

Item No. 3.1	Classification: Open	Date: 7 June 2014	Meeting Name: Council Assembly (Annual Meeting)
Report title:		Establishment of the Constitutional Steering Panel 2014/15	
Ward(s) or groups affected:		All	
From:		Proper Constitutional Officer	

RECOMMENDATION

1. That council assembly establishes the constitutional steering panel and appoints the chair and vice chair (see Appendix 1).

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

2. The constitutional steering panel is responsible for reviewing and recommending amendments to the constitution. It is also responsible for making recommendations to council assembly for the award of the Honorary Freedom of the Borough and Honorary Aldermen and to recommend changes to the members' allowances scheme.
3. In 2013/14 council assembly established a panel with a membership comprising the group whip and two other members from the majority group and the whips of the other political groups represented on the council. In accordance with current practice groups can nominate a reserve to attend in the absence of a representative. Council assembly is also invited to appoint a chair and vice chair of the constitutional steering panel.

KEY ISSUES FOR CONSIDERATION

4. The constitutional steering panel needs to be established at this meeting so that it can consider submitting any constitutional recommendations to council assembly on 11 June 2014.

Establishment of the council's panels

5. Panels are not required to be proportionate. This is a matter of local choice for the local authority.

Table 1: Constitutional Steering Panel - Total number of seats 5

Note: The 2013/14 allocation is shown in brackets with the proposed changes in bold.

Committee	Total	Lab	Lib Dem	Con	Other
Constitutional steering panel	5 (6)	3 (3)	1 (1)	1 (1)	0 (1)

BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

Background Papers	Held At	Contact
Establishment of Committees and Other Constitutional Issues 2013/14 Council Assembly May 2013 report	160 Tooley Street, London, SE1 2QH	Ian Millichap 020 7525 7225

APPENDICES

Appendix	Title
Appendix 1	Constitutional Steering Panel - Appointments 2014/15

AUDIT TRAIL

Lead Officer	Ian Millichap, Constitutional Manager	
Report Author	Lesley John, Constitutional Officer	
Version	Final	
Dated	30 May 2014	
Key Decision?	No	
CONSULTATION WITH OTHER OFFICERS / DIRECTORATES / CABINET MEMBER		
Officer Title	Comments Sought	Comments Included
Director of Legal Services	Yes	Yes (included in body of report)
Strategic Director of Finance and Corporate Services	No	No
Cabinet Member	No	No
Date final report sent to Constitutional Team	30 May 2014	