

## **Representation on International Bodies**

### **Purpose**

For discussion and direction.

### **Summary**

This report informs members of the impact of the 3 May 2012 local elections on UK delegations to international bodies.

### **Recommendations**

Members are asked to note the report and approve the actions proposed:

1. consider how to fill the one Congress vacancy for the period up to October 2012 (**paragraphs 5&6**);
2. LGA Conservative and Liberal Democrat Groups to nominate new Committee of the Regions (CoR) members as set out in the report (paragraph 9);
3. LGA Liberal Democrat Group to nominate a new substitute member to the Council of European Municipalities and Regions (CEMR) Policy Committee, replacing Keith Whitmore (**paragraph 11**); and
4. the Secretary of Delegation to launch the renewal of UK Delegation to Congress for 2012-16 by requesting nominations from LGA political groups and other UK bodies (**paragraph 14**).

### **Action**

Officers to action as directed by Members.

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## **UK representation on International Bodies**

1. The LGA nominates English members to several international bodies and provides the secretariats for the UK delegations. This report deals with the delegations to the Committee of the Regions (CoR), Congress and the Council of European Municipalities and Regions (CEMR).

### **IMPLICATIONS OF LOCAL ELECTIONS**

2. A small number of changes are necessitated by the recent local elections as set out below. It is proposed that, as in the past, a selection process be undertaken by the LGA political groups, according to the statutory requirements of the various institutions. The English section of CoR and CEMR Delegations maintains a fixed political template throughout the mandate, whereas on Congress, it is obliged to adapt to political changes.
3. Details of the full delegations to CoR, Congress and CEMR, and mandate dates are attached at **Annex A**.

#### **Congress**

4. With the exception of Keith Whitmore, who chose not to contest his seat, no members lost their Congress mandate at this election. The following members were successfully re-elected:
  - 4.1 Full members: McCabe (CoSLA), Mediratta (LGA), Boff (GLA).
  - 4.2 Alternate members: Hughes (WLGA), McCartney (GLA), Oswald (CoSLA).
5. Action required: we need to launch a procedure to replace Keith Whitmore. We await the revised political balance for England to be published to determine which LGA political group has the right to replace Keith Whitmore. As outgoing Congress members can retain their place for up to six months after loss of mandate and a new full delegate needs to be in place by October 2012, members are asked for a steer on how to make the appointment.
6. It is therefore recommended that this procedure be merged with the wider renewal of the Congress Delegation.

### **Committee of the Regions**

7. All 10 members who stood for election were successful:
  - 7.1 Full members: Bore, Keymer, Swannick (all LGA), Bright (WLGA), Evans (GLA), McChord (CoSLA).
  - 7.2 Alternate members: Huddart (LGA), Arnold (GLA), Garvie (CoSLA), Holley (WLGA).
8. Three LGA-nominated members chose not to stand: Amanda Byrne (Conservative, Yorkshire), Flo Clucas (Liberal Democrat, North-West), Peter Moore (Liberal Democrat, Yorkshire). In addition, two CoSLA-nominated members did not stand: Roger Knox (SNP) and Sandy Park (Independent). These five new vacancies are in addition to the following vacancies with appointments still pending: Ferguson, Hume, McGrigor (all Scottish Parliament); Cummings (NILGA); Watson (LGA).
9. Action required: LGA Conservative and Liberal Democrat Groups to nominate to replace these members: Conservative 1 full place; Liberal Democrats 1 full place, 1 alternate place.

### **Council of European Municipalities and Regions (CEMR - European LGA)**

10. With the exception of Keith Whitmore who chose not to contest his seat, no CEMR members lost their mandate at this election. The following were re-elected:
  - 10.1 Full members: Keymer (LGA), Holley (WLGA), Oswald (CoSLA).
  - 10.2 Alternate members: Galbraith, Murray (CoSLA).
11. Action required: LGA Liberal Democrat Group to nominate a replacement for Keith Whitmore to act as permanent alternate to Councillor Dorothy Thornhill.

