

MINUTES

Meeting: **London Assembly (Annual Meeting)**
Date: **Wednesday 6 May 2009**
Time: **10.00am**
Place: **The Chamber, City Hall, The Queens Walk, London, SE1 2AA**

Copies of the minutes may be found at: <http://www.london.gov.uk/assembly/assemmtgs/index.jsp>

Present:

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| Tony Arbour | Roger Evans |
| Jennette Arnold | Nicky Gavron |
| Gareth Bacon | Darren Johnson |
| Richard Barnbrook | Jenny Jones |
| Richard Barnes | Joanne McCartney |
| John Biggs | Steve O'Connell |
| Andrew Boff | Caroline Pidgeon |
| Victoria Borwick | Murad Qureshi |
| James Cleverly | Navin Shah |
| Brian Coleman | Valerie Shawcross |
| Dee Doocey | Richard Tracey |
| Len Duvall | Mike Tuffrey |

[Jennette Arnold AM in the Chair.]

1. Election of Chair & Deputy Chair of the London Assembly (Item 1)

- 1.1 Jennette Arnold AM opened the meeting and delivered an address on her term as Chair of the London Assembly. In particular, she referred to the increase in public engagement with the Assembly and Mayoralty over the previous year, and work undertaken by the Assembly and Assembly events which had taken place during the year. She thanked the Deputy Chair, Assembly Members, Group Leaders and staff for their support during the year.
- 1.2 The Deputy Chair, Darren Johnson AM, moved a vote of thanks, on the Assembly's behalf, for Jennette Arnold AM's work as Chair of the Assembly during the 2008-09 year. Leaders of all of the Assembly's Party Groups joined the Deputy Chair in recording their thanks.
- 1.3 The Chief Executive then conducted the election for the position of Chair of the London Assembly.
- 1.4 It was proposed by John Biggs AM and seconded by Jennette Arnold AM that Darren Johnson AM be appointed Chair of the London Assembly for the 2009-10 year.
- 1.5 It was proposed by Brian Coleman AM and seconded by James Cleverly AM that Andrew Boff AM be appointed Chair of the London Assembly for the 2009-10 year.
- 1.6 Upon being put to the vote, 13 votes were cast in favour of Darren Johnson AM and 10 votes were cast in favour of Andrew Boff AM. Accordingly, it was:
- 1.7 **Resolved:**

That Darren Johnson AM be appointed Chair of the London Assembly until the next Annual Meeting of the Assembly.

[Darren Johnson AM in the Chair.]

- 1.8 The Chair addressed the Assembly. He referred to achievements of the Assembly over the previous eight years and the challenges of and his priorities for the coming year.
- 1.9 The Chair then presided over the election for the office of Deputy Chair of the London Assembly.
- 1.10 It was proposed by Jenny Jones AM and seconded by John Biggs AM that Jennette Arnold AM be appointed Deputy Chair of the London Assembly for the 2009-10 year.
- 1.11 It was proposed by Tony Arbour AM and seconded by Richard Barnes AM that Victoria Borwick AM be appointed Deputy Chair of the London Assembly for the 2009-10 year.

1.12 Upon being put to the vote, 13 votes were cast in favour of Jennette Arnold AM and 11 votes were cast in favour of Victoria Borwick AM. Accordingly it was:

1.13 **Resolved:**

That Jennette Arnold AM be appointed Deputy Chair of the London Assembly until the next Annual Meeting of the Assembly.

2. Apologies for Absence and Chair's Announcements (Item 2)

2.1 No apologies for absence were received.

3. Declarations of Interests (Item 3)

3.1 **Resolved:**

(a) That the relevant Assembly Members' membership of Functional Bodies and London Borough Councils, as set out in Item 2 on the agenda, be noted and recorded as personal interests; and

(b) That gifts and hospitality received by Members, as set out on the Authority's gifts and hospitality register, be noted.

4. Minutes (Item 4)

4.1 **Resolved:**

That the minutes of the London Assembly (Plenary) meeting held on 18 March 2009 and the London Assembly (Mayor's Question Time) meeting held on 25 March 2009 be signed by the Chair as correct records.

5. Establishment of Assembly Committees (Item 5)

5.1 The Assembly received the report of the Executive Director of Secretariat. The Chair formally moved each of the recommendations set out in the report in turn.

5.2 Upon being put to the vote, there was not unanimous agreement to disapply, in accordance with the provisions of Section 17 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989, the proportionality rules where committee membership was not politically proportional in respect of the overall membership of the Assembly. Proportionality was therefore strictly applied to the committees established by the Assembly.

5.3 A list of committees which it was proposed be established, together with the proposed terms of reference and membership of those committees, was tabled. The Assembly agreed, in turn, to establish each of the committees listed in the tabled paper (and also set out at **Appendix A** to these minutes) with the terms of reference indicated.

5.4 The Assembly additionally agreed to reconstitute (as required) the Authority's Standards Committee on the same basis that it was constituted for the 2008-09 Assembly Year, noting that the decision to reconstitute the Committee was a joint decision with the Mayor, and noted the Committee's proposed terms of reference (as set out at **Appendix B** to these minutes).

