

MINUTES OF ASSEMBLY

Wednesday, 18 May 2016
(7:00 - 8:11 pm)

PRESENT

Cllr Syed Ghani (Chair)
Cllr Edna Fergus (Deputy Chair)

Cllr Tony Ramsay	Cllr Syed Ahammad	Cllr Sanchia Alasia
Cllr Jeanne Alexander	Cllr Saima Ashraf	Cllr Abdul Aziz
Cllr Melanie Bartlett	Cllr Sade Bright	Cllr Laila Butt
Cllr Evelyn Carpenter	Cllr Peter Chand	Cllr Josephine Channer
Cllr Faruk Choudhury	Cllr Irma Freeborn	Cllr Cameron Geddes
Cllr Rocky Gill	Cllr Kashif Haroon	Cllr Chris Hughes
Cllr Amardeep Singh Jamu	Cllr Jane Jones	Cllr Elizabeth Kangethe
Cllr Eileen Keller	Cllr Danielle Lawrence	Cllr Giasuddin Miah
Cllr Dave Miles	Cllr James Ogungbose	Cllr Adegboyega Oluwole
Cllr Moin Quadri	Cllr Hardial Singh Rai	Cllr Chris Rice
Cllr Lynda Rice	Cllr Darren Rodwell	Cllr Faraaz Shaukat
Cllr Danielle Smith	Cllr Sam Tarry	Cllr Bill Turner
Cllr Dominic Twomey	Cllr Jeff Wade	Cllr Phil Waker
Cllr John White	Cllr Maureen Worby	Cllr Linda Zanitchkhah

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllr Simon Bremner	Cllr Mick McCarthy	Cllr Margaret Mullane
Cllr Linda Reason	Cllr Liam Smith	Cllr Lee Waker
Cllr Dan Young		

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 2016/17 municipal year.

The Assembly **resolved** to appoint Councillors Ghani and Fergus as Chair and Deputy Chair of the Assembly respectively.

2. Declaration of Members' Interests

There were no declarations of interest.

3. Minutes (24 February 2016)

The minutes of the Assembly held on 24 February 2016 were confirmed as a correct record.

4. Death of Former Councillor Rob Douglas

The Assembly noted with deep regret that former Councillor Rob Douglas had passed away on 18 March 2016.

Mr Douglas was elected as a Councillor for the Becontree Ward from 2010 until 2014. Mr Douglas served on numerous committees during his four years on the Council and had the position of Deputy Chair on the Pensions Panel.

A number of Members paid tribute to Mr Douglas contribution to the Council and his tireless campaigning for the Labour Party, whilst several Members recalled fond, personal memories of Mr Douglas.

The Assembly stood for a minute's silence as a mark of respect.

5. Minute's Silence to Remember the Victims of Youth Crime

The Leader of the Council, Councillor Rodwell, introduced the item to the Assembly, advising that a request had been made by a local resident through Margaret Hodge MP for the Assembly to hold a minute's silence for the youths who had lost their lives to violent youth crime.

The Leader advised that the campaign, "One Minute in May" had been set up to confront the threat of knife and gun crime. The aim the campaign was to hold a vigil every year for all the lives lost to youth violence.

The Assembly stood for a minute's silence as a mark of respect.

6. Presentation of Elected Member Development Charter

The Deputy Leader introduced a report to the Assembly confirming that the Council was successfully re-assessed in December 2015 for the London Boroughs Charter for Elected Member Development.

The Council was the first in London to receive the London Boroughs Charter when it was initially awarded in February 2009.

The Deputy Leader thanked the Member Development Officer, Fiona Jamieson and the Member led Development Group which included Councillors Butt, Fergus, Freeborn, Jones and Oluwole.

The Chair then introduced Councillor Andy Hull from the London Borough of Islington, who was a member of the Assessment Panel and was in attendance on behalf of London Councils.

Councillor Hull advised that the Council had met the set criteria with flying colours and commented favourably on the meaningful and representative steering group. Furthermore, Councillor Hull made reference to Ambition 2020, commenting on the inspiring work of the project.

Councillor Hull then presented the London Boroughs Charter for Elected Member Development to the Chair of the Assembly.

7. **Appointments to the Political Structure and Other Bodies 2016/17**

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.

The Chair invited the Labour Group Secretary, Councillor Carpenter, to advise on the nominations to the various positions to be appointed to and the Labour Group Secretary referred to the schedule that had been tabled at the meeting.

