

Homes for Londoners Board

Draft Terms of Reference (showing revisions from original version)

The Homes for Londoners Board ~~will provide leaderships founded on common cause and support a steadfast dedication amongst its members to work together tirelessly to achieve a genuine step-change in the Mayor of London on housing policy, strategy approach to, and delivery of, housing in London.~~ It will ~~use its combined expertise and~~ work with partners across the housing sector to maximise new home building, especially of affordable homes, in London through innovation and problem solving, ~~alongside a focus on the related infrastructure issues.~~

~~The Board will monitor overall housing delivery across London, including across the GLA Group and wider public sector.~~

The Board will, as set out in Mayoral Decision 2012, comprise the Mayor of London (as Chair), the Deputy Mayor for Housing and Residential Development (as Deputy Chair), four borough Leaders (nominated by London Councils), the Transport Commissioner, the GLA's Executive Director for Housing and Land, the Chair of the GI5 (group of London's largest housing associations) and two members of the residential property sector (as recommended by London First). The Mayor may appoint other Members over time as he considers will best further the Board's purpose. ~~Members nominated by London Councils will be subject to confirmation and appointment by the Mayor. The Mayor may vary the membership and number of members at any time. The Mayor shall set the length of tenure for all Board Members and their terms and conditions of appointment. Where London Councils advises the Mayor that one of its nominees is no longer to act as a Board Member for London Councils, that person's membership ends with immediate effect. A Board Member may resign at any time by giving notice to the Mayor in writing, having immediate effect. The Mayor may terminate a Member's appointment to the Board at any time. The Mayor may vary the provisions of MD2012, and the remit of the Board, at any time as he deems necessary. The terms of Members' appointments will be set out in writing to them at the time of their appointment.~~

~~The Mayor will be Chair of the Board.~~ The Deputy Mayor for Housing and Residential Development ~~will be the, as~~ Deputy Chair, ~~and~~ may lead meetings of the Board and/or undertake associated activities as directed by the Mayor.

The Homes for Londoners Board will:

- a) monitor the delivery of new and affordable homes across London, with a particular focus on GLA Group land, the wider public sector, and key development areas including Housing Zones and ~~mayoral development~~ Mayoral Development Corporation areas;
- b) oversee London's housing-related investment programmes, including those devolved to the Mayor and those for which the Mayor's functional bodies and the boroughs are responsible, advising the Mayor on progress and any emerging risks relating to the delivery of any programme;
- c) advise the Mayor and his partners on the opportunities to bring forward land for development within the ownership of the GLA Group and the wider public sector;
- d) monitor other issues relevant to greater housing supply, such as addressing the shortage of construction skills and the use of new construction methods;

- e) contribute to each stage of the development of the Mayor's statutory housing strategy and advise the Mayor on emerging GLA policies and programmes that relate to the delivery of housing in London, including in particular the London Plan and the transport strategy;
- f) receive quarterly reports from across the GLA Group for programmes and major projects as defined in the terms of reference; and
- g) commission task and finish working groups as appropriate to investigate and develop proposals to boost housing delivery.

Meetings of the Board shall be called by the Mayor of London. The quorum for a meeting of the Board is ~~two~~ half the total number of Board Members, (rounded up to the next whole number), as long as ~~one of those Members is present~~ include either the Chair or Deputy Chair. ~~For the purpose of determining whether and~~ a quorum is present, a London Councils representative. A Board Member may be counted in the quorum if they are able to participate in the proceedings of the meeting by remote means e.g. telephone or video link (or equivalent) and remain so available throughout the discussion and decision for each item for which they are counted as part of the quorum. ~~Members are able to send substitutes to meetings of the Board if necessary, by agreement with the Mayor.~~

Recommendations and views expressed by the Board will be agreed by consensus (with no requirement for voting). Where a Board Member wishes, their dissent or objection can be recorded in the minutes of the relevant meeting.

The Mayor is committed to openness in his administration and is committed to making the work of this Board transparent. Agendas and reports (where possible) for the Board will be published in advance of meetings; reports will be released with the agenda except in those cases where officers reasonably consider that information contained in the reports may be exempt from disclosure under an applicable exemption under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA) on the basis that the public interest is against disclosure. Summary minutes of the meetings of the Board will be published as soon as practicable following each meeting. The meetings themselves will not be public to reflect the accountability arrangements Parliament has put in place for the GLA; that is that the Mayor is answerable to the London Assembly ~~through~~ Mayor's Question Time only after he has taken decisions.

When undertaking work on behalf of the Board, Members are required to agree to comply with guidance provided by the GLA's Monitoring Officer, to register & declare all relevant interests and to seek advice from the GLA's Monitoring Officer on any issue where a conflict of interest is or may be arising.