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**THE WORSHIPFUL THE MAYOR
AND COUNCILLORS OF THE
LONDON BOROUGH OF ENFIELD**

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Date: 12 May 2015

Dear Councillor,

Annual Council Meeting: Wednesday 13th May 2015 – “To Follow” Papers

Please find attached the following papers marked as “To Follow” on the agenda for the Annual Council Meeting on Wednesday 13th May 2015:

Agenda Item 9: Membership of Committees and Panels (Pages 1-6)

Agenda Item 13.2: Council Questions – Revised response to Question 49 (Councillor Neville to Chair of Planning Committee)
(Pages 7 – 8)

Agenda Item 18: Calendar of Meetings (Pages 9 – 10)

In relation to the remaining agenda items marked as “To Follow”, please could you note that the Committee and Outside Bodies membership lists for 2015/16 (Agenda Items 10 & 11) will now be tabled at tomorrow night’s meeting. In addition Agenda Item 15 (Amendment to Members Allowance Scheme) has now been withdrawn for consideration from this agenda.

I hope the papers and the arrangements for tomorrow night’s meeting are clear, but if you should have any queries please come back to me.

Yours sincerely

James Kinsella

Democratic Services Manager

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MUNICIPAL YEAR 2015/16 REPORT NO. **1**

MEETING TITLE AND DATE:

COUNCIL
13th May 2015

REPORT OF:

Director of Finance, Resources
and Customer Services

Contact Officer:

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AGENDA - PART: 1	ITEM: 9
SUBJECT: MEMBERSHIP OF COMMITTEES AND PANELS	
WARDS: All	

1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 1.1 Council is required to determine the constitution and political balance of the committees, joint committees and panels that have been set up for the purpose of discharging its functions.
- 1.2 The proposals detailed within the report support this requirement.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 That as a result of the review, the seats allocated to each political party on the committees and boards to which Section 15 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 apply, be as set out in Appendix A of this report.
- 2.2 In accordance with paragraph 3.3 of the report, Council resolves without dissent that the rules of political proportionality should not apply to those bodies marked with an asterisk * on Appendix A.

3. BACKGROUND

- 3.1 Section 15 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 imposes a duty on Councils to review the representation of different political groups on bodies to which the Council makes appointments. The Act requires that the review should be held at the Annual Meeting or as soon as practicable after that meeting or when the membership of the Council changes.
- 3.2 The Act provides four principles concerning political representation that must be observed when conducting a review. The four principles are:-
 - (a) That not all seats are allocated to the same political party.

- (b) That the political group with the majority of seats should have the majority of seats on each committee.
 - (c) Subject to (a) and (b) that the total number of seats allocated to political groups on all committees (to which Section 15 of the Act applies), shall be in the same proportion as the total number of seats on the authority held by each political group.
 - (d) Subject to (a) to (c) that the number of seats allocated to each political group on a committee (to which Section 15 of the Act applies), shall be the same as the proportion of the total number of seats on the authority held by each political group.
- 3.3 The fourth principle can be waived if the members of the Council agree with no member voting against. Where the fourth principle is waived the allocation of seats on the committee in question must still be included in the calculation as to the total number of seats held by each political group on all committees.
- 3.4 The committees and boards to which the provisions of Section 15 of the Act apply are shown in Appendix A together with the overall political balance of the Council. This list reflects the two previous proportionality reviews that have been undertaken during 2014/15 in order to reflect the fact that there are currently two independent members on the Council.

5. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

None – Council is required under Section 15 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 to review the representation of different political groups on bodies to which it makes appointments whenever there is a change in political representation. The Act requires that the review should be held at the Annual Meeting or as soon as practicable after that meeting or the change has occurred.

6. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 6.1 There is a duty imposed on the Council to review, at the Annual Meeting or as soon as possible thereafter, the political balance of bodies to which it makes appointments.
- 6.2 The bodies in question are the committees and boards shown in the table contained in the appendix to this report.
- 6.3 The table shows the political balance of the Council and the number of seats suggested for allocation to each political party in respect of each committee or board, so as to comply with the provisions of Section 15 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989.

7. COMMENTS OF THE DIRECTOR OF FINANCE, RESOURCES & CUSTOMER SERVICES AND OTHER DEPARTMENTS

7.1 Financial Implications

There are no financial implications arising from the recommendations contained within this report.