Assembly **resolved** to agree the appointments to positions as set out in Appendix 1.

8. **Minutes of Sub-Committees**

The Assembly received and noted the minutes of the:

- Joint JNC Salaries & Conditions and Appointments Panel held on 9 March 2016;
- JNC Appointments Panel held on 20 April 2016;
- JNC Appointments Panel held on 25 April 2016.

9. **Leader's Statement**

The Leader of the Council presented a verbal statement updating the Assembly on a range of matters which included:

- Congratulations to Sadiq Khan on his election as Mayor of London, commenting that the benefits for the Borough following Mr Khan's election could include high quality housing for rent, the proposed A13 tunnel and an opportunity for growth.
- The announcement that Coventry University would be leasing the Civic Centre to provide degree level qualifications to students in the area.
- Changes to Cabinet Responsibilities:
 - Councillor Ashraf - Deputy Leader, Community Leadership & Engagement
 - Councillor Twomey - Deputy Leader, Finance, Growth & Investment
 - Councillor Bright - Equalities & Cohesion
 - Councillor Butt - Enforcement & Community Safety
 - Councillor Carpenter - Educational Attainment & School Improvement
 - Councillor Geddes - Economic & Social Development
 - Councillor Lynda Rice - Environment & Street Scene
 - Councillor Turner - Corporate Performance & Delivery
 - Councillor Worby - Social Care & Health Integration
- The current public consultation on the recommendations of the Growth Commission and the Ambition 2020 Programme.

- The imminent launch of the Tenant Shared Ownership Scheme, which reflected the Council's status as London's growth opportunity and would help to reverse the negative impact that so many of the Government's initiatives were having on the Council and the local community.
- Summer Festivals, of which the second season was well underway.
- The Bobby Moore statue, to celebrate his life and the inspiration he continued to bring to residents of the Borough, 50 years after being captain of the England Team that won the World Cup in 1966.

10. Members' Allowances Scheme 2016/17

The Cabinet Member for Finance, Growth & Investment presented a report on the Members' Allowances Scheme for 2016/17.

The Cabinet Member advised that, in view of the continuing pressures on public sector funding and the Council's finances in particular, it was proposed that no changes be made to the scheme for 2016/17, representing a freeze in allowances levels for the eighth successive year.

Assembly **resolved** to:

- (i) Agree that no increase be applied to Members' basic and special responsibility allowances for the 2016/17 municipal year, representing a freeze in allowance levels for the eighth successive year; and
- (ii) Adopt the Members' Allowances Scheme 2016/17 attached to the report at Appendix A, to come into effect from 19 May 2016.

11. Motions

The Chair announced that, in accordance with the Constitution Part 2, Chapter 4, Paragraph 10.6, as Councillor Young was not present at the meeting, the Motion would be withdrawn.

12. Questions With Notice

Question 1

From Councillor Fergus

"Following the recent announcement that Coventry University plan to lease the Civic Centre to provide degree-level education, can the Leader outline how the Council will ensure the building retains its civic purpose?"

Response

Councillor Rodwell, Leader of the Council, advised that Coventry University had understood from the outset the importance of the building to the Borough and therefore would enable the Council and others to still have

use of the building.

Question 2

From Councillor Freeborn

“Following her recent appointment and the Shadow Cabinet’s recent visit to Dagenham to mark International Women’s Day, can the Cabinet Member for Equality and Cohesion set out her priorities and ambitions for the borough?”

Response

Councillor Bright, Cabinet Members for Equalities and Cohesion, confirmed that she intended to engage with as many of the diverse communities in the Borough as possible, and would be focusing on the actions set out in the Councils Gender Equality Charter which included working more closely with the LGBT community, responding to changes to the population in the Borough and ensuring the Ambition 2020 programme reflect and progress equality objectives.

Supplementary Question

Councillor Freeborn enquired as to whether older people would be included within Councillor Bright’s work. Councillor Bright confirmed they would.

Question 3

From Councillor C Rice

“Can the Leader update Members on the future of Fanshawe Hall which has faithfully served our community for so many years?”

Response

Councillor Rodwell advised that Cabinet agreed in March 2016 to enter into a management agreement and grant a 30 year lease for the whole of the Fanshawe Community Centre complex to the Fanshawe Community Association.

Question 4

From Councillor Choudhury

“Will the Leader commit to working closely with the new Mayor of London, Sadiq Khan, to promote the Council’s priorities?”

