

# Subject: Reports of Assembly Members on the Work of Outside Bodies

**Report to: London Assembly (Plenary)**

**Report of: Executive Director of Secretariat**

**Date: 2 March 2016**

**This report will be considered in public**

## 1. Summary

- 1.1 This report sets out the update reports of the Members appointed to the relevant outside bodies on the work of those bodies since May 2015.

## 2. Recommendation

- 2.1 **The Assembly is asked to note the reports of the following Members appointed to the outside bodies indicated on the work of the bodies since May 2015:**

- **The Advisory Board of the Centre for Public Scrutiny - Jennette Arnold OBE AM;**
- **Heathrow Airport Consultative Committee – Dr Onkar Sahota AM; and**
- **London Sustainable Development Commission – Nicky Gavron AM.**

## 3. Background

- 3.1 The Assembly has previously nominated Members to represent the Assembly on various outside bodies, for the period up until the next GLA elections. At the Assembly (Plenary) meeting held on 13 July 2005, the Assembly agreed to request that those Assembly Members appointed to serve on outside bodies report to the Assembly on an annual basis in respect of their work.

## 4. Issues for Consideration

- 4.1 **The Advisory Board of the Centre for Public Scrutiny**  
Current Appointment: Jennette Arnold OBE AM

The Centre for Public Scrutiny continues to play a crucial role in promoting good governance, accountability and transparency in public office.

In the past 12 months, CfPS has gained a new chair (Lord Kerslake) and a new chief executive (Jacqui McKinlay). They have led the development of new branding and a new strategy for the

organisation which was signed off by the Board in October. The latter was considered in draft by the Advisory Board in the summer.

Recent advisory board discussions have focused on local accountability for schools in the context of changes to national education policy and the new models of social care. The Centre also continues to promote discussion of governance-related issues regarding the English devolution settlement, a matter which directly relates to the Assembly. The chair of the Assembly's Devolution Working Group, Darren Johnson AM, attended a CfPS roundtable discussion on the issue in November. The Centre is also undertaking work locally with an number of local areas to provide practical help to put in place arrangements for devolved decision-making and scrutiny that are accountable, transparent and that, crucially, involve local people.

CfPS's work becomes much more important in a context of widespread public cynicism about the performance and integrity of many institutions in both public and private sectors and we continue to work to restore public trust and confidence in the range of organisations on whom the public depend.

#### 4.2 **Heathrow Airport Consultative Committee (HACC)**

Current Appointment: Dr Onkar Sahota AM

##### New Arrangements

The HACC began to operate under new arrangements from January 2015, as a result of previous reviews. Prof Roderick Smith from Imperial College London was appointed Chair, in line with the aim to keep the HACC as independent as possible of Heathrow Airport Limited. A sub-committee of local authority representatives has now been set up.

##### Airports Commission

The Government received the Airports Commission's report in July 2015. The report recommended that a new runway should be built at Heathrow Airport, with measures put in place to mitigate negative environmental and community impacts. The HACC noted the report's recommendations and the challenge of meeting the mitigating measures should the recommendations be approved.

##### Operational Issues

The HACC, over the past year, have discussed many of the operational issues experienced by Heathrow Airport. For example, noise, night flights, and air quality. In response to the House of Commons Transport Committee's inquiry into surface transport at airports, the HACC explained that air quality is poor around Heathrow Airport due to a high volume of surface transport and the resulting congestion. The HACC suggested that this situation could be alleviated by increasing cost-competitive public transport serving the airport.

#### 4.3 **London Sustainable Development Commission**

Current Appointment: Nicky Gavron AM

The London Sustainable Development Commission is appointed by the Mayor to advise on making London an exemplary sustainable city. Membership comprises individual experts who give their time voluntarily. In addition, there is one representative of the London boroughs and one of the London Assembly. More information on the Commission, its membership and work programme can be found here: <http://www.londonsdc.org>. The LSDC is chaired by Rt Hon Lord Barker of Battle and its deputy chair is Paul Turner from Lloyds Bank.

The Commission operates through half-day sessions of the full Commission, an Executive and sub-groups focussing on its current work priorities: Cleantech and Innovation; Circular Economy; and Decentralised Energy. When Greg Barker was appointed by the Mayor in November 2014, Greg was invited to join senior figures from the public sector and some of the UK's biggest firms on his new Infrastructure Delivery Board, which will play a key role in helping, meet the challenges posed by population growth. London is already the leading centre for low carbon finance and has built a worldwide reputation for financial and technical expertise. The Mayor asked the Commission under its new leadership to pay particular attention to work to accelerate the growth of low carbon industries in the capital. The aim will be to help London earn an international reputation as a centre for excellence in the use and development of clean technologies, and to ensure the capital reaps the economic rewards that can result from that level of excellence.

Over the last year as the LSDC has developed its new work programme, **the Cleantech and Innovation** sub group lead by James Cameron with lead commissioners Richard Templer (Imperial College) and Dan Epstein amongst others have been working on developing a route map to creating a Cleantech cluster in London which is being launched on the 16<sup>th</sup> March. As part of making the Cluster real the LSDC has had the opportunity to put in place the first elements of the cluster through European Regional Development Funding bids. One application has focussed on the Incubator hub element of the cleantech cluster (currently at full application stage) and another has focussed on the accelerator part of the cluster (EOI stage). This is consistent with and will support the Mayor's announcement at COP21 on creating a cleantech cluster in London.

The **Circular Economy** Sub group is led by Paul Tuner and over the last year has launched a report looking at the potential for job creation in London based on three scenarios - the most desirable being a re-using, remanufacturing, repair and rental revolution, which the report finds could create up to 40,000 new jobs in London by 2030. The report has been authored by Peter Mitchell, Head of Economics at WRAP and in partnership with the London Waste and Recycling Board and the Greater London Authority. The idea for a Circular Economy business commitment is currently being developed by the group.

Miriam Maes heads up the **Decentralised Energy** sub group who have been looking at developing a "system of systems" approach for future developments. In addition the group has launched a new award to celebrate London's most sustainable 'high density building'. The Capital's most sustainable high density building will be crowned later this year at the prestigious 2016 Housing Design Awards, in partnership with the LSDC.

The LSDC also runs a successful **London Leaders programme** which is currently under review and this year has focussed on the circular economy in partnership with an opportunity through the Ellen MacArthur Foundation, LWARB and the GLA. As part of LWARB and the GLA's membership of the EMF CE 100 programme, two London Leaders have been selected to benefit from a package of support designed to further their capacity in transitioning to a circular economy business models.

## 5. Legal Implications

- 5.1 Section 34 Greater London Authority Act 1999 as amended enables the Authority, acting by the Mayor or the Assembly or both jointly, to do anything which is calculated to facilitate, or is conducive or incidental to the exercise of any functions of the Authority. Appointments by the Assembly to outside bodies assist the Assembly in its functions.

## 6. Financial Implications

- 6.1 There are no direct financial implications for the GLA arising from this report.

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**List of appendices to this report:** None.

<b>Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985</b>
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List of Background Papers: None.
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