



Constitutional and Nomination Committee

Date: Wednesday, 28 November 2018

Time: 9.00 am

Venue: Council Chamber, Level 2, Town Hall Extension

Everyone is welcome to attend this committee meeting.

Access to the Council Chamber

Public access to the Council Chamber is on Level 2 of the Town Hall Extension, using the lift or stairs in the lobby of the Mount Street entrance to the Extension. That lobby can also be reached from the St. Peter's Square entrance and from Library Walk. **There is no public access from the Lloyd Street entrances of the Extension.**

Membership of the Constitutional and Nomination Committee

Councillors - Karney (Chair), Curley, Flanagan, Lanchbury, Leech, Leese, S Murphy, N Murphy, Razaq and Reeves

Agenda

1. Urgent Business

To consider any items which the Chair has agreed to have submitted as urgent.

2. Appeals

To consider any appeals from the public against refusal to allow inspection of background documents and/or the inclusion of items in the confidential part of the agenda.

3. Interests

To allow Members an opportunity to [a] declare any personal, prejudicial or disclosable pecuniary interests they might have in any items which appear on this agenda; and [b] record any items from which they are precluded from voting as a result of Council Tax/Council rent arrears; [c] the existence and nature of party whipping arrangements in respect of any item to be considered at this meeting. Members with a personal interest should declare that at the start of the item under consideration. If Members also have a prejudicial or disclosable pecuniary interest they must withdraw from the meeting during the consideration of the item.

4. Minutes

5 - 8

To approve as a correct record the minutes of the meeting held on 1 October 2018.

5. Polling Districts and Polling Places: proposed changes to the current scheme and proposed timing of the next compulsory review

9 - 16

The report of the Chief Executive is attached.

6. Membership of Council committees and representation on joint boards and joint committees

To consider proposed changes to the membership of committees and joint boards / joint committees.

(Note if the changes proposed involve re-consideration of a decision taken by the Council within the previous 6 months the Committee will need to request the Council to suspend Procedural Rule 25.1).

Information about the Committee

The Constitutional and Nomination Committee deals with the appointment of councillors to serve on committees and certain external organisations.

The Committee also considers proposed changes to the Council Constitution and recommendations for the granting of civic honours to individuals and organisations. Business for consideration at a meeting is set out on the agenda sheet.

Copies of the agenda are available beforehand from the reception area at the Main Entrance of the Town Hall in Albert Square and may be viewed on the Council's website up to seven days prior to the date of the meeting (see web information below). Some additional copies are available at the meeting from the Committee Officer.

It is the Council's policy to consult people as fully as possible before making decisions which affect them. Members of the public do not have a right to speak at meetings but may do so if invited by the Chair. If you have a special interest in an item on the agenda and want to speak, tell the Committee Officer, who will pass on your request to the Chair.

Agenda, reports and minutes of all Council meetings can be found on the Council's website www.manchester.gov.uk

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Further Information

For help, advice and information about this meeting please contact the Committee Officer:

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Constitutional and Nomination Committee

Minutes of the meeting held on Monday, 1 October 2018

Present: Councillor Karney (Chair) – in the Chair

Councillors: Curley, Flanagan, Lanchbury, Leech, S Murphy and N Murphy

Apologies: Councillor Leese, Razaq and Reeves

CN/18/11. Minutes

Decision

To approve as a correct record the Minutes of the meeting held on 9 July 2018.

CN/18/12. Admission to the Roll of Honorary Aldermen

Decision

To recommend to Council that a special meeting of the City Council be convened on 28 November 2018 for the purpose of adopting a resolution, to be proposed by the Lord Mayor and seconded by the Deputy Lord Mayor, that Mr Andrew Fender and Mrs Nilofar Siddiqi are admitted as Honorary Aldermen of the City of Manchester in recognition of the long and eminent service that they have rendered to the Council, and thereafter to install Mr Fender and Mrs Siddiqi as Honorary Aldermen.

CN/18/13. Proposed Revisions to the Constitution

The Committee considered the report of the City Solicitor setting out proposed changes to the Council's Constitution.

The report described the changes that had been made.

Decisions

1. To recommend that the Council adopt, subject to 3 below, the attached revised Sections of the Constitution of the Council, namely:
 - a) Part 3: Sections A, C, and F
 - b) Part 4: Section F
 - c) Part 5: Section E
 - d) Part 8
2. To note that the remainder of the Constitution remains unchanged.
3. To note in relation to Part 3 of the Constitution that responsibility for the discharge of executive functions and the delegation of such responsibility rests

with the Leader of the Council and that the recommended delegations of executive functions set out in Part 3 (Sections A and F) are for the information of the Council only.