5.6 **Resolved:**

- (a) That it be agreed to establish the committees and panels listed at Appendix A as ordinary committees and for the period until the next annual meeting of the Assembly in May 2010, and that the terms of reference of each those bodies be approved;**
- (b) That the Authority's Standards Committee be reconstituted (as required) on the same basis that it was constituted for the 2008-09 Assembly Year, namely with 5 Assembly Members (2 Conservative Assembly Members, 2 Labour Assembly Members and 1 Liberal Democrat Assembly Member), 6 Independent Members and the Mayor, noting that the decision to reconstitute the Committee is a joint decision with the Mayor; that its terms of reference, as set out at Appendix B be noted; and that it be noted that political proportionality rules are not applied to this committee;**
- (c) That approval be given for the Budget and Performance Committee to re-establish the Budget Monitoring Sub-Committee; and**
- (d) That the previous decisions of the then Business Management and Appointments Committee in respect of committee meetings and work programmes, as set out at paragraphs 3.15 and 3.16 of the report, be reconfirmed, namely:**

"That, if during the year a committee modified its approved work programme and/or number of meetings in response to topical events, and an ad hoc extra meeting was called for, that would be permitted if the members of the committee concerned agreed; if 2 or more members of that committee did not agree to a proposal for an extra meeting, the matter would be referred to this committee for determination (noting that the Chair of BMAC has existing delegated authority from the Assembly to determine, in consultation with the Deputy Chair and party Group leaders, requests for additional committee meetings);

That the current procedure for the proposed use of rapporteurs by committees, wherein the prior approval of this committee is required, be maintained."; and

“That each Committee should report to BMAC at the start of the municipal year on its work programme for the year, including the proposed number of meetings which that programme would entail, and that BMAC should have the authority to vary the attached timetable.”

6. Appointment of Members to Committees (Item 6)

6.1 The Assembly received the report of the Executive Director of Secretariat in respect of the appointment of Members to committees.

6.2 The Assembly agreed to appoint the Members and substitute Members set out in the tabled paper (and also set out in **Appendices A and B** to these minutes) to the committees indicated.

6.3 **Resolved:**

(a) That it be agreed to appoint Members and substitute Members to each of the committees/bodies established, as set out at Appendices A and B;

(b) That the continuing membership Seye Aina, David Durie, Claer Lloyd Jones, Diane Mark and Sam Younger as Independent Members of the Standards Committee be ratified; and

(c) That it be noted that the Assembly and Mayor will shortly be asked to approve the appointment of a new Independent Member (to the position currently vacant, following the resignation of Simon Green).

7. Election of Committee Chairs & Deputy Chairs (Item 7)

7.1 The Chair called for nominations to the offices of Chair and Deputy Chair for each of the committees established by the Assembly in turn (with the exception of the Authority's Standards Committee). The results are set out in **Appendix A** to these minutes.

7.2 **Resolved:**

That it be agreed to appoint Chairs and Deputy Chairs to each of the committees/bodies established, as set out at Appendix A.

[Note: The Assembly was not asked to appoint a Chair and Deputy Chair to the Standards Committee; in accordance with Standing Order 11.2G, the Standards Committee elects its Chair and Deputy Chair itself.]

8. Dates of Assembly and Committee Meetings 2009/10 (Item 8)

8.1 The Assembly received the report of the Executive Director of Secretariat.

8.2 **Resolved:**

That the timetable of London Assembly and committee meetings for the 2009/10 year be confirmed.

9. Corporate Governance (Item 9)

9.1 The Assembly received the report of the Executive Director of Secretariat.

9.2 **Resolved:**

(a) That the Scheme of Delegation of Functions of the London Assembly, which forms part of the Authority's corporate governance framework, be noted; and

(b) That it be agreed to suspend Standing 1.4B(4) insofar as it relates to the receipt of the Scheme of Delegation of Mayoral Functions of the Greater London Authority, noting that the revised version of that Scheme will be presented to the Assembly once available.

10. Reports of Assembly Members on the Work of Outside Bodies (Item 10)

10.1 The Assembly received the report of the Executive Director of Secretariat.

10.2 Following a discussion, it was agreed that a further report would be submitted to the next Assembly meeting, setting out details of Assembly Members' attendance at meetings of outside bodies in the period since the Assembly's last Annual Meeting. A Member suggested that information regarding Members' attendance in years prior to that could also be included in the report.

10.3 **Resolved:**

(a) That the reports of the following Members appointed to the outside bodies indicated on the work of the bodies over the past year, be noted:

- **The Advisory Board of the Centre for Public Scrutiny (CfPS) - Jennette Arnold AM**
- **London Health Commission - John Biggs AM**
- **Heathrow Airport Consultative Committee - Murad Qureshi AM**
- **Covent Garden Area Trust - Brian Coleman AM**

- (b) That a further report be submitted to the next Assembly meeting, setting out details of Assembly Members' attendance at meetings of outside bodies in the period since the Assembly's last Annual Meeting.

11. Appointment made by the Mayor under Section 671(b) of the GLA Act (Item 11)

11.1 The Assembly received the report of the Executive Director of Secretariat.

11.2 Resolved:

That the appointment by the Mayor of Pamela Chesters as Mayoral Adviser, Health and Youth Opportunities, under Section 67(1)(b) of the GLA Act 1999 (as amended), and with effect from 4 May 2009, be noted.

12. Any Other Business the Chair Considers Urgent (Item 12)

12.1 There was no urgent business.

13. Close of Meeting

13.1 The meeting ended at 11.20am.

Chair

Date

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