

**General Purposes and Arbitration  
Committee**

**Monday, 20 March, 2017 at 6.00 pm  
in Committee Room 1,  
at the Sandwell Council House, Oldbury**

**Agenda**

(Open to Public and Press)

1. Apologies for absence.
2. Members to declare any interest in matters to be discussed at the meeting.
3. To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on 12 December 2016 as a correct record.

**Matter Not Delegated to the Committee**

4. Nominations for the offices of Mayor and Deputy Mayor of Sandwell for the 2017/18 Municipal Year.

**J Britton**  
**Chief Executive**

Sandwell Council House  
Freeth Street  
Oldbury  
West Midlands

**Distribution:**

Councillor Dhallu (Chair);  
Councillor Haque (Vice-Chair);  
Councillors Allen, S Crumpton, P Davies, E M Giles and Meehan.

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**Please note that this meeting may be filmed by members of the public and press, and may be filmed by the Council for live or subsequent broadcast on the Council's web site**

## **Apologies**

To receive any apologies from members



## **Declarations of Interest**

Members to declare any interests in matters to be discussed at the meeting.



**Minutes of the General Purposes and Arbitration Committee**

**12<sup>th</sup> December, 2016 at 6.00 pm**  
**at the Sandwell Council House, Oldbury**

**Present:** Councillor Dhallu (Chair);  
Councillors Haque (Vice Chair); Allen; P Davies;  
E M Giles and Meehan.

**Apology:** Councillor S Crumpton.

6/16

**Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting held on 19<sup>th</sup> September, 2016 were confirmed as a correct record.

**Matter delegated to the Committee**

7/16

**Appeal against the decision of the Adaptations Panel**

The Committee considered an appeal by Mr D and Ms C, against the decision of the Disabled Facilities Grant Adaptations Panel. The appeal was on the grounds that Mr D and Ms C had been assessed as needing a ground floor double bedroom, a ground floor level access shower room and an external step lift at floor level due to their disabilities.

An offer to rehouse Mr D and Ms C to a property in the vicinity, which had already been suitably adapted to meet their needs, had been made. However, the offer had been declined on the basis that they would prefer to remain in their own home, and had lived in the property for a considerable length of time.

## General Purposes and Arbitration Committee – 12<sup>th</sup> December 2016

In reaching its decision the Committee considered the report of the Director – Adult Social Care, Health and Wellbeing and the appellants' written and verbal submissions.

The Committee further considered the cost implication of the adaptation, and that it would exceed the Disabled Facilities Grant limit of £30,000 and that it was neither reasonable nor practicable to make the adaptation.

**Resolved** that the decision of the Disabled Facilities Grant Adaptations Panel, to not award Mr D and Ms C a Disabled Facilities Grant under the Housing Grants, Construction and Regeneration Act 1996, to provide a ground floor double bedroom, ground floor level access shower room and an external step lift at floor level, be upheld.

(Meeting ended at 7:03pm)

Contact Officer: Andrea Cowley Democratic Services Unit 0121 569 3171
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## **General Purposes and Arbitration Committee**

**20 March 2017**

### **Nominations for the Offices of Mayor and Deputy Mayor of Sandwell for the 2017/2018 Municipal Year**

#### **1. Summary Statement**

1.1 The Committee is invited to consider the nomination of persons to the offices of the Mayor and the Deputy Mayor of Sandwell for the Municipal Year 2017/2018.

1.2 The Council, at its meeting on 8 January 2013, approved the process for the selection of Mayor based on the following criteria:-

- nominees shall be serving members of Sandwell Council who have not previously served as Mayor;
- nominees shall have given notable service to the Borough of Sandwell as a councillor and/or within the local community;
- each nomination shall be submitted by a serving member of the Council supported by five other serving members of the Council, regardless of political party.

1.3 All members of the Council have been invited to submit nominations for the office of Mayor and three valid nominations have been received in respect of:-

Councillor Downing;  
Councillor Haque;  
Councillor Melia.

1.4 The nomination for the office of Deputy Mayor will be reported at the meeting.

Further details are attached for your information.

## 2. **Recommendation**

That the Committee make a recommendation to the Council in respect of nominations for the office of the Mayor and Deputy Mayor of Sandwell for the Municipal Year 2017/2018.

**Darren Carter**  
**Interim Director - Resources**

Contact Officer  
Trisha Newton  
Democratic Lead  
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## 3. **Strategic Resource Implications**

3.1 The Council makes financial provision annually to enable the functions of the Mayoralty to be undertaken. Staff support is provided by the Mayor's Office.

## 4. **Legal and Statutory Implications**

4.1 There are no direct legal or statutory implications arising from this report.

4.2 The General Purposes and Arbitration Committee has the responsibility under its terms of reference to make recommendations to the Council on nominations for the Ceremonial Mayor of the Council.

4.3 The role and responsibilities of the Mayor are contained within Article 5 of the Council's Constitution.

## 5. **Implications for the Council's Scorecard Priorities**

5.1 As the first citizen of Sandwell, the Mayor and his or her Deputy are ambassadors of the Council, thus promoting and thereby contributing to all the Council's Scorecard priorities.