



Department for Communities and Local Government

Stephen Halsey
Head of Paid Service
London Borough of Tower Hamlets Council
Town Hall
6th Floor, Mulberry Place
5 Clove Crescent
London
E14 2BG

29 April 2015 (3rd letter)

Dear Mr Halsey,

THE COUNCIL OF THE LONDON BOROUGH OF TOWER HAMLETS: INTERVENTION

I have already written to you informing you that the Secretary of State has today made Directions under section 15(5) of the Local Government Act 1999 in relation to the appointment of a Head of Paid Service at your Council, and is proposing additional Directions, under section 15(5) of the Local Government Act 1999, relating to safeguarding good governance and sound financial management in your Council.

I am now writing to inform you that today the Secretary of State has nominated Chris Allison CBE and Alan Wood CBE as Commissioners. The Directions of 17 December 2014 provide for the Secretary of State to nominate Commissioners, who are to exercise, or oversee, as the case may be, certain functions of your Council.

The Directions of 17 December 2014 and 29 April 2015 require your Council, at its expense, to provide the Commissioners with such reasonable amenities and services and administrative support as the Commissioners may reasonably require from time to time to carry out their functions and responsibilities under the relevant Directions. The Directions of 17 December 2014 also require your Council to allow the Commissioners at all reasonable times access to any premises of your Authority, to any document relating to your Authority, and to any employee or member of your Authority.

The Directions of 17 December 2014 also require your Council to pay the Commissioners reasonable expenses and such fees as the Secretary of State determines to be paid to them. The Secretary of State previously determined that the Lead Commissioner would be paid a fee of £600 per day, with the other Commissioners being paid a fee of £500 per day.

Having regard to the current circumstances of Tower Hamlets, the Secretary of State has determined with effect from today the Lead Commissioner is to be paid a fee of £800 per day, and the other Commissioners are to be paid a fee of £700 per day. These are the same fee levels as are paid to the Commissioners at Rotherham. The Secretary of State also agrees that, for the Lead Commissioner and Commissioner Caller, their maximum number of days in the first year of intervention is to be 150 without further prior approval by the Secretary of State.

The Secretary of State also expects the Commissioners will be paid reasonable expenses in accordance with the rules for senior officers set out in your Council's staff handbook. We will be in touch about practical arrangements for making these payments.

I am copying this letter to your Council's Section 151 Officer and to its Monitoring Officer.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "P. Rowse". The signature is written in a cursive style and is underlined with a single horizontal stroke.

PAUL ROWSELL