Response

Councillor Rodwell confirmed that the Council would be working with the new Mayor of London and had already been in contact with the Mayor Office. Work would also be undertaken with London Councils to assist in

supporting the Mayors priorities.

Question 5

From Councillor Shaukat

“Can the Leader set out what the Chancellor’s decision to invite Transport for London to bring forward proposals for financing the A13 Riverside Tunnel as part of his 2016 Budget means for the future of the project?”

Response

Councillor Rodwell advised that he would be discussing the project with the new Mayor of London. The A13 needed to be redeveloped and the introduction of a tunnel would unlock land for more housing in the area.

Question 6

From Councillor Miah

“Can the Leader or the relevant Cabinet Member explain when we will be launching our shared ownership housing scheme for council tenants?”

Response

Councillor Twomey, Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Finance, Growth and Investment, advised that in March 2016, Cabinet approved proposals to introduce a Right to Invest – Tenant Shared Ownership Scheme, subject to consultation with tenants. Consultation took place earlier in the year and following overwhelming support for the scheme, the Cabinet would consider whether to adopt the policy in June 2016.

Supplementary Question

Councillor Miah asked if there would be a rent increase to tenants and was advised by Councillor Twomey that tenants would buy a 20% share of the property and the rent would be worked out and reduced accordingly.

Question 7

From Councillor Freeborn

“Can the Cabinet Member for Social Care & Health Integration set out what progress we are making in promoting healthier lifestyles?”

Response

Councillor Worby, Cabinet Member for Social Care and Health Integration, advised that the Public Health Annual report was due out shortly, however significant changes to lifestyles including smoking, diet, alcohol, sexual activity and substance misuse.

Supplementary Question

Councillor Freeborn asked for information on Care City and was advised that this was an innovation for elderly people to stay longer in their own homes.

Question 8

From Councillor Ahammad

“Can the Leader outline how the Council benefits from Britain’s membership of the European Union?”

Response

Councillor Rodwell advised that the Borough and therefore the Council benefited from membership of the European Union through funding. Examples included £150m for the Gascoigne Estate regeneration and support to help local residents to get into work.

Supplementary Question

Councillor Ahammad asked if the Leader agreed that the Council was best placed to harness growth in the UK. Councillor Rodwell confirmed he agreed and the recent report from the Growth Commission confirmed that also.

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Membership of Main Council Committees 2016/17

Committee	Nominations
Assembly	Councillor Ghani (Chair), Councillor Fergus (Deputy Chair) plus all other Councillors
Development Control Board	Councillors Alasia (Chair), Shaukat (Deputy Chair), Aziz, Chand, Choudhury, Fergus, Freeborn, Geddes, Ghani, Gill, Haroon, Miah, Mullane, C Rice, Turner, Wade, White (one vacancy)
Licensing & Regulatory Board	Councillors Channer (Chair), Choudhury (Deputy Chair), Ahammad, Butt, Chand, Haroon, Hughes, Oluwole, Rai and L Waker
Personnel Board	Councillors Jones (Chair), Freeborn (Deputy Chair), Alasia, Choudhury, Keller, Lawrence, Oluwole, Quadri and P Waker
Standards Committee	Councillors Chand (Chair), Miah (Deputy Chair), Bright, Freeborn, Gill and Worby
Children's Services Select Committee	Councillors Kangethe (Chair), Bartlett (Deputy Chair), Bremner, Fergus, Freeborn, Ghani, Oluwole and D Smith (1 vacancy)
Health & Adult Services Select Committee	Councillors Chand (Chair), Zanitchkhah (Deputy Chair), Alasia, Aziz, Fergus, Jones, Keller, Rai and Shaukat
Living & Working Select Committee	Councillors P Waker, (Chair), McCarthy (Deputy Chair), Ahammad, Freeborn, Jones, Miles, Ogungbose, L Waker and Zanitchkhah
Safer & Stronger Community Select Committee	Councillors Alexander (Chair), Quadri (Deputy Chair), Bremner, Haroon, Jones, Lawrence, Rai, Ramsay, L Waker
Public Accounts and Audit	Councillors Miles (Chair), Gill (Deputy Chair), *Alexander, *Chand, *Kangethe, Ogungbose, Oluwole, Ramsay and *P Waker (* as Chairs of other Select Committees)
JNC Panels (various)	Councillors Gill, Haroon, Kangethe and Keller plus the Leader, deputy Leaders and other relevant Cabinet Members (as appropriate)