### **RENEWAL OF CONGRESS MANDATE 2012-16**

12. The current Congress term expires in October 2012 and therefore a renewal procedure must be launched promptly. The LGA nominates 13 full and 13 alternate places, which together with the two GLA nominations constitutes the English section. This must be balanced politically, geographically and by type of authority, gender, and ethnic balance. These criteria are a requirement of Congress (except ethnic balance) and must be adhered to strictly.
13. As above, it is proposed that a selection process be undertaken by the LGA political groups, according to a template established by the Secretary to the Delegation, who will also advise on the statutory requirements of the Congress

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and any Department of Communities and Local Government (CLG) Ministerial Guidance (currently awaited).

14. A timetable which enables LGA sign-off by mid-September is essential, as the deadline for receipt by Congress is approximately 1 October 2012.

15. The Secretary of the Delegation will write to the other UK nominating bodies requesting their nominations by early September.

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**ANNEX A: UK DELEGATION TO COR (situation post 3 May 2012)**

**DURATION OF MANDATE: 5 years (to January, 2015)**

UK Delegation Leader: Cllr Gordon Keymer  
 Group Leader (Labour): Cllr Dave Wilcox  
 Group Leader (Liberal Democrat): Cllr Lord Graham Tope  
 Group Leader (Independent): Cllr Linda Gillham

**Full members**

Cllr Doris Ansari (Liberal Democrat, Cornwall)	Stewart Maxwell MSP (SNP, Scottish Parliament)
Cllr Sir Albert Bore (Labour, Birmingham)	Francie Molloy MLA (Sinn Fein, NI Assembly)
Cllr Bob Bright (Labour, Newport)	Cllr David Parsons (Conservative, Leicestershire)
Christine Chapman AM (Labour, Welsh Assembly)	Cllr Judith Pearce (Conservative, Wychavon)
Cllr Sir Simon Day (Conservative, Devon)	Cllr David Simmonds (Conservative, Hillingdon)
Roger Evans AM (Conservative, GLA)	Cllr Neil Swannick (Labour, Manchester)
Cllr Linda Gillham (Independent, Runnymede)	Cllr Lord Tope (Liberal Democrat, LB Sutton)
Cllr Gordon Keymer (Conservative, Tandridge)	Cllr Kay Twitchen (Conservative, Essex)
Cllr Corrie McChord (Labour, Sterling)	Cllr Dave Wilcox (Labour, Derbyshire)
Cllr Iain Malcolm (Labour, South Tyneside)	

**THREE VACANCIES:** 2 LGA (1 Conservative, 1 Liberal Democrat); 1 CoSLA

Appointments pending:

*Cllr Trevor Cummings (DUP, Ards Borough Council)*  
*Patricia Ferguson MSP (Labour, Scottish Parliament)*

**Alternate members**

Jennette Arnold AM (Labour, GLA)	Cllr Doreen Huddart (Lib Dem, Newcastle)
Cllr Paula Baker (Liberal Democrat, Basingstoke)	Cllr Herbert Manley (Con, Cheshire W & Chester)
Cllr Sandra Barnes (Conservative, S. Northants)	Cllr Alan Melton (Conservative, Fenland)
Cllr Nilgun Canver (Labour, LB Haringey)	Cllr Kathy Pollard (Liberal Democrat, Suffolk)
John Dallett MLA (SDLP, NI Assembly)	Cllr Mary Robinson (Independent, Eden)
Cllr Graham Garvie (Liberal Democrats, Borders)	Cllr David Shakespeare (Con, Buckinghamshire)
Rhodri Glyn Thomas AM (PC, Welsh Assembly)	Cllr Roger Stone (Labour, Rotherham)
Cllr Arnold Hatch (UUP, Craigavon)	Cllr Ann Stribley (Conservative, Poole)
Cllr Martin Heatley (Conservative, Warwickshire)	Cllr Sharon Taylor (Labour, Stevenage)
Cllr Chris Holley (Liberal Democrat, Swansea)	Cllr Peter Thompson (Conservative, Hounslow)

**TWO VACANCIES:** 1 LGA (Liberal Democrat); 1 CoSLA

Appointments pending:

