Freeborn
London Councils Health and Adult Services Lead Member	Cabinet Member for Social Care & Health Integration (automatic appointment)
London Councils Housing Lead Member	Cabinet Member for Regeneration and Social Housing (automatic appointment)
London Councils Leaders' Committee	Leader (automatic appointment) Deputies: Cllrs Ashraf, S Bright
London Councils Pensions CIV (Sectoral Joint Committee)	Cabinet Member for Finance, Performance & Core Services (automatic appointment) Deputy: Cllr Miles
London Councils Planning / Infrastructure Lead Member	Cabinet Member for Regeneration and Social Housing (automatic appointment)
London Councils Transport and Environment Committee	Cabinet Member for Public Realm (automatic appointment) Deputy: Cllr Geddes
London Road Safety Council	Cllrs Oluwole and Saleem (appointed for two-year term up to May 2020)
London-wide Business Rates Group (Strategic Investment Pot)	Leader of the Council
May & Baker Eastbrook Community Club	Cllrs P Bright, McCarthy and Ramsay (appointed up to May 2022)
Members' Corporate Parenting Group	Cllrs Carpenter, Paddle and I. Robinson (appointed up to May 2022)

Newable (previously known as Greater London Enterprise)	Leader of the Council
OFSTED Report Panel	Cabinet Member for Educational Attainment & School Improvement (automatic appointment) and Cllrs Akwaboah, Fergus, Lumsden, Oluwole, Paddle, Rahman, I Robinson and P Waker (appointed up to May 2022)
Public Transport Liaison Group	Cabinet Member for Regeneration and Social Housing (automatic appointment) and Councillor Turner
Registered Provider Forum	Cabinet Member for Regeneration and Social Housing (automatic appointment) and Councillors Bankole and Perry
Reserve Forces and Cadets Association for Greater London	Cllr Ashraf
Shareholder Panel	Cllrs Twomey and Worby, the Chief Operating Officer and the Director of Law and Governance (non-Cabinet Member position currently vacant)

Notes:

- Appointments are for one year unless otherwise stated;
- All four-year appointments are co-terminus with Local Elections.

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