Membership of Other Internal / Outside Bodies

Body / Committee	Nominations
Barking Riverside Community Interest Company (CIC)	Councillor Channer as Thames Ward rep plus Councillors Geddes and Rodwell
Chadwell Heath Community Trust Board	Councillors Bright, Jamu and White
East London Waste Authority	Councillor Wade Councillor L Rice
Elevate Strategic Partner Board	Councillor Oluwole Councillor Twomey
Employee Joint Consultative Committee	Councillors Keller, Ogungbose, Oluwole, Rai, Zanitchkhah plus Councillor Twomey
Employee Joint Health, Safety and Wellbeing Committee	Councillors Keller Mullane and Oluwole plus Councillor Twomey
Housing Forum – Barking	Abbey: Butt Becontree: Choudhury Gascoigne: Aziz Eastbury: Rai Goresbrook: Quadri Longbridge: L Rice Mayesbrook: D Smith

Body / Committee	Nominations
	Thames: Channer
Housing Forum – Dagenham	Alibon: Hughes Chadwell Heath: Bright Eastbrook: Fergus Heath: Miles Parsloes: C Rice River: Keller Village: Mullane Valence: Jones Whalebone: L Smith
The Kallar Lodge and Fewes Lodge Trust Fund	Councillor Keller Councillor Wade
London Road Safety Council	Councillor McCarthy Councillor Rai

**Appointments made by Leader and/or Cabinet Members
(which do not require Assembly approval)**

Body / Committee	Confirmed Appointment
Elevate Limited Liability Partnership Board	Councillor Twomey Deputy: Councillor Channer
LGA General Assembly	Councillor Rodwell Councillor Ashraf Councillor Twomey Councillor Bright
London Councils Grants Committee	Councillor Ashraf Deputy: Councillor Bright
London Councils Greater London Employment Forum	Councillor Turner Deputy: Councillor Freeborn
London Councils Pensions CIV (Sectoral Joint Committee)	Councillor Twomey Deputy: Councillor Shaukat
London Councils Leaders' Committee	Councillor Rodwell Deputies: Councillor Ashraf and Councillor Twomey
London Councils Transport and Environment Committee	Councillor L Rice Deputy posts - Councillor Geddes
Members' Corporate Parent Group	Councillor Channer
OFSTED Report Panel	Councillor Carpenter Councillor Fergus

	<p>Councillor Geddes Councillor Kangethe Councillor Oluwole Councillor Rai Councillor L Rice Councillor P Waker Councillor White (1 vacancy)</p>
Public Transport Liaison Group	<p>Councillor Geddes Councillor Turner</p>
Registered Provider Forum	<p>Councillor Geddes Councillor Ahammad Councillor Fergus</p>

Other Bodies not requiring appointments in 2016/17 - For information only

Ceremonial Council	<p>The Mayor is automatically Chair and the newly appointed Chair of the Assembly (Councillor Ghani) is Deputy Chair</p>
Cabinet	<p>The Leader of the Council is automatically the Chair who then appoints Deputy Leader(s) plus further Cabinet Members Current membership: Councillors Rodwell (Chair), Ashraf and Twomey (Deputy Chairs), Bright, Butt, Carpenter, Geddes, L Rice, Turner and Worby</p>
Health and Wellbeing Board	<p>The Cabinet Member for Social Care and Health Integration (Chair) plus three Cabinet Members to be appointed by the Leader (Councillors Butt, Bright and Carpenter)</p>
Pensions Panel	<p>7 Councillors - Four-year appointments to May 2018. Current membership: Councillors Twomey (Chair), Shaukat (Deputy Chair), Bright, Fergus, Ogungbose, Wade and White</p>

