

# MINUTES

**Meeting: Confirmation Hearings Committee**  
**Date: Tuesday 15 October 2019**  
**Time: 3.00 pm**  
**Place: Chamber, City Hall, The Queen's Walk, London, SE1 2AA**

Copies of the minutes may be found at: <https://www.london.gov.uk/about-us/london-assembly/london-assembly-committees/confirmation-hearings-committee>

**Present:**

Andrew Boff AM (Chair)  
Leonie Cooper AM  
Tom Copley AM  
Nicky Gavron AM  
Susan Hall AM  
Caroline Russell AM  
Dr Onkar Sahota AM  
Peter Whittle AM

## **1 Apologies for Absence and Chair's Announcements (Item 1)**

- 1.1 Apologies for absence were received: from Jennette Arnold OBE AM for whom Leonie Cooper AM attended as a substitute; Gareth Bacon AM; Len Duvall AM for whom Nicky Gavron AM attended as a substitute; and Steve O'Connell AM for whom Susan Hall AM attended as a substitute.

## **2 Term of Reference (Item 2)**

2.1 **Resolved:**

**That the terms of reference, as agreed at the Annual Meeting of the London Assembly on 2 May 2019, as set at Agenda Item 2 for the meeting, be noted.**

### **3 Declarations of Interests (Item 3)**

#### **3.1 Resolved:**

**That the list of offices held by Assembly Members, as set out in the table at Agenda Item 3, be noted as disclosable pecuniary interests.**

3.2 The Chair invited John Preston to declare any interests relevant to the business of the meeting or in relation to his appointment to the office of Chair of the London Pensions Fund Authority. Mr Preston confirmed he did not have any relevant interests to declare.

### **4 Confirmation Hearing in Respect of the Appointment to the Office of Chair of the London Pensions Fund Authority (Item 4)**

4.1 The Committee received the report of the Executive Director of Secretariat.

4.2 Before moving to the question and answer session with the Mayor's nominee for the office of Chair of the London Pensions Fund Authority (LPFA), the Chair asked the Committee to formally note the background information circulated with the agenda for the meeting (Appendices 1 to 3) and the information received and circulated after publication of the agenda (the personal statement and CV of John Preston and the summary of the key issues and priorities for the LPFA and the role and responsibilities of the Chair of the LPFA).

4.3 The Committee then put questions to John Preston in relation to his proposed appointment.

4.4 The transcript of the question and answer session is attached at **Appendix 1**.

4.5 Following the question and answer session, the Committee discussed its recommendation to the Mayor in relation to this appointment of John Preston to the office of Chair of the LPFA. The Chair proposed, and Tom Copley AM seconded, and it was unanimously agreed that the Mayor should proceed with his appointment. The Committee welcomed Mr Preston's comments about engaging with the London Assembly if he were to be appointed to the role of Chair of the LPFA.

#### **4.6 Resolved:**

**(a) That the background information set out on the agenda at Appendices 1 to 3 to the report be noted.**

**(b) That the following information received and circulated after publication of the**

agenda, be noted:

- (i) A personal statement and CV from John Preston;
- (ii) A summary of key issues and priorities for the London Pensions Fund Authority and an updated summary of the role and responsibilities of the Chair of the London Pensions Fund Authority, from 1 January 2020 to 31 December 2023; and
- (c) That it be agreed to recommend that the Mayor should proceed with his appointment of John Preston to the office of Chair of the London Pensions Fund Authority and that Mr Preston's comments regarding engaging with the London Assembly in the role be welcomed.

## **5 Date of Next Meeting (Item 5)**

5.1 The next meeting of the Committee had not been scheduled.

## **6 Any Other Business the Chair Considers Urgent (Item 6)**

6.1 There was no other business the Chair considered urgent.

## **7 Close of Meeting**

7.1 The meeting ended at 3.29pm.

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Chair

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Date

**Contact Officer:** Teresa Young, Senior Committee Officer; telephone: 020 7983 6559;  
email: [teresa.young@london.gov.uk](mailto:teresa.young@london.gov.uk); Minicom 7983 4458