

Item 6

LGA Vice-Presidents 2013-14

Purpose of report

For discussion and endorsement.

Summary

This paper details those Members of the House of Commons, House of Lords, and European Parliament that the Political Groups, in discussion and agreement with the Public Affairs and Campaigns team, have invited to be Vice-Presidents for 2013-14, and who they would like to be formally appointed at the forthcoming annual General Assembly.

Recommendation

That Leadership Board approve the nominations made by the Political Groups.

Action

Agree nominations to be formally appointed at the LGA General Assembly.

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LGA Vice-Presidents 2012-2013

Background

1. Every year the LGA nominates Vice-Presidents to act as our champions in Parliament and Europe. Under the Constitution, Vice Presidents are currently chosen by the four LGA political groups and are formally confirmed at the Annual LGA General Assembly.
2. The Public Affairs and Campaigns team seeks to work closely with this group of MPs and Peers. This includes using Vice-Presidents as a first port of call for Parliamentary Questions, amendments to legislation, debate interventions and speeches, Early Day Motions and any other methods designed to increase the profile of the LGA, help protect and enhance the reputation of councils, and to pursue our campaigning objectives in and around Parliament. Vice-Presidents usually have a strong background in local government and are committed to supporting LGA priorities in Westminster.
3. We offer Vice-Presidents bespoke briefing notes and oral briefings as required, use of LGA facilities, free attendance at LGA conferences and speaking opportunities at LGA events.
4. Engagement with Vice-Presidents largely focuses around our corporate campaigns (actively seeking their support and involvement), and those pieces of legislation deemed a priority for LGA members by the Leadership Board at the start of each parliamentary session.
5. LGA Vice-Presidents receive the following benefits and support from the LGA:
 - Tailored briefings to support LGA activity in Parliament and corporate campaigns.
 - The ability to contact the LGA for ad hoc briefings to support their own activity, or advice from LGA policy experts.
 - Complimentary use of LGA facilities, including meeting rooms.
 - Free attendance for them and their staff at LGA conferences and events.
 - Opportunities to speak at LGA conferences and events.
 - Opportunities to write for LGA publications.
 - Complimentary subscription to hard copy of First magazine.
 - Weekly LGA electronic Core Briefing (on a Friday).
 - Weekly (when Parliament is sitting) LGA Parliamentary e-bulletin.
 - Opportunity to subscribe to the Daily LGA News Headlines e-bulletin if they wish to.
 - Invitations to LGA events in parliament and an annual LGA Vice-Presidents event.
6. This year, the Public Affairs and Campaigns team has worked with the Political Group offices to formalise the number of Vice-Presidents to eleven per group, to ensure parity across the Groups.

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Proposed Vice-Presidents for 2013-14

7. Please note, we have yet to confirm whether the new nominations for 2013/14 (indicated in bold below) would be willing to take up the role of Vice-President, should their nomination be agree by Leadership Board.

Conservative

- a. Gavin Barwell MP (Croydon Central)
- b. Mike Freer MP (Finchley and Golders Green)
- c. Stewart Jackson MP (Peterborough)
- d. Henry Smith MP (Crawley)
- e. Charles Walker MP (Broxbourne)
- f. Heather Wheeler MP (South Derbyshire)
- g. Margot James MP (Stourbridge)**
- h. Baroness Eaton
- i. Lord Jenkin Of Roding
- j. Philip Bradbourn MEP
- k. Julie Girling MEP

Labour

- a. Heidi Alexander MP (Lewisham East)
- b. Clive Betts MP (Sheffield South East)
- c. Louise Ellman MP (Liverpool Riverside)
- d. Ian Mearns MP (Gateshead)
- e. Andy Sawford MP (Corby)**
- f. Steve Reed MP (Croydon North)**
- g. Lord Beecham
- h. Baroness Smith of Basildon
- i. Lord Smith of Leigh
- j. Richard Howitt MEP
- k. Derek Vaughan MEP

Liberal Democrats

- a. Gordon Birtwistle MP (Burnley)
- b. Annette Brooke MP (Mid Dorset and Poole North)
- c. Julian Huppert MP (Cambridge)
- d. David Ward MP (Bradford East)
- e. Baroness Barker
- f. Lord Greaves
- g. Baroness Maddock
- h. Lord Shipley
- i. Lord Tope**
- j. Edward McMillan Scott MEP
- k. Catherine Bearder MEP

Independents

- a. Lord Alton
- b. Lord Bichard

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- c. Baroness Greengross
- d. Baroness Howarth
- e. Lord Ouseley
- f. Lord Walpole
- g. Keith Taylor MEP
- h. Lord Adebawale CBE
- i. Lord Laming
- j. **Baroness Lane-Fox of Soho CBE**
- k. **Earl of Lytton**

8. With increases in some Groups and reductions in others, the above nominations reflect the LGA's efforts to bring the number of Vice-Presidents per group to eleven each and ensure those we have remain relevant to our work and engaged with the LGA.

Code of Conduct

9. The LGA President and Vice Presidents are required to operate in accordance with the Code of Conduct for Members of the House of Lords, House of Commons, and European Parliament. This has been made clear in invitations to new Vice-Presidents, and will be referenced in letters to those Vice-Presidents whose role is being renewed for a further year. A separate paper on handling issues relating to the conduct of the President/Vice Presidents is included on this agenda.

Financial Implications

10. There are no financial implications to this paper.