CN/18/14. Transport for Greater Manchester Committee

The Committee considered the report of the City Solicitor which detailed that on 29 June 2018 the Greater Manchester Combined Authority (GMCA) resolved that the Transport for Greater Manchester Committee (TfGMC) membership be reduced to 23 members, with the appointments to be made as follows:-

- Each of the 10 Greater Manchester district councils shall:
 - appoint one member (save for Manchester City Council which shall appoint two members (based on population and therefore financial contribution to the levy);
 - nominate one member to be appointed to the TfGMC by the GMCA to ensure political balance;
- The GMCA shall appoint one member;
- The Mayor of Greater Manchester shall nominate one further member to be appointed to the TfGMC by the GMCA.

It further resolved that each of the Greater Manchester district councils be requested to agree the recommendations in the report.

The Committee were concerned that the structure of the appointments and nominations across the 10 District Council could potentially not lead to a political balance on the TfGMC and suggested that the GMCA provide clarification as to how this balance would be achieved.

Decisions

1. To agree the recommendations in the report.
2. To recommend that Council appoint two members to the TfGMC.
3. To recommend that Council nominate one further member to be appointed to the TfGMC by the GMCA.

CN/18/15. Membership of Council committees and representation on joint boards and joint 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.

Membership of Committees

The Committee reviewed the membership of committees.

Decision

1. To recommend the Council to make the following changes in appointments to Committees and Joint Committees of the Council.

Committee	Member removed	Member appointed
Executive Consultative Panel		Councillor Karney
Communities and Equalities Scrutiny Committee		Councillor Collins
Economy Scrutiny Committee		Councillor A Simcock Councillor Paul
Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee	Councillor Collins Monika Neall (Co-Opted Parent Governor Representative)	Walid Omara (Co-Opted Parent Governor Representative)
Licensing Committee		Councillor Paul
Licensing and Appeals Committee		Councillor Paul

Transport for Greater Manchester Committee

Decision

2. To recommend the Council to appoint the following members to the Transport for Greater Manchester Committee.
 - a. Councillor Stogia
 - b. Councillor Ul-Hassan
3. To recommend the Council nominate the following member to the Transport for Greater Manchester Committee, who may be appointed to maintain political balance.
 - a. Councillor Noor

Health and Wellbeing Board

Decision

4. To note the current membership of the Health and Wellbeing Board.

Board Members:

Sir Richard Leese
Councillor Sue Murphy
Councillor Bev Craig
Councillor Garry Bridges
Kathy Cowell
Jim Potter
Rupert Nichols
Vicky Szulist
Mike Wild
Manisha Kumar
Ruth Bromley
Denis Colligan
Raja Murugesan
Tracey Vell
Carolyn Kus
Paul Marshall
David Regan

GP Provider Organisations - Members on rotation

Central - Primary Care Manchester- Dr Vish Mehra

South- South Manchester GP federation - Dr Angus Murray Brown

North- Northern Health GP Provider Organisation- Dr Amjad Ahmed

Board Members who have recently stood down:

Philip Burns
Fuzz Ahmed

Manchester City Council Report for Resolution

Report to: Constitutional and Nomination Committee – 28 November 2018

Subject: Polling Districts and Polling Places: proposed changes to the current scheme and proposed timing of the next compulsory review

Report of: The Chief Executive

Summary or Purpose of the report

To propose changes to the current scheme of polling places for two polling districts in the Charlestown and Clayton & Openshaw wards, and to approve the initiation of a compulsory review of parliamentary polling districts and polling places within the Council's area, to be combined with a review of the equivalent local government polling arrangements beginning in July 2019.

Recommendations

1. To note the background to the proposed timetable for the next compulsory review of polling districts and polling places.
 2. To authorise the initiation of a review of the parliamentary polling districts and polling places within the Council's area, and that this be combined with a review of the equivalent local government polling arrangements, beginning in July 2019, with further details of the timetable and process to be brought to the Committee, closer to the time.
 3. To approve the changes to the current scheme as set out in paragraphs 5.1, 5.1.1, 6.1 and 6.1.1 overleaf, to come into effect on 1 December 2018.
 4. To adopt the changes, referred to in recommendation 3 above, to the scheme for both parliamentary and local elections.
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Wards Affected:

All

Alignment to the Our Manchester Strategy Outcomes (if applicable)

