Report for: Standards Committee – 17 November 2026

Title: Dispensation in relation to membership of North London Waste Authority (NLWA)

Report authorised by : Fiona Alderman, Director of Legal & Governance (Monitoring Officer)

Lead Officer: Fiona Alderman, Director of Legal & Governance (Monitoring Officer)

Ward(s) affected: N/A

Report for Key/ Non Key Decision: N/A

1. Describe the issue under consideration

1.1 The North London Waste Authority ("**NLWA"**) is the statutory joint waste disposal authority for north London and as such is responsible for the disposal of waste collected by seven north London boroughs, including the London Borough of Haringey.

1.3 Councillor Gio Iozzi, with Councillor Johann Beckford, was appointed as the Council's representatives on NLWA at the Council meeting on 20 May 2026 and received dispensation at the meeting of Standards Committee on 29 June 2026. Since then, Councillor Gio Iozzi stood down in this role and was replaced by Councillor Jo Kuper on 20 July 2026.

1.4 This report considers granting Councillor Jo Kuper a dispensation for their membership of NLWA, to enable them to participate in debates and votes on matters relating to NLWA.

2. Cabinet Member Introduction

N/A

3. Recommendations

3.1 The Standards Committee is asked to consider the contents of this report and:

(a) Determine whether to grant a dispensation to Councillor Jo Kuper to allow them to participate in debates and votes on matters relating to NLWA business: waste disposal, energy from waste, waste facilities, waste transfer stations, reuse and recycling and any other waste related issues until Councillors Johann Beckford and Gio Iozzi cease to be a member of NLWA;

and

(b) Consider that granting the dispensation is in the interests of persons living in the authority's area.

3.2 Subject to approval of 3.1 above, delegate authority to the Monitoring Officer to prepare the dispensation for publication on the Council's website.

4. Reasons for decision

4.1 Under the Council's Constition, the Standards Committee is responsible for granting dispensations to councillors and co-opted members from requirements relating to interests set out in the Members' Code of Conduct.

5. Alternative options considered

5.1 To not grant a dispensation. Where a dispensation is not granted, a councillor present at a meeting with a disclosable pecuniary interest or a prejudicial interest in any matter to be considered, or being considered at the meeting may not participate in any discussion nor vote on the matter and must withdraw from the room.

6. Background

6.1 NLWA is established as a statutory joint waste disposal authority under Schedule 1 to the Waste Regulation and Disposal (Authorities) Order 1985. The NWLA's main waste disposal functions are set out in section 51 of the Environmental Protection Act 1990. The Constituent London Borough Councils are Barnet, Camden, Enfield, Hackney, Haringey, Islington and Waltham Forest.

6.2 NLWA is comprised of 14 councillors, with each constituent borough appointing two councillors. The appointments are made annually at the constituent borough's annual council meeting. Councillor Jo Kuper replaced Councillor Gio Iozzi as the Council's representatives on NLWA at the meeting on 20 July 2026.

6.3 Councillor Jo Kuper's membership of NLWA will constitute a personal interest which may be a prejudicial interest in the circumstances outlined above.

6.4 The Council's Members' Code of Conduct requires that where a Member is present at a meeting and they have a DPI or a prejudicial interest in any matter to be considered, or being considered at the meeting, they may not participate in any discussion nor vote on the matter and must withdraw from the room, unless they have obtained a dispensation from the Standard's Committee.

6.5 Under the Code, a Member with a prejudicial interest may attend a meeting but only for the purposes of making representations, answering questions or giving evidence in relation to the matter, provided that the meeting is also open to the public to attend for the same purposes.

6.6 Section 33 Localism Act 2011 provides circumstances where it may be appropriate to grant a dispensation:

> *A relevant authority may grant a dispensation under this section only if, after having had regard to all relevant circumstances, the authority—*
>
> > *(a) considers that without the dispensation the number of persons prohibited by section 31(4) from participating in any particular business would be so great a proportion of the body transacting the business as to impede the transaction of the business,*
> >
> > *(b) considers that without the dispensation the representation of different political groups on the body transacting any particular business would be so upset as to alter the likely outcome of any vote relating to the business,*
> >
> > *(c) considers that granting the dispensation is in the interests of persons living in the authority's area,*
> >
> > *(d) if it is an authority to which Part 1A of the Local Government Act 2000 applies and is operating executive arrangements, considers that without the dispensation each member of the authority's executive would be prohibited by section 31(4) from participating in any particular business to be transacted by the authority's executive, or*
> >
> > *(e) considers that it is otherwise appropriate to grant a dispensation.*

6.7 Regarding the dispensation to Councillors Jo Kuper in respect of their membership of NLWA, the Standards Committee may consider that granting the requested dispensation[s] is in the interests of persons living in the Council's area because it may assist in closer alignment between the aims of NLWA and of the Council as a constituent borough. Indeed it is not uncommon for a standard dispensation to apply to members in respect of interests arising from an appointment by the authority to outside bodies, in this case the appointment to NLWA.

6.8 A dispensation granted to a Member is published on the Council's website and can last up to 4 years.

6.9 It should be noted that the effect of a dispensation is not to waive an actual or perceived conflict of interest nor to waive the common law position in respect of bias and predetermination in decision-making. In such cases, Members should seek advice from the Monitoring Officer as to how to proceed.

7. Contribution to the Corporate Delivery Plan 2024-2026 High level Strategic outcomes

7.1 Ensuring good governance within the Council and by councillors supports all strategic priorities.

8. Statutory Officers comments (Director of Finance (procurement), Head of Legal and Governance, Equalities)

Finance

8.1 There are no direct financial implications arising from the recommendations in this report.

Legal

8.2 This is a report of the Assistant Director of Legal and Governance (Monitoring Officer). Their comments are included in the body of this report

Equality

8.3 There are no direct equalities implications arising from the recommendations in this report.

9. Use of Appendices

N/A

10. Background Papers

The Council Constitution.