

ASTON PRIDE NEW DEAL FOR COMMUNITIES

Independent Commission's Terms of Reference for the Appointment of Community Members to the Partnership Board

1. Objectives Of The Independent Commission (Commission)

- 1.1 To select and appoint, the most suitable candidates from the community for appointment to membership of the Partnership in accordance with requirements and processes set out in the Aston Pride Delivery Partnership's Terms of Reference. The Commission will convene to make appointments at such times as may be deemed necessary from time to time, and at the request of the Partnership.

2. Specific Goals Of The Independent Commission

- 2.1 To oversee the application process (see paragraph 5 below) and select candidates to fill the number of vacancies on the Partnership.
- 2.2 The Commission must be able to show that each of the appointed members has an understanding of the fundamental purpose and role of the Partnership and of their own role as a member of it and when taken together the members should provide a balanced, representative, expert and experienced Partnership Board. This is described more fully at paragraph 5 below.

3. Independent Commission Membership

- 3.1 The Commission shall be set up on an ad hoc basis as and when required to make appointments to vacancies on the Aston Pride Delivery Partnership (as set out in paragraph 5 below). The Commission will consist of up to five members (the "Members"), one of whom will be the Chair. Appointments to the Commission will be made by GOWM (in consultation with Birmingham City Council). The Commission shall meet as often as is needed in order to build adequate awareness of their responsibilities and to complete its major objectives set out above.
- 3.2 The quorum for a meeting of the Commission shall be three Members of whom one should be the Chair.
- 3.3 The Commission will function in accordance with the Nolan Principles of Public Life.

- 3.4 Decisions shall be arrived at by consensus. Each Member shall have one vote and all matters requiring a formal decision will be decided by a show of hands by those present and entitled to vote.
- 3.5 At every meeting of the Commission, Members must disclose any personal or pecuniary interest they have in any matter to be discussed at that meeting. (See Code of Conduct set out in Section 3 of the Governance Directory for further information). The Commission will be provided with secretarial support, by the Aston Pride Delivery Partnership staff, and Commission Members will have travel and subsistence expenses reimbursed in accordance with established practices within the public sector.

4. Application Process For Membership Of The Partnership

- 4.1 Applications for membership (Community members) of the Partnership will be sought through a public advertisement and application process. All residents of the Aston Pride NDC area are entitled to stand for appointment unless they are disqualified by any of the circumstances set out in paragraph 5.5 of the Aston Pride Delivery Partnership's Terms of Reference.

5. Criteria For Membership Of The Partnership

- 5.1 While appointments should be made on merit, it is also important that the overall composition of the Partnership Board should represent an appropriate mix of skills, experiences and backgrounds. As a consequence, in its selection of members, the Commission will take account of a number of key areas including:
- 5.1.1 Managerial experience – Managers, administrators or volunteers with an understanding of organisational development, financial management and human resource management. Also members of the business community with a good understanding of regeneration project management;
- 5.1.2 Vocational experience – Employees, academics, professionals or volunteers in policy areas such as public service, urban regeneration, community relations and community development, equality, cultural diversity, disability or general social policy. Also, marketing or public relations specialists, especially those with a good understanding of regeneration issues;

- 5.1.3 Geographical distribution – In order to avoid an inappropriate concentration of members living in any one part of the Aston NDC area, the Partnership’s membership needs to include individuals living and working in different parts of the area;
 - 5.1.4 Social mix – the Partnership’s membership should as far as possible include people from different walks of life and backgrounds, and take account of gender, age and background;
 - 5.1.5 Knowledge – members should have extensive knowledge of one or more of the following – the Faith Sector, the Community and Voluntary Sector, Residents Groups, the Business Sector.
- 5.2 The Commission will also take into account an individual’s general interest in regeneration and commitment to the delivery of the Aston Pride NDC programme.