Manchester Strategy outcomes	Summary of how this report aligns to the OMS
A thriving and sustainable city: supporting a diverse and distinctive economy that creates jobs and opportunities	The Our Manchester Strategy sets out the vision for the city to 2025. Local elections provide the opportunity for eligible Manchester residents to elect Councillors to represent them and therefore

A highly skilled city: world class and home grown talent sustaining the city's economic success	<p>to influence how the strategy is delivered.</p> <p>The Council's scheme of polling districts and polling places is a key part of the city's governance arrangements.</p> <p>The updated scheme will recognise and reflect feedback following 3 May 2018 local elections and any changes in availability of polling place locations in advance of the 2 May 2019 local elections, with the compulsory review of polling districts and polling places beginning in July 2019.</p>
A progressive and equitable city: making a positive contribution by unlocking the potential of our communities	
A liveable and low carbon city: a destination of choice to live, visit, work	
A connected city: world class infrastructure and connectivity to drive growth	

Full details are in the body of the report, along with any implications for:

- Equal Opportunities Policy
- Risk Management
- Legal Considerations

Financial Consequences – Revenue

It is anticipated that the costs of the proposed changes to polling place arrangements will be neutral, given the costs of the new polling place designations will not be greater than the costs of existing arrangements.

Financial Consequences – Capital

None

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Background documents (available for public inspection): None

Appendices: None

1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 As part of preparations for the local elections taking place on 2 May 2019, work has been undertaken by officers to ensure that polling places have the suitable access, space and facilities for electors. This work has been based on practical considerations relating to the availability of polling places as well as feedback from local councillors and comments received from polling station inspectors and other senior officers who worked at the 3 May 2018 local elections. This work has also considered the most suitable timings for the next compulsory review of polling districts and polling places.

2.0 The designation of polling districts, polling places and polling stations

- 2.1 The designation of the city's polling districts and places is the responsibility of the Council and the relevant functions are delegated to the Constitutional and Nomination Committee in the Scheme of Delegation. This includes the Council's duties under the Representation of the People Act 1983 to divide constituencies into polling districts and the power to divide wards into polling districts at local elections. The Electoral Commission advises that polling districts for UK parliamentary and local government elections should always be the same. It therefore follows that any review of parliamentary polling arrangements should be conducted simultaneously with one of local government arrangements.
- 2.2 On occasion, it may be necessary to change the designation of a polling place outside the statutory review process or meeting of the Constitutional and Nomination Committee. This usually occurs as a result of premises being closed or unexpectedly becoming unavailable, often at short notice, or if an unscheduled poll takes place. Authority is delegated to the Chief Executive to make, where necessary, alterations to the designation of any polling place in such circumstances, in consultation with group leaders, ward Councillors and the Chair of Constitutional and Nomination Committee, as agreed by Council at its 24 January 2018 meeting.
- 2.3 The allocation of polling stations within polling places is not a Council function and is the responsibility of the Returning Officer.

3.0 Context and approach to undertaking Polling District and Polling Place Reviews

- 3.1 All local authorities have a duty to complete a compulsory review of polling districts and polling places every 5 years, in accordance with the Fixed Term Parliament Act. The last compulsory review in Manchester was undertaken in the autumn of 2013 and came into effect in February 2014. This means that the next compulsory review must take place within a 16 month period beginning on 1 October 2018 and concluding by 31 January 2020.
- 3.2 In the autumn of 2017, an interim review of the city's parliamentary polling districts and polling places took place, which was conducted simultaneously with a review of the equivalent local government polling arrangements. This

review was necessary in order to take into account the city's 32 new ward boundaries, following the conclusion of the Local Government Boundary Commission for England's (LGBCE) Electoral Review of Manchester. For reasons of clarity and transparency the interim review followed the same approach and steps as a compulsory review. The new scheme was agreed by the Council on 24 January 2018 and came into effect when the register was re-published on 1 February 2018, in preparation for May's local elections.

