

To Catherine McGuinness
Chairman of the Policy and Resources Committee
Members Room
PO Box 270
London EC2P 2EJ

cc John Barradell
Town Clerk and Chief Executive
City of London Corporation
PO Box 270
London EC2P 2EJ

Dear Chairman

Nominations to the Livery Committee

As I expect you have heard, the Livery Committee has been giving some thought to its current remit from Common Hall; its objectives and the key tasks that it undertakes, together with the number of people and the skillsets required to enable it to deliver them.

We have not invented a new role for ourselves. Rather, we have sought better to articulate what that role is and, as a part of our key tasks, make reference to the new website, which is well underway with the support of the City Corporation and the livery companies.

In looking at the Committee itself, we considered that some reduction in our number should be possible and it is that for which we would like the agreement of the Policy and Resources Committee, together with that of the other nominating bodies, to whom I am also writing. I am copying this letter, and the one I am sending to the Chairman of the General Purposes Committee of Aldermen, to the Town Clerk for agenda planning purposes.

The composition of the Livery Committee is currently :-

- two liverymen who are Aldermen, nominated by the Court of Aldermen
- **six liverymen who are Common Councilmen, nominated by the Court of Common Council**
- six liverymen who are not Aldermen, Common Councilmen or Clerks, nominated by the livery companies; one through the Clerks of the Great Twelve, one through the Clerks Association and four through the Fellowship of Clerks
- six livery company Clerks, nominated by the three Clerks associations; two by each association or as mutually agreed between them

together with up to four co-optees.

We are proposing that it become:-

- two liverymen who are Aldermen, nominated by the Court of Aldermen
- **four liverymen who are Common Councilmen, nominated by the Court of Common Council**

- four liverymen who are not Aldermen, Common Councilmen or Clerks, nominated by the livery companies; one through the Clerks of the Great Twelve, one through the Clerks Association and two through the Fellowship of Clerks
- five livery company Clerks, nominated by the three Clerks associations; one through the Clerks of the Great Twelve, one through the Clerks Association and three through the Fellowship of Clerks or as mutually agreed between them

together with up to four co-optees, who should be liverymen.

It is not, we think, a radical change. It sees a reduction from 20 to 15, at least two thirds of whom will be liverymen but still working with a strong core of Clerks. We are keen to keep the number of Common Councilmen and Liverymen (who are not Common Councilmen) reasonably high as we also want to ensure that there is a good pool of candidates from whom a Chairman and Deputy Chairman can be chosen. It has been, and is likely to remain, customary for one of those posts to be occupied by a Common Councilman and one by a Liveryman who is not also a Common Councilman.

Currently, each of the nominating bodies submits their nominations to Common Hall, which then makes appointments to the Committee for a term of three years; those appointed can serve for a maximum of two terms. We are not proposing a change to those arrangements.

As to the skill sets, we have called them 'Roles and Responsibilities' and they are really a one page summary, in plain English, of what used to cover two pages and be headed 'Job Description and Person Specification'.

It is our intention that our objectives together with the key tasks, the revised constitution and the roles and responsibilities to help us to deliver them be put to Common Hall in June of next year and, if agreed, be included on the new website so that Liverymen and Clerks can become more familiar with how we are trying to assist the livery movement and how they may also be able to help. For completeness, the papers I referred to are appended to this letter.

The Committee would be grateful if you could

- (a) seek the approval of the Policy and Resources Committee to the revised constitution subject, of course, to the other nominating bodies agreeing the changes also and, once that agreement has been received,
- (b) obtain such approval as may be necessary from the Court of Common Council to the reduction such that nominations made by that body to Common Hall in June next year are for the reduced number of four Common Councilmen, not six, and that, when notifying Members, their attention be drawn to the roles and responsibilities that the Committee will need them to fulfil.

If you, or your colleagues, or any potential candidates have any questions or require further information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

With very best wishes

Vicky

Vicky Russell

Chairman of the Livery Committee