

## **Section 5 - Joint Arrangements**

### **Delegations to joint committees and other bodies**

#### **Functions discharged by London Councils Joint Committees:**

##### **London Councils Leaders' Committee:**

This committee comprises one Member of each of the London Local Authorities (usually the Member designated as the authority's "Leader", plus up to two named deputies).

Its functions include the following:

1. To consult on the common interests of the London local authorities and to discuss matters relating to local government.
2. To represent the interests of the London Local Authorities to national and local government, Parliament, the European Union and other bodies.
3. To formulate policies for the development of democratic and effectively managed local government.
4. To provide services to the London Local Authorities including the provision of information.
5. To provide information to the public, individuals and other organisations on the policies of the London Councils and other issues relevant to London.
6. To act for and on behalf of London Local Authorities in their role as employers, through the provision of a range of services.
7. To appoint members to serve on the Greater London Provincial Council and to represent the views of the London Local Authorities on pay and terms and conditions of service to the national negotiating body.
8. To review the needs of Greater London under the London Boroughs Grants Scheme, in accordance with which the London Local Authorities make grants to voluntary organisations within Greater London and to approve the budget proposed for the Scheme each year.
9. To consult with the London Councils Transport and Environment Committee (see below) regarding strategic policies and annual budget.
10. To establish an independent remuneration panel to make recommendations to the London Local Authorities regarding the payment of allowances to the Members of those authorities.

## **London Councils Transport and Environment Committee (LC TEC)**

This committee comprises one Member from each London local authority (usually the lead member for transport and/or environmental issues plus up to four named deputies) and a member from Transport for London (which is part of the Greater London Authority).

Its functions include the following:

1. To appoint and provide accommodation and support for Parking Adjudicators and to administer the Parking Appeals Service, which is an independent service for those wanting to appeal against a council's decision on a parking ticket.
2. To set the level of penalties and other enforcement charges and the level of discount for early payment of penalties.
3. To set the level of penalties for decriminalised contraventions in bus lanes, and the level of discount for early payment of penalties.
4. To operate other parking services including the TRACE line, which provides 24-hour information on cars which have been towed away.
5. The publication of a code of practice on parking enforcement and the dissemination of parking enforcement information to drivers and the general public.
6. To co-ordinate and maintain vehicle clamping and removal operations.
7. To provide IT services to the London Local Authorities for DVLA enquiries, County Court debt registrations and warrants, borough payment information exchange and a persistent offenders database.
8. The production and maintenance of the parking attendants' handbook of contravention codes.
9. To administer the Health Emergency Badge Scheme for doctors, nurses and health visitors.
10. To act as the National Joint awarding body for National Vocational Qualifications for Parking Attendants.
11. The establishment of London-wide parking schemes.
12. The establishment of London-wide parking schemes, including the setting of fixed penalties for offences under the London Local Authorities and Transport for London Act 2003 and London Local Authorities Act 2004.

13. Any other functions that are required or permitted under the London Local Authorities and Transport for London Act 2003 and London Local Authorities Acts 2004 and 2007.
14. To manage on behalf of participating councils the Concessionary Fares (Freedom Pass) free ticket initiative for London's senior citizens, blind and disabled people.
15. To administer the London Lorry Ban, which prevents lorries travelling down residential streets at night and at weekends.
16. To manage on behalf of participating councils the Taxicard Scheme, which provides free transport for London's disabled community.
17. To take a borough-wide strategic overview on London's transport policy and policy issues in planning, the environment, consumer protection, trading standards and waste.

### **London Councils Grants Committee**

This committee comprises one Member (plus up to four named deputies) from each London local authority.

Its functions include the following:

1. To keep under review the needs of Greater London and report to the Grants Committee and London Councils from time to time on a strategy for collective grant giving devised with due regard to those needs;
2. To draw up and submit for consideration and approval by the Grants Committee detailed criteria and policies for grant giving in the light of the agreed strategy;
3. To prepare and submit an annual budget for consideration by the Grants Committee and London Councils by the end of November each year for the financial year commencing the following April. This budget shall include the costs of staffing, office and support services considered necessary to facilitate the effective and efficient operation of the Scheme, as well as expenditure proposals for grant aid to eligible voluntary organisations, and any contingency provision;
4. To receive, assess and process grant applications from eligible voluntary organisations and report on them and make recommendations to the Grants Committee and or any Sub-Committees it may establish;
5. To administer the payment of approved grants to eligible voluntary organisations and monitor the use made of such funding;
6. To convene and service meetings of the Grants Committee, its sub-committees and any other bodies established by it.