- 3.3 It was originally intended for the Council to conduct its next compulsory review of parliamentary and local polling districts and polling places in the autumn of 2018. However, after taking into considerations points set out in 3.3.1 to 3.3.3 below, it is proposed to the Committee that the compulsory review begins in July 2019, with consultation taking place during the summer/autumn of 2019. Proposals agreed would then come into effect on 1 December 2019, when the electoral register is published.
- 3.3.1 The scheme which operated at the local elections in May 2018, and took into account the city's new ward boundaries, worked well overall and feedback has been positive. Conducting the compulsory review after the local elections in May 2019, will allow further learning from the delivery of these elections to be taken into consideration. Officers are maintaining a record of any feedback from Councillors which relates to the review of polling districts, for consideration at this time.
- 3.3.2 The LGBCE's Electoral Review of the city recognised that there will be a significant growth in the electorate between 2018 and 2022, with the new wards boundaries developed on this basis. Over the next year, a significant number of new residential developments within the city centre and its fringes will become occupied. The configuration of polling districts and polling places within the relevant wards needs to be reviewed in order to take into account the volume and distribution of new electors. This will be done using the Council's wider knowledge and intelligence relating to demographics, residential planning and development.
- 3.3.3 The Boundary Commissions' recommendations for parliamentary constituencies in England, Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland were laid in Parliament in early September 2018. However, at the moment there is no clear timetable for when the required legislation will be prepared or voted on by both Houses of Parliament. If approved, the new boundaries would come into place at the next General Election, currently scheduled for May 2022. The current scheme has been designed to deliver both parliamentary elections on the current constituency boundaries (which are based on pre May 2018 wards), local elections on the new wards and any combined polls. However, it is hoped that by the time the compulsory review is undertaken in the summer/autumn of 2019, there will be clarity on the future of the Boundary Commissions' recommendations.

4.0 Proposed changes to the current scheme

- 4.1 Undertaking the compulsory review beginning in July 2019, will allow detailed consideration of the issues identified and raised during the consultation period to be examined and best understood, as well as the issues outlined in the previous section. However, ahead of this review, a small number of changes to the scheme are required as part of preparations for 2 May 2019 local elections.
- 4.2 Officers have undertaken visits to the possible polling places in the polling districts where changes to the current scheme are required, to assess their suitability and to evaluate any alternatives which may exist.
- 4.3 When assessing the suitability of polling places an assessment of the following issues have been taken into account:
 - the proximity of the polling place to populated areas
 - accessibility
 - signage
 - management and configuration of the polling station
 - capacity of polling places to accommodate more than one polling station if necessary
 - the number of electors within the district
 - recent development and population changes
- 4.4 The Committee is asked to consider the following proposals for the two new polling place designations as set out in sections 5 and 6 below.

5. BLACKLEY AND BROUGHTON CONSTITUENCY

- 5.1 Changes are proposed for one polling place within the Blackley and Broughton Constituency, in the Charlestown ward.
- 5.1.1 Charlestown ward – polling district 1CNG

For the 2 May 2019 local elections and future polls it is proposed that the polling place for 1CNG is St Mary's Church on Nuthurst Road. The church is well known to the local community and the building has good disabled access. The space within the church is of a suitable size and is easily accessible to all electors. It also has the advantage of being located next door to St. Matthew's RC High School, which is currently designated as the polling place for this polling district. In recent years, the polling place in this polling district has been located in three different premises (two within the St. Matthew's RC High School, and also on a temporary basis in St. Mary's C of E Primary School, which is located in the neighbouring Moston ward), with varying levels of space and accessibility. It is proposed that moving the polling place to St. Mary's Church will bring stability and a long term solution as the polling place for this polling district, which will be of benefit to electors.

This change of polling place will be communicated to electors through their poll card and additional signage will be placed at the entrance to St. Matthew's RC High School on polling day to signpost electors to the new polling place.

6. MANCHESTER CENTRAL CONSTITUENCY

- 6.1 Changes are proposed for one polling place within the Manchester Central Constituency in the Clayton & Openshaw ward.

6.1.1 Clayton & Openshaw ward – polling district 2COE

It is proposed that the polling place for 2COE becomes St. Clement's Church Hall, which is situated next to St. Clement's Church on Ashton Old Road. Both the Church and Hall are both well-known and used by the local community. The hall has its own dedicated entrance, which will be made accessible to all electors, and is a suitable size for use as a polling place.

This change in designation is required because the New Roundhouse, which is the current polling place is no longer available, due to the redevelopment of part of the premises.

This change of polling place will also be communicated to electors through their poll card and additional signage will be placed at the New Roundhouse on polling day to sign post electors to the new polling place.

7. MANCHESTER GORTON, MANCHESTER WITHINGTON AND WYTHENSHAW AND SALE EAST CONSTITUENCIES

- 7.1 No changes are proposed for any polling places in the Manchester Gorton, Manchester Withington and Wythenshawe and Sale East Constituencies.

8. Recommendations

- 8.1 Recommendations to the Committee appear at the front of this report.

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