



## General Purposes Committee

**Tuesday 31 May 2016 at 7.00 pm**

Board Room 5 - Brent Civic Centre, Engineers Way,  
Wembley HA9 0FJ

### Membership:

#### Members

Councillors:

Butt (Chair)  
McLennan (Vice-Chair)  
Colwill  
Farah  
Hirani  
Mashari  
W Mitchell Murray  
Southwood

#### Substitute Members

Councillors:

Bradley, Denselow, Kabir, Mahmood, Moher, Pavey  
and Krupa Sheth

Councillors:

Kansagra and Maurice

**For further information contact:** Peter Goss, Democratic Services Manager  
020 8937 1353, [peter.goss@brent.gov.uk](mailto:peter.goss@brent.gov.uk)

For electronic copies of minutes, reports and agendas, and to be alerted when the minutes of this meeting have been published visit:

**[democracy.brent.gov.uk](http://democracy.brent.gov.uk)**

**The press and public are welcome to attend this meeting**

# Agenda

Introductions, if appropriate.

Apologies for absence and clarification of alternate members

Item	Page
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<b>1</b>	<b>Declarations of personal, prejudicial and disclosable interests</b>	
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Members are invited to declare at this stage of the meeting, any relevant personal and prejudicial interests and discloseable pecuniary interests in any matter to be considered at this meeting.

<b>2</b>	<b>Minutes of the previous meeting</b>	1 - 2
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<b>3</b>	<b>Matters arising (if any)</b>	
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<b>4</b>	<b>Deputations (if any)</b>	
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<b>5</b>	<b>Representation of Political Groups on Committees</b>	3 - 6
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At its meeting on 19 May 2016 the Council reviewed the representation of political groups on its main committees. As soon as practicable after such a review, those committees are required to conduct a review of the representation of political groups on any sub-committees they may have. This report sets out the rules to be applied during the course of the review.

<b>6</b>	<b>Appointments to Sub-Committees / Outside Bodies</b>	
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<b>7</b>	<b>Any other urgent business</b>	
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Notice of items to be raised under this heading must be given in writing to the Head of Executive and Member Services or his representative before the meeting in accordance with Standing Order 64.



Please remember to set your mobile phone to silent during the meeting.

- The meeting room is accessible by lift and seats will be provided for members of the public.



## LONDON BOROUGH OF BRENT

### MINUTES OF THE GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE Thursday 31 March 2016 at 6.00 pm

PRESENT: Councillor Moher (Vice-Chair) and Councillors Denselow, McLennan and Southwood

Apologies for absence were received from: Councillors Butt, Hirani, Kansagra and Pavey

1. **Declarations of personal and prejudicial interests**

None declared.

2. **Minutes of the previous meeting**

RESOLVED:-

that the minutes of the previous meeting held on 25 January 2016 be approved as an accurate record of the meeting.

3. **Matters arising**

None.

4. **Deputations**

None received.

5. **Appointments to Sub-Committees / Outside Bodies**

None.

6. **Appointment of employer representative to the Pension Board**

The committee had before it a report, the purpose of which was to fill the vacancy on the Pension Board.

RESOLVED:-

That Angela Cattermole be appointed as the non-Brent Council employer representative on the Pension Board.

7. **Independent Person Recruitment Process**

The committee had before it a report, the purpose of which was to update Members on the recruitment process for Independent Persons and to recommend a change to the short-listing and interview process.

RESOLVED:

That the Director Human Resources, together with two Strategic Directors, shortlist and interview suitable applicants and recommend appointments to Full Council for approval.

8. **Any other urgent business**

See below.

9. **Urgent item - Market supplement for Children and Families social workers**


Councillor Moher, Vice-Chair, explained that the reason for this being item taken as an urgent item was that, working alongside the Council's recruitment partners, TMP, the Council was about to launch a high profile national recruitment campaign for children's social workers. She explained that it was important that within this campaign the Council was absolutely clear about the remuneration package and clarity about the market supplement is key to that.