7.2 Legal Implications

7.2.1 There is a specific duty imposed on the Council to review each year at the Annual meeting, or as soon as practicable thereafter, the representation of different political groups. The legislation provides that the Council may make alternative arrangements to the 'proportionality' principles within this report only by a unanimous vote. However a political group may decide to offer a seat on a committee or panel to another political group. This does not affect the proportionality principles as it remains within the gift of that political group to determine how it wishes to exercise that discretion, if at all.

7.2.2 The recommendations in this report are in accordance with the power set out within Section 15 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989.

8. KEY RISKS

The Council has a statutory duty to review at its Annual meeting, or as soon as practicable thereafter, the representation of different political groups. The proposals detailed in this report support that duty.

9. EQUALITIES IMPACT IMPLICATIONS

The review and proposals within this report will help to ensure the fair, equal and consistent allocation of seats between each political party on Council bodies. The proposals have not been subject to a detailed equalities impact assessment.

10. IMPACT ON COUNCIL PRIORITIES

Fairness for All, Growth & Sustainability and Strong Communities

The review will have a positive impact on members representational roles and a consequential impact on communities and the Council's overall governance arrangements.

11. PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS

None identified.

12. PUBLIC HEALTH IMPLICATIONS

None identified

Background Papers

None.

MEMBERS PROPORTIONALITY FOR
MEETINGS 2015/16

APPENDIX A

Title of Meeting	No. of Members	Labour (updated fig May 15)	Conservative	Independent (updated fig Jan 15)	Total %
		39 62%	22 35%	2 3%	63 100%
Overview & Scrutiny Committee	6	4	2		6
Councillor Conduct Committee *	4	2	2		4
Audit Committee	7	5	2		7
Planning Committee	12	8	4		12
Conservation Advisory Group	5	3	2		5
Members & Democratic Services Group	5	3	2		5
Green Belt Forum	5	3	2		5
Licensing Committee	15	9***	5		14***
Learning Difficulties Partnership Board	3	2	1		3
Joint Consultative Group for Teachers & Staff Forum	5	3	2		5
Member Governor Forum	5	3	2		5
Remuneration Committee	3	2	1		3
Schools Forum *	1	1	0		1
Standing Advisory Council for Religious Education*	4	2	2		4
Adoption Panel *	2	1	1		2
Fostering Panel *	2	1	1		2
Corporate Parenting Group *	2	1	1		2
Appointment Panel (Head of Paid Service)	6	4	2		6
Appointment Panel (Chief Officers & Deputy Chief Officers)	5	3	2		5
Edmonton Partnership Working Group	7	4***	2		6***
Electoral Review Panel	7	5	2		7
Pension Policy & Investment Committee	6	4	2		6
Public Transport Consultative Group*	11	6***	4		10***
Staff Appeals Panel*	13	7***	4		11***
Tourism & Twinning Working Party	5	3	2		5
Council Housing Board	3	2	1		3
Deaf Forum	6	4	2		6
Child Sexual Exploitation & Associated Risks to Children & Young People Task Group	6	4	2		6
Local Pension Board	3	2	1		3
TOTAL	164	101	58		159
Actual Percentage of Representation		62%	35%		

* In accordance with paragraph 3.3 of the report, Council resolves without dissent that the rules of political proportionality should not apply to those bodies marked above with an asterisk

** The requirements for political proportionality in relation to Health & Wellbeing Boards have been disapplied under Regulation 7 of the Local Authority (Public Health, Health and Wellbeing Boards and Health Scrutiny) Regulations 2013. This body has not therefore been included within the above calculation.

*** The number of seats allocated to the Labour Group on these bodies has been reduced to reflect the revised proportionality requirements following the changes in membership during 2014/15.

NB: The total figures in the above table have been rounded to the nearest whole %.

Agenda Item 13.2: Council Questions

Updated response to Question 49 from Councillor Neville to the Chair of Planning Committee

Will the Chair make a statement about the decision of the High Court in February to quash the grant of planning permission for 36 Walsingham Road approved by his committee in June 2014 and to further order the council to pay the applicant the entirety of her costs after a separate hearing on the issue in which the judge rejected outright the council's arguments to pay only a fraction of costs.

