

Constitutional and Nomination Committee

Minutes of the meeting held on 25 January 2017

Present: Councillors Karney – In the Chair, Curley, B Priest and S. Murphy

Apologies: Councillor Lanchbury and Reeves

CN/17/01 Minutes

Decision

To approve as a correct record the minutes of the meeting held on 30 November 2016.

CN/17/02 Membership of Committees 16/17, appointment of Chairs and members of Committees

Decisions

1. To request the Council to agree to suspend Procedural Rule 25.1 to allow the following decisions which involve reconsideration of a decision taken by the Council within the previous six months.
2. To recommend the Council to make the following changes in appointments to Committees and Joint Committees of the Council.

Committee	Member removed	Member appointed
Communities and Equalities Scrutiny Committee	Cllr Pritchard	-
Resources and Governance Scrutiny Committee	-	Cllr Pritchard
Greater Manchester Joint Health Scrutiny Panel	Cllr Evans	-

3. To note the appointment of Kathy Cowell, Chair of Central Manchester Foundation Trust to the Health and Wellbeing Board.
4. To note that Rupert Nichols, Chair of the newly formed Greater Manchester Mental Health NHS Foundation Trust has replaced John Scampion as a member of the Health and Wellbeing Board.

CN/17/03 Polling Districts and Polling Places: proposed changes to the current scheme

The Committee considered the report of the Chief Executive which proposed changes to the current scheme of polling places for four polling districts in Cheetham, City Centre, and Gorton South wards.

Decisions

1. To approve the changes to the current scheme as set out in paragraphs 4.1.1, 5.1.1 and 6.1.1 of the report.
2. To adopt the changes to the scheme for both parliamentary and local elections.

CN/17/04 Response to the Local Government Boundary Commission for England (LGBCE) on its Electoral Review Draft Recommendations on the new electoral arrangements for Manchester City Council

The Committee considered the report of the Chief Executive which provided the response to the Local Government Boundary Commission for England's consultation on its Draft Recommendations on the new electoral arrangements for Manchester City Council.

The report described that the Local Government Boundary Commission (LGBCE) is currently undertaking a review of Manchester City Council's electoral arrangements and will make recommendations to Parliament on the total number of councillors that should be elected to the authority in the future ('Council size') and the boundaries, names and number of councillors to represent each ward.

The LGBCE's Draft Recommendations and the corresponding ward maps were provided in Appendices 2 and 3 of the report. The LGBCE had developed these Draft Recommendations taking into account the 16 consultation submissions it received, including the one city-wide proposal which was submitted by Manchester City Council. The LGBCE had also undertaken its own research and drawn on wider evidence including visits to the city to determine the most appropriate proposals for ward boundaries and ward names. As a result the LGBCE Draft Recommendations had drawn on this range of factors, including consideration of the Council's submission.

The LGBCE's Draft Recommendations proposed that Manchester should be represented by 96 councillors in 32 wards, which is the same number of Councillors and wards as there are now. However, with exception of Baguley ward, the proposed boundaries for all other wards will change. This is similar to the scale of change that was proposed in the Council's warding pattern submission. The ward names for the 32 wards included in the Council's submission have all been included in the LGBCE's Draft Recommendations.

Further details for each area of Manchester are provided in the LGBCE's Draft Recommendations document pages 8 to 15 (Appendix 2). This also details how the proposals reflect the three statutory criteria of equality of representation; reflecting community interests and identities; and providing for effective and convenient local government. A summary of how the LGBCE Draft Recommendations compare to the Council's submission made in the first Warding Patterns consultation phase can be found in Appendix 4.

Decisions

1. The Constitutional and Nomination Committee recommend to the Council that the Local Government Boundary Commission for England's Draft Recommendations on the new electoral arrangements for Manchester City Council are supported.
2. The Constitutional and Nomination Committee endorsed the recommendation that the Council formally adopt this position.