Admissions Forum	The Cabinet Member for Educational Attainment & School Improvement plus 4 Councillors (4 year appointments) Current membership: Councillors Carpenter (Chair), Kangethe, Keller and Oluwole
Barking and Dagenham Adoption and Permanence Panel	1 Councillor – 4 year appointment to 2018 Current membership: Councillor Turner
Barking & Dagenham Citizens' Advice Bureau	2 Councillors - 4 year appointments to 2018 Current membership: Councillors Chand and Ogungbose
Barking and Dagenham Fostering Panel	2 Councillors - 4 year appointments to 2018 Current membership: Councillors Bright and Zanitchkhah
Barking and Dagenham Reside	The Cabinet Members for Finance, Growth & Investment and Economic & Social Development
Barking and Dagenham Safeguarding Adult's Board	1 Councillor – Cabinet Member for Social Care and Health Integration automatically appointed
Barking and Dagenham Safeguarding Children Board	1 Councillor – Cabinet Member for Social Care & Health Integration automatically appointed
Barking Riverside Limited Board	1 Councillor – Cabinet Member for Economic & Social Development automatically appointed (observer status only)
Children's Trust	Cabinet Members for Social Care & Health Integration and Educational Attainment & School Improvement automatically appointed
Colin Pond Bursaries for Higher Education	Cabinet Member for Educational Attainment & School Improvement, the Chief Finance Officer, the Corporate Director of Children's Services and the Director of Law and Governance
Community Safety Partnership	Cabinet Member for Enforcement & Community Safety automatically appointed
Dagenham United Charity	4 year appointments to 2018

	Current membership: Councillors Chand, Mullane, Reason and L Waker
East London Housing Partnership	Cabinet Member for Economic & Social Development automatically appointed
East London Solutions Leaders' Group	Leader of the Council
Greater London Enterprise	Leader of the Council
King George V Silver Jubilee Trust Fund	The Mayor and the Corporate Director of Children's Services
Local London Joint Committee	Leader of the Council and Chief Executive
Local Plan Steering Group	The Leader of the Council and Cabinet Members for Economic & Social Development and Social Care & Health Integration (voting Members) plus Chair and Deputy-Chair of the Development Control Board (non-voting)
London Councils Children and Young People Lead Member	Relevant Cabinet Member – Educational Attainment & School Improvement
London Councils Crime and Public Protection Lead Member	Relevant Cabinet Member – Enforcement & Community Safety
London Councils Culture & Tourism Lead Member	Relevant Cabinet Member – Community Leadership & Engagement
London Councils Economic Development / Regeneration Lead Member	Relevant Cabinet Member – Finance, Growth & Investment
London Councils Health and Adult Services Lead Member	Relevant Cabinet Member - Social Care & Health Integration
London Councils Housing Lead Member	Relevant Cabinet Member – Economic & Social Development

London Councils Employment & Skills Lead Member	Relevant Cabinet Member – Economic & Social Development
London Councils Planning/Infrastructure Lead Member	Relevant Cabinet Member – Finance, Growth & Investment
May & Baker Eastbrook Community Club	3 Eastbrook Ward Councillors (4 year appointments to May 2018)
Reserve Forces and Cadets Association for Greater London	The Leader or Deputy Leader(s) of the Council
Schools Investment Board	Relevant Cabinet Members: Finance, Growth & Investment and Educational Attainment & School Improvement
Skills, Jobs and Enterprise Board	Cabinet Member for Economic & Social Development automatically appointed

STATUTORY CO-OPTED MEMBERS 2016/2017

Education co-opted members

Education co-opted members have a statutory right to be involved in the Council's decision making processes. However, under the legislation this only applies to an Overview and Scrutiny committee where their functions relate wholly or partly to educational matters which are the responsibility of the Authority's Cabinet.

The Regulations state that a Local Education Authority shall appoint at least two but not more than five Parent Governor representatives to Overview and Scrutiny and, on the assumption that the Council still maintains Roman Catholic schools, the total number of Church representatives to be appointed shall be one Church of England and one Roman Catholic.

Both Parent Governor and Church representatives, who are elected for a four year period, have the right to vote on education matters and the right to Call-In Cabinet decisions as any other non-Cabinet Member.

The current Church representatives are:-

Church of England	Ms Ingrid Robinson (appointed on 18/7/2013)
Roman Catholic Church	Mrs G Spencer (re-appointed on 18/7/2013)

The Parent Governor representatives are elected for a four year period - one representing primary schools, the other representing secondary schools. The current holders of these positions are:-

Primary Schools	vacant
Secondary Schools	Tracy MacDonald (appointed on 15 December 2015)

Standards Committee Independent Persons – 3 posts

Section 28 (7) of the Localism Act 2011 requires local authorities to appoint at least one Independent Person, who will have an advisory role in the determination of allegations that a Member has not complied with the Members' Code of Conduct.

Mr Michael Carpenter	10 October 2012 to Assembly meeting following the Annual Assembly in 2018
Dr Gurpreet Singh Bhatia	1 March 2015 to Assembly meeting following the Annual Assembly in 2018
Pastor Thomas Aderounmu	1 March 2015 to Assembly meeting following the Annual Assembly in 2018

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