*Jim Hume MSP (Liberal Democrat, Scottish Parliament)*  
*Jamie McGrigor MSP (Conservative, Scottish Parliament)*

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**ANNEX B: UK DELEGATION TO CONGRESS (situation post 3 May 2012)**

**DURATION OF MANDATE: 2 years (to October 2012), then 4 years (to October 2016)**

UK Delegation Leader: Cllr Sandra Barnes

Group Leader (Labour): Cllr John Warmisham

Group Leader (Liberal Democrat & Independent): Keith Whitmore

<b>Full members</b>	
<b>LOCAL</b>	<b>REGIONAL</b>
Cllr Sandra Barnes (Conservative, S. Northants) Cllr Bert Biscoe (Independent, Cornwall) Cllr Alison Cook (Conservative, Sevenoaks) Cllr Cyndi Hughes (Labour, Darlington) Cllr Simon James (Liberal Democrat, Kingston) Cllr Jim McCabe (Labour, North Lanarkshire) Cllr Amrit Mediratta (Conservative, Three Rivers) Cllr John Warmisham (Labour, Salford) Keith Whitmore*	Andrew Boff AM (Conservative, GLA) Cllr Eunice Campbell-Clark (Labour, Nottingham) Stewart Dickson MLA (Alliance, NI Assembly) Cllr Andrew Gravells (Conservative, Gloucs) Cllr Martin Heatley (Conservative, Warwickshire) Bill Kidd MSP (SNP, Scottish Parliament) Cllr David Shakespeare (Con, Buckinghamshire) Cllr Tracey Simpson-Laing (Labour, York) Joyce Watson AM (Labour, Welsh Assembly)

*\*Keith Whitmore, ex Manchester City Council (did not stand, 3 May 2012)*

<b>Alternate members</b>	
<b>LOCAL</b>	<b>REGIONAL</b>
Cllr Anood Al-Samerai (Lib Dem, LBSouthwark) Cllr Sherma Batson (Labour, Stevenage) Cllr Fleur Butler (Conservative, Richmondshire) Cllr Jim Dillon (UUP, Lisburn) Cllr Philip Grove (Conservative, Malvern Hills) Cllr Ronnie Hughes (Labour, Conwy) Cllr Nigel Mermagen (Lib Dem, South Somerset) Cllr Helen Oswald (SNP, Angus) Cllr Chris Robbins (Labour, Wlatham Forest)	Cllr Richard Dodd (Con, Northumberland) Cllr Lynne Hack (Conservative, Surrey) Cllr Mick Henry (Labour, Gateshead) Cllr Syeda Khatun (Labour, Sandwell) Cllr Alex King (Conservative, Kent) Joanne McCartney (Labour, GLA) Cllr Herbert Manley (Con, Cheshire W & Chester) Helen Eadie MSP (Labour, Scottish Parliament) Cllr Liz Oades (Independent, Lancashire)

**ANNEX C: UK DELEGATION TO CEMR (situation post 3 May 2012)**

**DURATION OF MANDATE: 3 years (to December 2013)**

UK Delegation Leader: Cllr Gordon Keymer

<b>CEMR POLICY COMMITTEE</b>	
<b>Full member</b>	<b>Substitute (<i>ad personam</i>)</b>
Cllr Gordon Keymer (Conservative, Tandridge)	Cllr David Shakespeare (Con, Buckinghamshire)
Cllr Sandra Barnes (Conservative, S. Northants)	Cllr Linda Gillham (Independent, Runnymede)
Cllr Dave Wilcox (Labour, Derbyshire)	Cllr Sharon Taylor (Labour, Stevenage)
Cllr Dorothy Thornhill (Liberal Democrat, Watford)	VACANCY
Cllr Chris Holley (Liberal Democrat, Swansea)	Cllr Ann Galbraith (Conservative, S Ayreshire)
Cllr Helen Oswald (SNP, Angus Council)	Cllr Rob Murray (SNP, Angus)
Cllr John Matthews (Alliance, Larne)	Cllr Evelyne Robinson (DUP, Ballymoney)

**ONE VACANCY (*ad personam* alternate to Cllr Thornhill):** 1 LGA (Liberal Democrat)