Can he give the council an indication of what this case has/or is likely to cost council tax payers, and will he tell the council whether he and Labour members of the Planning Committee have learned any lessons on the way that the committee under his chairmanship attempted to ride roughshod over ordinary residents whose only offence has been to have the wit and the wherewithal to bring a strong legally represented challenge to the arrogance of the planning authority in refusing requests for a deferral and proper consideration to be given to the residents reasonable and well argued representations.

Would he further confirm that this case following close on the heels of the judgement against the council in the Landlords Licensing Case demonstrates that "people power" backed by the courts is thankfully alive and well and is on the march in Enfield against a council that has perhaps got a little above itself in its decision making

Updated reply from Chair of the Planning Committee (please replace this for the original response published)

The decision to grant planning permission for development at 36 Walsingham Road was the subject of Judicial Review. The Council accepted a technical error in its approach to the assessment of the impact on a Conservation area and the decision was quashed by agreement on this ground alone. There was no consideration of the merits of the 6 other grounds advanced by the claimants. The judicial review process does not mean that the actual outcome was necessarily wrong - but that a flaw in the process means that the decision should be re-taken.

The Council has not yet received a detailed claim in relation to the claimants' costs. Records are not maintained of all time spent on applications, making it difficult to estimate the Council's own costs. The purpose of the Council in acceding to Ground 1 at an early stage was to minimise costs to all parties,

The planning application was subject to public consultation, whose comments were taken into consideration by officers and the Planning Committee. The presence of local objections however do not, per se, justify a refusal of planning permission and the application must be determined on its planning merits. The Council is required to determine applications timeously and fairly to all parties and I reject any suggestion that the Committee 'rode roughshod' over the objectors.

As a result of the Judicial Review, the application falls to be re-determined by the Council as local planning authority and that process has recently commenced with public consultation.

LBE CALENDAR OF MEETINGS 2015/2016 (last changes made 12th May 2015)

	MAY 15	JUNE 15	JULY 15	AUG 15	SEPT 15	OCT 15	NOV 15	DEC 15	JAN 16	FEB 16	MAR 16	APR 16	MAY 16
COUNCIL	Annual Wed 13	Wed 24			Thurs 24		Wed 11		Wed 27	Wed 24	Wed 23		Annual Wed 11
CABINET		Wed 17	Wed 22	Wed 12**	Wed 16	Wed 21	Wed 18	Wed 16	Wed 20	Wed 10	Wed 16	Wed 27	
Local Plan Cabinet Sub-Committee			Tues 07		Wed 09		Thurs 26			Tues 09		Wed 20	
Cabinet Sub Committee					Tues 29		Thurs 19			Thurs 04		Tues 12	
Enfield Community Support Fund Cabinet Sub-Committee											Tues 15		
SCRUTINY													
Overview & Scrutiny Committee		Tues 16* Tues 02 (Bus) WP	Thurs 16* Thurs 30*	Thurs 13* Tues 25*	Wed 02 (Bus) Tues 15*	Thurs 08* Tues 27 *	Thurs 12 (Bus) Wed 25*	Mon 14* Tues 22*	Tues 19* Thurs 28●	Thurs 11* Wed 17 (Bus)	Tues 08* Thurs 31*	Thurs 07 (Bus) Mon 25*	
Scrutiny Work Streams:													
Health Scrutiny Work Stream		Thurs 04 (WP)				Wed 07			Tues 26		Wed 09		
Crime Scrutiny Work Stream		Thurs 11 (WP)				Thurs 01			Thurs 21		Tues 22		
Scrutiny Work Stream 1			Tues 14		Wed 09			Wed 09		Tues 02			
Scrutiny Work Stream 2			Thurs 30		Tues 29			Wed 02		Thurs 18			
Scrutiny Work Stream 3			Tues 28		Thurs 17			Thurs 10		Wed 03			
Scrutiny Work Stream 4			Thurs 23		Wed 30			Tues 15			Thurs 17		
Scrutiny Work Stream 5			Wed 29			Tues 06		Tues 08			Wed 02		
Audit Committee			Thurs 09		Thurs 10 Tues 29		Thurs 05		Thurs 07		Thurs 03		
Councillor Conduct Committee			Thurs 16		Tues 22			Wed 02			Thurs 24		
Remuneration Committee			Thurs 02			Wed 14			Wed 06			Tues 05	
Planning Committee	Thurs 21	Wed 10** Tues 30	Tues 21	Tues 11	Tues 01** Tues 22	Tues 06** Tues 20	Tues 10** Tues 24	Thurs 17	Tues 12** Tues 26	Tues 09** Tues 23	Tues 08** Tues 22	Tues 26	Tues 03**
Conservation Advisory Group		Tues 02	Wed 01/ Thurs 23		Thurs 3/ Wed 30		Wed 04/ Thurs 26	Tues 01	Tues 05	Tues 02	Tues 01	Wed 06	
Green Belt Forum			Thurs 23				Tues 02			Thurs 04		Thurs 14	

