

Committee: Policy and Resources	Date: 10 October 2013
Subject: Protocol for the Nomination of Members for appointment to Ward Committees	Public
Report of: Town Clerk	For Decision

Summary

1. At the last meeting of the Committee, Members considered a report on the arrangements for nominating Members to ward committees for approval by the Court. It followed the undertaking given to the Court of Common Council that this Committee would consider how nominations to ward committees are made as well as look at the Standing Orders which govern the activity.
2. Whilst it was accepted that the Standing Orders currently in place were satisfactory, the Committee felt that the process would benefit from further clarity. It was, therefore, agreed that a protocol clarifying the nomination process and the role played by Ward Deputies should be prepared for the Committee to consider.
3. A draft protocol is attached to this report and your views are now sought on its content.

Filling vacancies of Ward Committees

4. Reference was also made at the previous meeting to the potential for disparity between Members over the number of ward committees on which they are capable of serving and whether any further action should be taken to ensure that all Members are able to serve on at least two ward committees. It was noted that out of the 100 Common Councilmen, currently only five Members serve on less than two ward committees.
5. Standing Order No. 23(6) provides that if a Ward chooses not to nominate a Member(s) to serve on a ward committee, the Town Clerk shall notify the vacancy to all Members and seek nominations prior to the appointment being made by the Court.
6. If Members agree that some form of arrangement should be adopted so that Members are better placed to serve on at least two ward committees, one

option would be an adjustment to Standing Orders. This would involve any Member who currently serves on only one ward committee, having the option of their name going forward to the Court in nomination to fill a vacancy on a ward committee before it is advertised; in other words the Member would have first-call on filling a vacant place before the vacancy is advertised to fill the Court.

Recommendation

7. Consideration be given to the draft protocol and whether any further action should be taken in respect of the potential for disparity between Members on the number of ward committees on which they serve.

Contact:

Simon Murrells

020 7332 1418

Simon.murrells@cityoflondon.gov.uk