

## Minutes

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### Annual Meeting of the General Assembly

1 July 2008

Bournemouth International Centre

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#### Present

335 authorities in full membership and 22 authorities in corporate membership were represented at the meeting.

#### 1. Appointment of President and Vice-Presidents

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

It was moved by Cllr Sir Jeremy Beecham (Newcastle upon Tyne City Council), seconded by Councillor Margaret Eaton OBE (Bradford MBC) and **agreed** that Lord Best be elected President of the Association until the next Annual Meeting.

After a short address, Lord Best 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 for 2008/9:

#### **MP Vice-Presidents**

##### **Conservatives**

Christopher Chope OBE MP  
The Rt Hon David Curry MP  
Andrew Lansley CBE MP  
Eric Pickles MP  
Caroline Spelman MP  
Alistair Burt MP

##### **Labour**

Clive Betts MP  
Mary Creagh MP  
Rt Hon Nick Raynsford MP  
Barry Sheerman MP  
Rt Hon Alun Michael MP

##### **Liberal Democrat**

Julia Goldsworthy MP

Paul Rowen MP  
Andrew Stunell OBE MP

### **Peer Vice-Presidents**

#### **Conservative**

Baroness Hanham CBE  
Lord Hanningfield DL  
The Rt Hon The Lord Jenkin of Roding  
Lord Bruce-Lockhart of the Weald

#### **Labour**

Lord Toby Harris  
Baroness Pat Hollis  
Lord Peter Smith  
Lord Larry Whitty

#### **Liberal Democrat**

Baroness Barker  
Lord Dholakia  
Baroness Maddock  
Lord Roger Roberts  
Baroness Ros Scott

#### **Cross Benchers**

Lord Laming  
Lord Ouseley  
Baroness Howarth of Breckland  
Baroness Prashar  
Baroness Greengross

### **MEP Vice-Presidents**

#### **Labour**

Richard Howitt MEP

#### **Conservative**

Edward McMillan-Scott MEP

#### **Liberal Democrat**

Fiona Hall MEP  
Andrew Duff MEP

#### **Welsh Assembly Member (Liberal Democrat)**

Jenny Randerson AM

## **2. Election of Chairman, Vice-Chairmen and Deputy Chairmen**

### **Chairman**

The President invited nominations for the position of Chairman of the Association for 2008/2009. It was moved, seconded and **agreed** that Councillor Sir Simon Milton (Westminster City Council) be elected Chairman of the LGA until the next Annual Meeting.

### **Vice-Chairmen**

The Chairman invited nominations for the two positions of Vice-Chairmen of the Association for 2008/2009. The following nominations were moved and duly seconded:

Cllr Sir Jeremy Beecham (Newcastle upon Tyne City Council)  
Cllr David Shakespeare OBE (Buckinghamshire CC)

Cllr Sir Jeremy Beecham and Cllr David Shakespeare OBE were **elected** as Vice-Chairmen of the Association until the next Annual Meeting.

### **Deputy Chairmen**

The following were **elected** as Deputy Chairmen until the next Annual Meeting.

- Cllr Richard Kemp (Liverpool City Council)
- Cllr David Parsons (Leicestershire County Council)
- Cllr Keith Ross (West Somerset DC)
- Cllr Ian Swithenbank CBE (Northumberland County Council)

## **3. Minutes of the General Assembly Meeting held on 12 December 2007**

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

## **4. Meetings of the General Assembly**

The Annual Meeting considered proposed amendments to Article 4 of the Association's constitution to remove the requirement to hold a meeting of the General Assembly in December each year; and consequential amendments to Article 22 enabling the LGA Executive to approve a statement of estimated expenditure prior to the first day of January in each year and to agree subscriptions of member authorities. On being put to a vote by show of hands, the proposed amendments to the constitution were **agreed**, there being no votes against the proposal.

## **5. Audited Accounts (Financial Statements) for the year ended 31 March 2008**

The Chief Executive presented the audited accounts for 2007/2008 to the Annual Meeting.

The Annual Meeting **agreed** to receive the accounts.

## **6. LGA Annual Report 2008**

The Chairman addressed the meeting, highlighting the work of the LGA over the past year – setting out its achievements, particularly in taking forward the recommendations of Lord Best's commission and looking towards the challenges ahead.

Each of the LGA's Group leaders then responded to Sir Simon's address.

There then followed a general discussion with delegates on a range of topics, around the themes of localism, democratic accountability and mayors.

## **7. Dates of Future Meetings**

The Annual Meeting in 2009 would be held on Tuesday, 30 June 2009 at the Harrogate Conference Centre.

**SIGNED:**

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**Councillor Margaret Eaton OBE  
Chairman  
Local Government Association**

**DATE:**

**30 June 2009**

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