

MAYOR OF LONDON

Roger Evans AM
City Hall
The Queen's Walk
More London
London SE1 2AA

Our ref: MGLA110215-8930

Date: 16 FEB 2015

Dear Roger

Chairman of LFEPA: Proposed Appointment

Thank you for your letter of 11 February.

In terms of the role and responsibilities of the Chairman of the London Fire and Emergency Planning Authority (LFEPA), you will be aware that the legislation sets out very little by way of the duties involved. It is clear that the Chairman should preside over full meetings of the Authority. Beyond that, it would seem to rely, at least in part, on what other LFEPA Members are prepared to allow the Chairman to do on their behalf.

For my part, I would look for the Chairman to:

- Seek to progress through LFEPA structures the agreed Mayoral agenda on major issues such as resourcing;
- Brief me on the key issues arising in the fire and rescue field; and
- Work constructively with all partner bodies, especially the Department for Communities and Local Government (DLCG), so that LFEPA is portrayed in the best possible light.

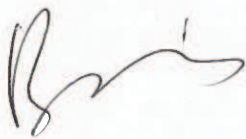
In terms of the key issues and priorities for LFEPA for 2015/16 and beyond, I would highlight the need to:

- Move to a governance structure for LFEPA which makes the body more democratically accountable to Londoners;
- Begin preparations for the Sixth London Safety Plan (LSP6) to include the options available to future decision-makers on further frontline efficiency measures; and
- Embed the new London Fire Brigade (LFB) staffing structure, which is currently under consideration, and see what scope there is for further shared service arrangements in that light.

MAYOR OF LONDON

I look forward to hearing the outcome of the Assembly's confirmation hearing for Gareth Bacon.

Yours ever,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Boris', written in a cursive style.

Boris Johnson
Mayor of London

CURRICULUM VITAE: GARETH BACON

POLITICAL CAREER

Conservative Londonwide Member of the London Assembly **May 2008 - date**

- **May 2012 – date:** Chairman, Regeneration Scrutiny Committee
- **May 2010 – date:** Conservative Budget spokesman
- **May 2010 – date:** Member, London Fire & Emergency Planning Authority
- **May 2011 – May 2012:** Chairman, LFEPA Strategy Committee

London Borough of Bexley, Elected Member **May 1998 - date**

- **May 2014 – date:** Deputy Leader of the Council
- **May 2014 – date:** Cabinet Member for Finance & Corporate Services
- **May 2012 – May 2014:** Cabinet Member for Environment & Public Realm
- **May 2006 – May 2012:** Cabinet Member for Environment
- **May 2001 – May 2002:** Deputy Mayor

Other

- **May 2004:** Conservative London Assembly Candidate, Greenwich & Lewisham

PROFESSIONAL CAREER (RECRUITMENT)

Eligis Select Ltd **January 2012 – March 2013**

Head of Finance & Accountancy

Randstad Financial & Professional **January 2010 – January 2012**

Director, Public & Not-For-Profit Division

Martin Ward Anderson **September 2004 – January 2010**

Manager, Public & Not For Profit Division

PRE-RECRUITMENT CAREER

JP Morgan, Control & Compliance Officer: **February 2001 – April 2004**
Northern Trust Company, Control Officer, Securities Lending: **March 1998 – January 2001**
Citibank NA, Gilts Settlements Supervisor: **August 1990 – September 1993**

EDUCATION

University of Kent at Canterbury **September 1993 – November 1997**

- MA, European Politics & Democracy (1997); BA Hons (2.1), Government & Politics (1996)

St. Mary & St. Josephs RC Secondary School, Sidcup **September 1983 – June 1990**

- 3 A Levels (A-C); 8 GCSEs (A-C)

INTERESTS/ACHIEVEMENTS

- Played rugby to county schoolboy and senior London Divisional League level
- Regular club squash player
- Season ticket holder, Manchester United FC
- Completed the London Marathon in 1998 and 2002

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SUPPORTING STATEMENT: GARETH BACON

I have been an elected Councillor in the London Borough of Bexley for seventeen years, the past nine of which have been at Executive level. I have served as an elected Member of the London Assembly for seven years and have been an appointed Member of the London Fire & Emergency Planning Authority for the past five years.

My previous commercial experience, which was gained mostly in SME companies, gave me a keen awareness of the necessity of having clear objectives and building teams, structures and processes with the delivery of those objectives in mind. This has been an invaluable influence in my approach to public sector work – throughout my time as a Cabinet Member in local government my focus has been on delivering value for money and striving to achieve better focused results with less resource.

For example, when I became Cabinet Member for the Environment it was apparent that changes to the borough's waste and recycling approach would be necessary in order to minimise the Council's exposure to the ever escalating Landfill Tax that had been introduced as part of the government's approach to implementing the EU Landfill Directive. I steered through a radical change in policy that increased the number of weekly recycling collections whilst simultaneously reducing the frequency of residual waste collections. The intention of this was to maximise the level of recycling (for which the borough receives an income) whilst simultaneously reducing the tonnages of residual waste (for which the Council has to pay a disposal cost) by diverting recyclable material from the residual waste stream into the recycling stream. This was politically risky but, by combining a very proactive communications programme with a phased roll out of the new scheme we minimised operational difficulties and resident confusion during the transition period and ensured that the new scheme was embedded in public consciousness very rapidly. In the first full year of operation Bexley's recycling tonnages increased by more than 20% (saving the borough approximately £1.5 million in avoided disposal costs and thereby avoiding the necessity for additional Council Tax increases) and in the subsequent years the borough became the first London borough to break the 40% recycling threshold, then the first to break 50%, then the first to break 55% and was ranked as the number one recycler in London for the entire time I held the portfolio.

During my time at City Hall I have served on a range of committees and have been the Conservative spokesman on four of them (Budget & Performance, Environment, Regeneration and the Budget Monitoring Sub-Committee) and have chaired the Regeneration Committee for the past three years. I am comfortable working in the cross party consensual manner that committee work tends to encourage and believe I have demonstrated this particularly in my work on the Budget and Regeneration Committees. In addition, I have a good relationship with the Mayor's office and am comfortable dealing with Ministers, government officials and Members of Parliament.

My work as a Mayoral appointee on the London Fire & Emergency Planning Authority has been amongst the most interesting in the seven years that I have been at City Hall. The Brigade delivers a world class service to Londoners and continues to do so at times of considerable financial pressure. The year ahead will pose a number of challenges for the Brigade and the Authority, not least of which include the continued implementation of LSP5; the early preparatory work for LSP6; implementing and embedding new staffing structures; the recruitment of a new Commissioner to succeed Ron Dobson; and ensuring that we make the most of the once-in-a-generation opportunity (provided by the recent station disposals) to develop invest-to-save proposals that will contribute to the ongoing efficiency and durability of the Brigade.

I hope you feel that my experience to date and my vision of the future challenges facing the Authority will have a positive impact on the Authority's work, and I welcome the opportunity to applying my skills to the role of Chairman of the London Fire & Emergency Planning Authority.

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