RESOLVED:

that the continued payment of a market supplement to children's social workers be approved, but the department be allowed discretion about whether this should be paid differentially, focused on the harder to recruit service areas.

The meeting closed at 6.13 pm

R MOHER  
Vice Chair

 <p><b>Brent</b></p>	<p><b>General Purposes Committee</b></p> <p>31 May 2016</p> <p><b>Report from the Chief Legal Officer</b></p>
<p>For Action <span style="float: right;">Wards Affected: ALL</span></p>	
<p><b>Representation of Political Groups on Committees</b></p>	

## 1.0 Summary

- 1.1 At its meeting on 19 May 2016 the Council reviewed the representation of political groups on its main committees. As soon as practicable after such a review, those committees are required to conduct a review of the representation of political groups on any sub-committees they may have. This report sets out the rules to be applied during the course of the review.

## 2.0 Recommendations

- 2.1 Note the size of the sub-committees;
- 2.2 Agree the allocation of seats on the sub-committees to each of the political groups;
- 2.3 Appoint chairs and vice chairs, members and substitutes to the sub-committees.

## 3.0 Detail

- 3.1 Once a review of representation of political groups gives rise to new membership on a main committee that committee in turn falls under a duty to review the representation of political groups on its sub-committees.
- 3.2 Once the size of sub-committees is decided the main committee must, so far as is reasonably practicable, give effect to the principles which follow:
- (i) That not all seats on the sub-committee are allocated to the same political group.

- (ii) That the majority of the seats on the sub-committee are allocated to a particular political group if the number of persons belonging to that group is a majority of the authority's membership.
- (iii) Subject to paragraph (i) above (and to (ii) above if it had been applicable) that the number of the seats on the sub-committee which are allocated to each political group bears the same proportion to the number of all seats on that sub-committee as is borne by the number of members of that group to the membership of the authority.

3.3 In relation to the council's ordinary committees, there is an additional principle that (subject to the principles set out in paragraphs 3.2 (i) and (ii) above) the number of seats on the ordinary committees of the Council which are allocated to each political group bears the same proportion to the total of all the seats on the ordinary committees of the Council as is borne by the number of members of that group to the membership of the Council.

Members are asked to note that this principle specifically does not apply to ordinary sub-committees such as those of this committee.

3.4 The current membership of the authority is 63 consisting of 56 Labour councillors, 3 Conservative councillors, 3 Brent Conservative councillors and 1 Liberal Democrat councillor.

3.5 The application of the principles set out at paragraph 3.2 above requires that the distribution of the available seats amongst the political groups on sub-committees of the size set out in the Constitution and members are requested to make such a determination.

<b>Committee</b>	<b>Sub Committee</b>	<b>Size of Sub Cttee</b>	<b>Labour</b>	<b>Conservative</b>	<b>Brent Conservative</b>
General Purposes	Pension Fund Sub-Committee	7	6		
	Senior Staff Appointments Sub-Committee	5	4		
	Staff Appeals Sub-Committee	5	4		

3.6 These figures are reached by "rounding out" fractions of seats so as to produce the minimum achievable deviation from the principle set out at paragraph 3.2(iii) above.

3.7 If any member intends to propose an alternative sub-committee size and allocation of seats they are requested to seek advice from the Chief Legal Officer in advance of the meeting so the legality of the proposal can be checked.

3.8 Members are also asked to appoint members to the Pension Board, Employees Joint Consultative Committee and Teachers Joint Consultative Committee.

#### **4.0 Financial Implications**

4.1 There are none arising directly from this report.

#### **5.0 Legal Implications**

5.1 These are addressed in the body of the report.

#### **6.0 Diversity Implications**

6.1 This report has been screened by officers and there are not considered to be any diversity implications arising from it.

#### **Background Papers**

The Brent Constitution  
Local Government and Housing Act 1989

#### **Contact Officer**

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**Fiona Alderman**  
**Chief Legal Officer**

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