



Report of the Director of Environment and Housing

Member Management Committee

Date: 31st May 2007

Subject: Councillor Nominations to the New ALMO Area Panels.

Electoral Wards Affected:

All

Specific Implications For:

Equality and Diversity

Community Cohesion

Narrowing the Gap

1.0 Purpose

1.1 The purpose of this report is to establish the process through which nominations of Members to the ALMO Area Panels is made.

2.0 Background

2.1 The Council has determined to reduce the number of ALMOs in Leeds from six to three. As part of this process the governance arrangements that exist now have been reviewed.

2.2 The Executive Board, at its October meeting, agreed to reduce the size of the new Boards from 18 to 12, with equal representation from Councillors, Independents and Tenants.

2.3 At the July 2006 meeting of the Executive Board the principle of Area Panels was agreed. It was proposed that these Panels were set up to continue to develop tenant participation in the ALMOs as this had been seen as one of the major successes of the ALMOs in Leeds.

2.4 Subsequently, more detailed proposals on Area Panels were approved for consultation and implementation by the Director of Neighbourhoods and Housing at the Executive Board at the October meeting.

2.5 The consultation produced one significant amendment to the original proposals by increasing the number of Area Panels in the East/North East ALMO to four as it was felt that the inner East area was too large for one Area Panel.

3.0 Area Panels and their Membership

3.1 In the West/North West ALMO there will be four Area Panels which follow the existing Area Management Committee boundaries being:

- Outer North West
- Inner North West
- Outer West
- Inner West

3.2 In the South/South East there will be three Area Panels broadly following the Area Management Committee boundaries in the ALMO area, being:

- Inner South
- Outer South
- Outer South East

3.3 In the East/North East there will be four Area Panels broadly following the lines of the management Committee boundaries, being:

- Outer North East
- Inner North East
- Inner East 1 (Burmantofts, Richmond Hill, Gipton and Harehills)
- Inner East 2 (Killingbeck, Seacroft and Temple Newsam)

3.4 An Area Panel will consist of one Board member (to ensure a governance connection with the main Board), two elected members from the area and six tenants with option to co-opt representation as and when required. These arrangements will be written into the ALMOs constitutions.

4.0 Option for Nominations Process

4.1 Once nominated the duty of Councillors on the ALMO Area Panels is to work with tenants to fulfill the terms of reference of the Area Panels. At all times the Area Panels will be responsible to the main ALMO Boards. There is no guidance from the CLG on political nominations to ALMO Area Panels Boards and therefore there are no particular methods that have to be adopted.

4.2 It is proposed that nominations will be sought from the Area Management Committees as the Area Panel boundaries are closely aligned to Area Management Committee boundaries.

4.3 It is further proposed that Area Management Committees are free to determine who will be nominated with one exception that an elected member who is an ALMO Board Member should not be nominated to an Area Panel.

5.0 Recommendations

5.1 Members are requested to authorise Area Management Committees to make appointments to the ALMO Area Panels in accordance with the proposal at 4.0.