Proposed Amendments to the Constitution – Trades Union Observers

Part 2 – Articles of the Constitution

In Article 2 para 2.1 insert new section

(b)   The Authority has resolved to co-opt three non-voting members to represent the views of scheme members within its debates.

The regional secretaries of each of the three largest trade unions represented on the National Joint Council for Local Government Services will each be asked to nominate an individual to fulfil these roles.

Co-opted members will be subject to the same rights and obligations as other members of the Authority (as set out in this constitution) in terms of the provision of information to support them in their role and the need to maintain appropriate knowledge and skills.

As non-voting members co-opted members are not able to propose motions at meetings of the Authority under the terms of sections 6, 7 and 8 of Part 4 of this constitution (Procedural Standing Orders)

Co-opted members will be subject to the same provisions as other members of the Authority in relation to non-attendance set out in article 2.3.7. Should a co-opted member be removed for persistent non-attendance then the relevant regional secretary will be requested to appoint a substitute.

Co-opted members will be subject to the provisions of the Code of Conduct and Protocol on Member Officer Relations set out in Part 5 of this constitution.

In Article 6 delete para 6.1 and replace with

6.1   Membership

The Authority has appointed an Audit Committee comprising five members together with the three co-opted members identified in Article 2.1(b).

Part 4 A – Procedural Standing Orders

Add new paragraph 5.3

5.3   The co-opted members appointed under Article 2.1(b) of the Constitution shall not be counted for the purposes of calculating the quorum of any meeting.

Part 5 A – Members' Code of Conduct

In para 1.1, insert after "elected" "and co-opted".

Part 5 C- Protocol on Member – Officer Relations

In para 1.1 in the third sentence insert after "Members" "(whether elected or co-opted)".