

Subject: Changes to Membership of Assembly Committees

Report to: London Assembly (Plenary)

Report of: Executive Director of Secretariat

Date: 1 July 2015

This report will be considered in public

1. Summary

- 1.1 The Assembly is asked to approve changes to the membership of the Audit Panel and the Police and Crime Committee.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 **That, further to nominations received from the London Assembly Labour Group, Andrew Dismore AM be appointed as a member of the Police and Crime Committee for the remainder of the 2015-16 year, to replace John Biggs AM;**
- 2.2 **That John Biggs AM be appointed as a substitute member of the Police and Crime Committee for the remainder of the 2015-16 year, to replace Andrew Dismore AM;**
- 2.3 **That, further to nominations received from the London Assembly Labour Group, Valerie Shawcross CBE AM be appointed as a member of the Audit Panel for the remainder of the 2015-16 year, to replace John Biggs AM;**
- 2.4 **That John Biggs AM be appointed as a substitute member of the the Audit Panel for the remainder of the 2015-16 year, to replace Valerie Shawcross CBE AM; and**
- 2.5 **That, in accordance with Standing Order 1.6, the Assembly appoints a Chair for the Audit Panel for the remainder of the 2015-16 year or agrees to allow the Audit Panel to appoint its Chair at its next meeting.**

3. Background

- 3.1 At its Annual Meeting on 13 May 2015, the London Assembly established and appointed Members to its committees, including the Police and Crime Committee and the Audit Panel.
- 3.2 The Labour Group has now notified the Secretariat of changes to the membership of the Police and Crime Committee and the Audit Panel.

4. Issues for Consideration

- 4.1 The Assembly is recommended to appoint Andrew Dismore AM as a member of the Police and Crime Committee, to replace John Biggs AM and to appoint Valerie Shawcross CBE AM as a member of the Audit Panel, also to replace John Biggs AM.
- 4.2 The Assembly is also recommended to appoint John Biggs AM as a substitute member of the Police and Crime Committee, to replace Andrew Dismore AM, and to appoint John Biggs AM as a substitute member of the Audit Panel, to replace Valerie Shawcross CBE AM.
- 4.3 At its Annual Meeting on 13 May 2015, the Assembly agreed to appoint John Biggs AM as the Chair of the Audit Panel for the 2015-16. Subsequent to John Biggs AM's resignation from the Audit Panel and in accordance with Standing Order 1.6, the Assembly is asked to consider appointing a Chair to the Audit Panel for the remainder of the 2015-16 year or decide to allow the Audit Panel to appoint its Chair at its next meeting.

5. Legal Implications

- 5.1 Section 54(1) GLA Act 1999 (as amended) ("GLA Act") enables the Assembly to arrange for any of its functions to be discharged by a committee or sub-committee of the Assembly or by a single member of the Assembly. Committees, sub-committees and advisory committees are appointed under s55 GLA Act.
- 5.2 The Assembly agreed its committee structure for the current year at its Annual Meeting on 14 May 2014 and appointed Members to the bodies established at that meeting..
- 5.3 Standing Order 8.1(vacancy) states that "If a casual vacancy arises [in the membership of a committee] the Assembly (only) shall approve arrangements for filling the vacancy at its next meeting." Standing Order 8.6 states that the Assembly must agree (and may subsequently vary) a standing list of names Substitute Members for each committee.
- 5.4 In accordance with Section 16 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989, the Assembly must appoint Members to committees in accordance with the wishes of the party Group to which the relevant seats have been allocated and must act in accordance with the wishes of that Group in determining whether and when to terminate those appointments.

6. Financial Implications

- 6.1 There are no direct financial implications arising from this report.

List of appendices to this report: None

Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985

List of Background Papers:

None

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