

GLA 18/7.6 Board Membership

16 April 2008

BOARD PAPER REFERENCE – GLA18/7.6 – BOARD MEMBERSHIP

Issue

1. The reappointment of Board members after 1 April 2008

Recommendations

2. To note. Subject to clearance from the Office of the Commissioner for Public Appointments (OCPA), Defra will ask Board members if they are willing to continue serving as Board members until such time as the proposed consultation on the merger of GLA and HSE is completed and/or the review of the GLA Board has been undertaken.

Background

3. The Gangmasters (Licensing Authority) Regulations 2005 make provision for the constitution, structure and other matters relating to the operation of the GLA. During the passage of the Regulations comment was made in both Houses about the unusually large size of the Board. Recognising that the requirement for a large Board may change over time, Defra Ministers made a commitment to review the structure and composition of the Board three years after the establishment of the GLA (ie in April 2008). In line with this commitment Board members were appointed to serve until April 2008.
4. The Government is currently considering how to implement the Hampton commitment to merge the GLA with HSE. The proposed consultation on the merger will have implications for the review and the future appointment of Board members. In view of this Defra does not consider it sensible to run a consultation on the review of the Board concurrently with a proposed consultation on the merger, and intends to postpone the review of the Board for the time being.
5. Given the postponement of the review Defra Ministers have agreed that the existing representative members should be reappointed to the Board. Defra's Chair and Appointment team are currently clearing this approach with OCPA and when this has been done it will write to Board members to establish whether they would be willing to serve for a further term of up to three years. The appointments would be subject to earlier termination should the Secretary of State so decide and in the light of decisions on the future structure of the Board which remain to be taken.