

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE STANDARDS COMMITTEE HELD ON MONDAY, 13TH JUNE, 2016, 7.00 - 8.15 pm

PRESENT:

Councillors: Kaushika Amin (Chair), Stuart McNamara, Felicia Opoku and Charles Wright

49. FILMING AT MEETINGS

The Chair drew Member's attention to the notice on the summons.

50. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Councillors Beacham and Reith. Councillor Wright attended as a substitute for Councillor Reith.

51. URGENT BUSINESS

There were no matters of urgent business.

52. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillors Amin, Opoku and Wright declared a personal interest as school governors in relation to item 7. No further Declarations of Interest were made.

53. MINUTES AND MATTERS ARISING

The minutes of the Standards Committee of 7 March were noted.

54. VERBAL REPORT OF THE ASSISTANT DIRECTOR FOR CORPORATE GOVERNANCE AND MONITORING OFFICER

Raymond Prince, Assistant Head of Legal Services, attending on behalf of the Assistant Director for Corporate Governance and Monitoring Officer, had no matters to report.

55. PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE COUNCIL'S CONSTITUTION

Gina Clarke, Senior Corporate Lawyer, introduced the paper that requested the Committee's agreement to a number of changes to the Council's Constitution, which would be submitted for adoption to the July meeting of Full Council.

In relation to the proposed abolition of the Pensions Committee and Pensions Board and their replacement with a combined Pensions Committee and Board, the Committee, regretting the absence of an officer to explain the policy decision,

requested a note explaining the motivation for the merging of the Pensions Committee and the Pensions Board.

In relation to the proposed amendment to the Terms of Reference of the Staffing and Remuneration Committee, the Committee requested a list of human resources policies and procedures that the Council recommends to school governing bodies, as referred to in Appendix 2 of the report.

In relation to the proposed amendment to the Planning Sub-Committee's handling of applications submitted by, or on behalf of, the Council, the Committee received assurances from Emma Williamson, Acting Assistant Director for Planning that she would seek to highlight such applications in the list regularly circulated to Members and to outline in the Planning Protocol criteria for applications that would not be delegated to officers.

The Committee did not agree to the recommendation that the Assistant Director for Schools and Learning be responsible for the nomination of school governors, rather than the Democratic Services Manager. That recommendation would not be taken forward to Full Council. The Constitution would need to be amended to reflect that the Council is now responsible for nominating, rather than appointing, school governors.

In relation to the changes to the Constitution that were made by the Monitoring Officer under Article 14.03 of the Constitution, to ensure the Constitution reflected the statutory position, the Committee requested a note on the Council's appointment of the Leader and how the Leader's appointment of Cabinet members was communicated to Members.

It was therefore:

Resolved

In relation to the Pensions Committee and Pensions Board, that the Standards Committee recommend full Council:

- a) approve the abolition of the Pensions Committee and the Pensions Board;
- b) pursuant to Regulation 106(2) of the Local Government Pension Scheme (Amendment) (Governance) Regulations 2015, approve the establishment of a combined Pensions Committee and Board;
- c) approve the terms of reference of the new combined Pensions Committee and Board, to be reflected in the Constitution at Part Three Section B;
- d) approve the consequential change to the scheme of Members' Allowances at Part Six of the Constitution
- e) appoint the following Council members to the new combined Pensions Committee and Board:
 - Councillor C Bull
 - Councillor Bevan
 - Councillor Adamou
 - Councillor Blake
 - Councillor G Bull

Councillor Ross

- f) pursuant to Regulation 107(1), (2) and (4) note:
 - (i) the appointment of the following employer and employee representatives to the new combined Committee and Board:
 - Keith Brown (employer representative)
 - Randy Plowright (employee representative)
 - (ii) the remaining vacant employer and employee seats are to be filled in accordance with the appointment process set out in the terms of reference for the new combined Pensions Board and Committee

That the Standards Committee recommend full Council approve the changes to the terms of reference for the Staffing and Remuneration Committee (as set out in Appendix 2 of the report).

That the Standards Committee recommend full Council approve the following minor amendments to the Constitution:

- a) amendment to Part Three, Section B3, paragraph 4.2(E) to enable the Council's planning applications to be approved by an officer where the Chair agrees (Appendix 3 of the report);
- b) amendment to Part Two, Article 4.01 and Part Three, Section B1, paragraph 2, to clearly set out the policy framework as prescribed in law, with any additional policies added by choice set out clearly;
- c) amendment to Part Four, Section F, (Cabinet Procedure Rules) paragraph 1.7. to set out the actual current cabinet start time of 6.30pm;
- d) amendment to Part Four, Section C, paragraph 8 to allow the Statement of Attendances to be presented either at the last meeting of the municipal year or at annual council;
- e) amendment to Part Two, Article 10.08(a) (ii) (C) to remove the reference to the Haringey Strategic Partnership.

56. NEW ITEMS OF UNRESTRICTED URGENT BUSINESS

There were no new matters of unrestricted urgent business.

57. DATES OF NEXT MEETINGS

The Standards Committee's next meetings would be 13 October 2016, 23 January 2017, and 4 April 2017.

58. EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC AND PRESS

59. NEW ITEMS OF RESTRICTED URGENT BUSINESS

There were no new matters of restricted urgent business.

CHAIR: Councillor Kaushika Amin

Signed by Chair

Date