

EMPLOYMENT AND GENERAL COMMITTEE

Wednesday, 7th August, 2013

Present -

Councillor Elliott (Chair)

Councillor Gibson

Councillor King

*Matters dealt with under the Delegation Scheme

0001 DECLARATIONS OF MEMBERS' AND OFFICERS' INTERESTS RELATING TO ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

No declarations were received.

0002 APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Blank and Fanshawe.

0003 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 25TH MARCH, 2013

RESOLVED - That the Minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 25th March, 2013 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

0004 MINUTES OF COUNCIL HEALTH AND SAFETY COMMITTEE HELD ON 18TH APRIL AND 4TH JULY, 2013 (EC210)

The Minutes of the meetings of the Council Health and Safety Committee held on 18th April and 4th July, 2013 were submitted.

(For Minutes see Appendices 'A' and 'B'.)

***RESOLVED** - That the Minutes be received and noted.

0005 ELECTORAL FRAUD IN THE UK ELECTORAL COMMISSION EVIDENCE AND ISSUES PAPER (EC000)

The Head of Governance submitted a report for members to consider the Consultation Paper by the Electoral Commission on Electoral Fraud and agree the consultation responses.

The review focused on areas of the electoral process which the Electoral Commission believed may be vulnerable to fraud which were identified as:

- Absent vote applications (postal and proxy)
- Postal voting processes
- Proxy voting processes
- Polling station security and voting processes.

Views were sought on the suggested changes in the following key areas:

- Restricting the availability of postal voting in Great Britain
- Providing alternatives to postal voting
- Restricting the handling of postal vote application forms and postal ballot packs by political parties, candidates, canvassers and campaigners and prohibiting of absent voters' lists before elections
- Requiring all proxy votes to be attested
- Restricting the number of electors for whom a proxy can be appointed
- Restricting the availability of proxy voting
- Requiring all voters at polling stations in Great Britain to provide proof of their identity
- Introduction of statutory restrictions on the activities of campaigners outside polling stations

***RESOLVED** - That the draft consultation response to the Electoral Commission Evidence and Issues Paper on the potential impact of Electoral Fraud in the UK, set out in the report, be agreed.