

Minutes

Annual Meeting of the General Assembly

6 July 2004

Bournemouth International Centre at 3.00pm

Present

Three hundred and thirteen authorities in full membership and thirty five authorities in corporate membership were represented at the meeting.

1. Appointment of President and Vice-Presidents

The Chief Executive, Sir Brian Briscoe, welcomed representatives to the meeting and invited nominations for the position of President of the Association.

It was moved by Cllr Sir Sandy Bruce – Lockhart CBE (Kent County Council), seconded by Cllr Sir Jeremy Beecham (Newcastle upon Tyne City Council), and **agreed** that Lord Ouseley be re-elected President of the Association until the next Annual Meeting.

Lord Ouseley thanked the Association for his re-election, and then invited the Assembly to consider the appointment of Vice-Presidents for the coming year. The Assembly **agreed** to the appointment of the following persons as Vice-Presidents of the LGA:

MPs

Labour

Adrian Bailey MP
Karen Buck MP
The Rt Hon Stephen Byers MP
The Rt Hon Dr Jack Cunningham DL MP
Valerie Davey MP
Parmjit Dhanda MP
Louise Ellman MP
The Rt Hon Alan Howarth CBE MP
Joan Humble MP
Judy Mallaber MP
Chris Mole MP
Brian White MP

Conservatives

Christopher Chope OBE MP
The Rt Hon David Curry MP
Andrew Lansley CBE MP

Eric Pickles MP
Caroline Spelman MP

Liberal Democrat

Paul Holmes MP
David Rendel MP
Andrew Stunell OBE MP

Peers

Labour

The Baroness Gould of Potternewton
The Lord King of West Bromwich
The Lord Smith of Leigh

Conservative

The Rt Hon The Baroness Blatch CBE
The Baroness Hanham CBE
The Lord Hanningfield DL
The Rt Hon The Lord Jenkin of Roding

Liberal Democrat

The Baroness Hamwee
The Baroness Harris of Richmond DL
The Lord Tope CBE

Cross Benchers

The Lord Butler of Brockwell GCB CVO
The Lord Dearing
The Baroness Greengross OBE
The Lord Laming CBE DL
The Baroness Prashar CBE

MEPs

Labour

Richard Howitt MEP

Conservative

Edward McMillan-Scott MEP

Liberal Democrat

The Baroness Ludford MEP
Graham Watson MEP

2. LGA Summer Review 2004

In introducing this item, the Chair (Cllr Sir Jeremy Beecham) thanked the President, Lord Ouseley, and all the Vice-Presidents for their assistance during the previous year. He also paid tribute to the work of Cllr Sir Harry Jones who was standing down both as a Vice Chair of the LGA and as a councillor.

The Assembly **endorsed** the summer review.

3. Election of Chairman

The President invited nominations for the position of Chairman of the Association. It was moved, seconded and **agreed** that Cllr Sir Sandy Bruce – Lockhart CBE (Kent County Council) be elected Chairman of the LGA until the next Annual Meeting.

The Chairman paid tribute to the work of Cllr Sir Jeremy Beecham during his term of office since the establishment of the LGA. He also congratulated those whose services to local government had been recognised in the recent Birthday Honours List.

4. Election of Vice-Chairs

The President invited nominations for the two positions of Vice-Chair. The following nominations were moved and duly seconded:

Cllr Peter Chalke CBE (Wiltshire CC)

Cllr Sir Jeremy Beecham (Newcastle upon Tyne City Council)

Cllr Peter Chalke CBE and Cllr Sir Jeremy Beecham were **elected** as Vice-Chairs of the Association until the next Annual Meeting.

5. Election of Deputy Chairs

The following were **elected** as Deputy Chairs until the next Annual Meeting:

- Cllr Chris Clarke OBE (Somerset County Council)
- Cllr Margaret Eaton (Bradford City Council)
- Cllr Chloe Lambert (Aylesbury Vale DC)
- Cllr Ian Swithenbank CBE (Northumberland County Council)

6. Minutes of the General Assembly Meeting held on 16 December 2003

The minutes were **agreed** as a correct record of the meeting.

7. Member Arrangements for the LGA

Cllr Peter Chalke CBE presented a report setting out proposals for a revised member structure for the Association; together with consequential amendments to the Association's constitution, standing orders and political conventions.

Cllr Toby Eckersley (Southwark LBC) proposed, duly seconded, that the LGA Executive be authorised to agree the consequential amendments to the constitution.

The Assembly **agreed**:

- (a) the revised member structure; and
- (b) that the LGA Executive be authorised to agree consequential amendments to the constitution.

8. Relations with Wales

The Assembly **noted** a report updating the meeting on discussions which had been taking place with the WLGA on a new relationship between local authorities in Wales and the LGA, and **agreed** that a further report be made to the meeting of the General Assembly on 15 December 2004.

9. Report of LGA Scrutiny Panel

The Chair of the Scrutiny Panel, Cllr Chris Townsend, reported that since the last meeting of the General Assembly, the Panel had completed scrutinies on:

- A revisit of its scrutiny into the political group offices; and
- The LGA Annual Conference

The reports of these scrutinies were **endorsed** by the Assembly, and the report was **received**.

10. Audited Accounts (Financial Statements) for the Year ended 31 March 2004

The General Assembly **received** the audited accounts for 2003/04

11. Dates of Future Meetings

The dates for future meetings were noted as follows:

Wednesday 15 December 2004 (at the Queen Elizabeth II Conference Centre in London)

Tuesday 5 July 2005 (at the Harrogate International Centre)