

## **LGA Nominations to EU Committee of the Regions**

### **Purpose**

For decision.

### **Summary**

Based on proposals from LGA political groups, this report recommends the nominations of 15 full and 15 alternate members to the Committee of the Regions for the 2015-20 mandate.

### **Recommendation**

Members are recommended to approve the list of nominations in **Appendix B**.

### **Action**

Officers to submit the agreed list to the Department for Communities and Local Government.

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## **LGA Nominations to EU Committee of the Regions**

### **Background**

1. The Committee of Regions (CoR) is the local and regional assembly for the EU. It is consulted on all proposals for new EU legislation that will ultimately be delivered by local government, covering areas such as: regional and urban regeneration; transport; public services and procurement; employment and social policy; environmental policy including waste management; air quality targets and energy efficiency; civil protection; public health; licensing and trading standards; education and training; culture and heritage; migration; citizenship and fundamental rights. It has a five-year term from January 2015 to December 2019.
2. The CoR comprises 350 members in total, plus the same number of “alternates” (substitute members). The UK Delegation has 24 full members and 24 alternates; the LGA provides 15 out of 24 members in both categories. Separately, the Greater London Authority (GLA) has nominated one member (Roger Evans, Conservative) and one alternate (Jennette Arnold, Labour).

### **Nomination process**

3. English appointments to CoR are made by Central Government, based on an LGA proposal. Our proposal is required to meet a number of selection rules including:
  - 3.1. Political balance (based on the LGA template);
  - 3.2. Geographical spread (for reference the LGA proposal is measured against “old” regions in the appendix);
  - 3.3. Type of councils;
  - 3.4. Gender and ethnic balance;
  - 3.5. Taking account of age and experience of disability; and
  - 3.6. Ensuring a balance of new and returning members.
4. In July-August, the LGA political groups were invited to select members according to the following template and meeting the above criteria:
  - 4.1. Labour: 6 full members, 6 alternates.
  - 4.2. Conservatives: 6 full members, 6 alternates.
  - 4.3. Liberal Democrats: 2 full members, 1 alternate.
  - 4.4. Independents: 1 full member, 2 alternates.
5. The full list of members is attached at **Appendix B** to this report, together with a table showing how the Government’s selection guidelines have been met. In submitting its proposal, the LGA has been asked to ensure, insofar as is reasonably practicable, to satisfy themselves that their suggested English representation contains no-one whose circumstances or background could risk damaging the reputation of the UK delegation or public confidence in those representing the UK in a European institution.

6. Our proposal is subject to ministerial approval. Once the LGA Executive has agreed a final list, our proposal, together with the GLA nominations, will be submitted to the Decrement for Communities and Local Government (DCLG). After DCLG ministerial scrutiny, an agreed English list will be submitted to the Foreign Office for further scrutiny by end-September 2014.

### **Next steps**

7. New members will take their seats in January 2015 for a five year term. The LGA will convene a meeting of the new UK delegation in January to elect UK office holders. Significantly, one of the first policy statements that the new delegation will consider is the 2015 legislative programme of the European Commission which is expected to contain numerous proposals which will impact on councils (including a revision of regulations on waste, air pollution and environmental standards).
8. In order to coordinate work between the LGA leadership and the new COR delegation, the Chairman will convene six-monthly meetings with the leadership of this and other European delegations to ensure a clear link to the work of the Association. This was agreed by the Leadership Board in July.

### **Financial Implications**

9. All costs related to member participation are covered by the CoR itself.

### **Recommendation**

10. Members are asked to agree the list of nominations and instruct officers to submit these to DCLG.

**APPENDIX A: OVERVIEW OF LGA NOMINATIONS**  
**(TO BE UPDATED FOR LABOUR NOM: 1 ALT)**

	<b>FULL</b>	<b>ALT</b>	<b>TOT</b>
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<b>REGION</b>			
North East	2	1	3
North West	3	3	6
Yorkshire & Humberside	3	1	4
West Midlands	1	1	2
East Midlands	-	1	1
Eastern	1	2	3
South West	2	1	3
South East	2	2	4
London	1	3	4
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>30</b>

<b>GENDER BALANCE</b>			
Male	9	7	16
Female	6	7	13
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>29</b>
<b>Labour nom outstanding</b>		<b>+1</b>	<b>+1</b>

<b>ETHNIC BALANCE</b>			
B&ME	-	4	4
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>4</b>

<b>CONTINUITY/RENEWAL</b>			
New members	6	6	12
Returning	9	8	17
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>29</b>
<b>Labour nom outstanding</b>		<b>+1</b>	<b>+1</b>

**ANNEX B: FULL NOMINATIONS BY LGA POLITICAL GROUP**

<b>STATUS</b>	<b>NAME</b>	<b>AUTHORITY</b>	<b>REGION</b>	<b>M/F</b>	<b>NEW</b>
<b>LABOUR LIST (6 full, 6 alternates)</b>					
FULL	Stephen Alambritis	LB Merton	(London)	M	NEW
FULL	Sir Albert Bore	Birmingham	(WM)	M	returning
FULL	Judith Hughes	Kirklees	(Y&H)	F	NEW
FULL	Kevin Peel	Manchester	(NW)	M	NEW
FULL	Paul Watson	Sunderland	(NE)	M	returning
FULL	Emily Westley	Hastings	(SE)	F	NEW
ALT	Sanchia Alasia	LB Barking	(London)	F	NEW
ALT	Sherma Batson	Stevenage	(Eastern)	F	returning
ALT	Dr Zahid Chauhan	Oldham)	(NW)	M	NEW
ALT	Imran Hussain	Bradford	(Y&H)	M	returning
ALT	Bob Price	Oxford	(SE)	M	NEW
<b>ALT</b>	<b>VACANCY</b>				
<b>CONSERVATIVE LIST (6 full, 6 alternates)</b>					
FULL	Joe Cooney	Pendle	(NW)	M	NEW
FULL	Robert Gordon	Herts CC	(Eastern)	M	NEW
FULL	Gordon Keymer	Tandridge	(SE)	M	returning
FULL	Dee Sharpe	East Riding	(Y&H)	F	returning
FULL	Harvey Siggs	Mendip	(SW)	M	returning
FULL	Judith Wallace	North Tyneside	(NE)	F	NEW
ALT	Paul Findlow	Cheshire East	(NW)	M	NEW
ALT	Suzanne Grocott	LB Merton	(London)	F	NEW
ALT	Linda Robinson	Wychavon DC	(WM)	F	NEW
ALT	David Shakespeare	Wycombe DC	(SE)	M	returning
ALT	Kay Twitchen	Essex CC	(Eastern)	F	returning
ALT	Martin Veal	Bath & NE Somt	(SW)	M	NEW
<b>INDEPENDENT LIST (1 full, 2 alternates)</b>					
FULL	Andrew Cooper (Green Party)	Kirklees	(Y&H)	M	NEW
ALT	Gillian Ford (Independent)	LB Havering	(London)	F	returning
ALT	Geoff Knight (Independent)	Lancaster	(NW)	M	NEW
<b>LIBERAL DEMOCRAT LIST (2 full, 1 alternate)</b>					
FULL	Maggie Lishman	Burnley	(NW)	F	returning
FULL	Jill Shortland	Somerset	(SW)	F	returning
ALT	Doreen Huddart	Newcastle	(NE)	F	returning
<b>GLA NOMINATIONS (for info)</b>					
FULL	Roger Evans AM	GLA (Cons)	(London)	M	returning
ALT	Jennette Arnold AM	GLA (Lab)	(London)	F	returning