All dates subject to change.
Recent changes are shown in **bold**.

Democratic Services Team Contact:
James Kinsella Tel. (0208) 379 4041

1 Scrutiny Budget Meeting

* Provisional Call-in (if required)
** Provisional (if required)

TBC-To be confirmed

□ dates for rest of the year to be agreed 18.6.15

LBE CALENDAR OF MEETINGS 2015/2016 (last changes made 12th May 2015)

OTHER BODIES	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUG	SEPT	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN 16	FEB 16	MAR 16	APRIL 16	MAY 16
Health & Wellbeing Board			Tues 14			Thurs 15		Thurs 10		Thurs 11		Thurs 21	
Health & Wellbeing Board (Development Sessions)		Wed 03			Tues 08		Wed 04		Wed 06		Wed 02		
LBE/Enfield Racial Equality Council			Wed 29			Tues 13			Tues 12			Tues 26	
Safer Neighbourhoods Board (formerly called Enfield Community Police Partnership)	Thurs 21		Tues 28				Tues 17			Tues 09			
Policy Pension & Investment Committee (held externally in London)	Wed 27			Wed 26			Thurs 26			Thurs 25			
Local Pension Board					Tues 29						Thurs 24		
Public Transport Consultative Group		Thurs 25			Thurs 17			Thurs 10			Thurs 03		
Enf. Essex Herts Border Liaison Grp(TBC)													
Edmonton Partnership (TBC)													
Enfield Strategic Partnership Board		Tues 09											
Members & Demo. Services Group		Wed 03	Wed 01		Thurs 03	Thurs 22			Tues 05	Tues 02	Tues 01	Thurs 21	
Council Housing Advisory Board		Tues 30			Tues 29			Tues 15			Thurs 17		
Deaf Forum					Wed 09			Thurs 17			Thurs 10		
Housing Gateway Board		Wed 10	Wed 08	Mon 10	Tues 08	Wed 07	Mon 09	Wed 09	Wed 13	Mon 08	Wed 09		
Child Sexual Exploitation Task Group		Tues 02			Tues 01			Tues 01			Tues 01		
CHILDREN'S SERVICES													
• Corporate Parenting		Wed 17											
• Member/Governor Forum (usually end of each term)						Tues 06				Wed 03			Thurs 12
• Staff Forum & JCGT		Tues 09					Tues 10			Tues 09			
• SACRE		Thurs 18					Thurs 12						
• Schools Forum			Wed 01			Wed 14		Wed 09	Wed 20		Wed 02		
GROUPS													
Conservative Group													
Labour Group													
MEMBER DEVELOPMENT		Thurs 25	Tues 28		Wed 30	Thurs 29	Wed 25		Thurs 14	Thurs 11	Wed 30	Thurs 28	

Proposed Dates for Council meetings from 2016 to 2017. Please note these dates are only indicative and may be subject to change.

	MAY 16	JUNE 16	JULY 16	AUG 16	SEPT 16	OCT 16	NOV 16	DEC 16	JAN 17	FEB 17	MAR 17	APR 17	MAY 17
COUNCIL	Annual Wed 11		Wed 13		Wed 28		Wed 09		Wed 25	Wed 23	Wed 29		Wed 10 Annual

All dates subject to change.
Recent changes are shown in **bold**.

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James Kinsella Tel. (0208) 379 4041

1 Scrutiny Budget Meeting

* Provisional Call-in (if required)
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