## **Sectoral Joint Committee (London Housing Unit Committee - LHUC)**

This committee comprises one representative from each of the following member boroughs:

Barnet, Brent; Camden; Croydon; Ealing, Enfield; Greenwich; Hackney; Hammersmith and Fulham; Haringey; Hillingdon; Hounslow; Islington; Lambeth; Lewisham; Merton; Newham; Redbridge; Southwark; Tower Hamlets and Waltham Forest.

The Committee's primary role is to provide a service to its member boroughs housing functions. This can include the activity of other housing agencies.

The service includes:

- provision, organisation and co-ordination of housing publicity and information such as on likely implications of changes in Government policy on rents.
- research, evaluation and analysis on housing policy and service delivery such as the effectiveness of different policies eg tenants participation, tackling racial harassment etc.
- publicity on the findings eg on the particular problems faced by private tenants on HB in London

The service also provides professional, administrative and technical assistance to member boroughs and other bodies in the preparation and implementation of specific projects. An example would be looking at the scope for managing priority homelessness demand.

Whilst the Service Plan is determined by LHUC and the bulk of it is specifically for LHUC member boroughs, part of the work is on behalf of the 33 boroughs as support to London Councils more generally. An example would be compiling the evidence for and analysing the case for London boroughs to have higher allowances for managing and maintaining council housing.

### **Functions discharged by other bodies:**

#### **Joint Health Scrutiny Committees**

Reference is made in Article 6.02 of the Constitution to Joint Health Scrutiny Committees. There are, broadly speaking, two distinct and separate roles for these Joint Committees to discharge:

1. Pursuant to regulation 7 of the Local Authority (Overview and Scrutiny Committees Health scrutiny Functions) Regulations 2002, the Council and one or more other local authorities may, from time to time, decide to appoint a Joint Health Scrutiny Committee and arrange for it to review and scrutinise, in accordance with the Regulations, matters relating to the health service in the authorities' area and to make reports and recommendations on such matters.

2. Where a local NHS body has under consideration any proposal for a substantial development of the health service in the authority's area, or for a substantial variation in the provision of such service, the Health Scrutiny Sub-Committee must consider and make comments on the proposal by such date as may be specified by the local NHS body. Where the proposal relates to more than one local authority area, it must be considered by a Joint Health Scrutiny Committee appointed by each of the local authorities in question.

In view of the potential need to establish a Joint Health Scrutiny Committee at short notice or for reasons of urgency, and which may involve one or more other local authorities, the Executive Director of Finance & Resources is authorised to make arrangements for establishing Joint Health Scrutiny Committees, as appropriate and in consultation with the Chair and Vice Chair of Overview and Scrutiny Committee and Health Scrutiny Sub-Committee. These arrangements include, but are not limited to, agreeing with the other local authorities represented on the Joint Committee the specific terms of reference, constitution, membership and administrative arrangements.

### **Upper Norwood Joint Library Committee**

The Joint Committee comprises of four Members each from the London Boroughs of Lambeth and Croydon. At least two members from each party (i.e. the London Boroughs of Croydon and Lambeth) should represent the Upper Norwood area and at least one should have some executive responsibility for libraries.

The Joint Committee has the following functions:

1. To formulate policies and objectives of the Upper Norwood Joint Library.
2. To be responsible for the direction of the staff in order to facilitate the provision by the Joint Committee of the service or the carrying out of its other obligations, and to delegate such duties to the staff as may in the circumstances be reasonable.
3. To be responsible for the winding up of this service.

Additional powers have been conferred on the Joint Committee to enable the Committee to create a Sub-Committee, and in particular to establish a Development Project Sub Committee.

### **Western Riverside Waste Authority**

The Western Riverside Waste Authority (WRWA) is the statutory body formed to discharge the operational functions of waste disposal for the areas of the London Boroughs of Hammersmith & Fulham, Kensington & Chelsea, Lambeth, and Wandsworth. The Authority consists of two elected Members from each of the constituent Councils.

Objective The objectives of the Authority are to:-

- provide places for the deposit of refuse and to dispose of refuse delivered to those places;
- produce waste disposal plans;
- encourage reclamation and recycling of waste;
- dispose of waste arising from sites provide by Borough Councils for local residents to deposit refuse free of charge;
- dispose of abandoned vehicles; and
- make remunerative use of the operating capacity of the assets of the Authority.

***References:***

Chapters 5 & 9, DETR Guidance

The Local Authorities (Functions and Responsibilities) (England) Regulations 2000

The Local Authorities (Functions and Responsibilities) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2001

Section 13, [Local Government Act 2000](#)