



Ministry of Housing,  
Communities &  
Local Government

**Catherine Frances**  
Director General, Local Government,  
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**Ministry of Housing, Communities  
& Local Government**

2 Marsham Street  
London  
SW1P 4DF

Mike Cunningham QPM  
*By email*

10 June 2021

Dear Mr Cunningham,

### **LIVERPOOL CITY COUNCIL: INTERVENTION**

I am writing to let you know that the Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government has nominated you as Lead Commissioner for the purposes of the Directions he has made today under section 15 (5) and (6) of the Local Government Act 1999 in relation to Liverpool City Council. I enclose the formal nomination document.

You are nominated as Lead Commissioner for the period from 10 June 2021 to 9 June 2024. The Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government has today nominated four Commissioners in total. He has also nominated Joanna Killian as Local Government Improvement Commissioner, Neil Gibson as Highways Commissioner and Deborah McLaughlin as Regeneration Commissioner.

As Lead Commissioner you will have the roles and responsibilities set out in the Directions, a copy of which I enclose, along with a copy of an explanatory memorandum. Under the Directions, Commissioners will act jointly or severally and are accountable to the Secretary of State in that you have been nominated by him and can have your nomination withdrawn by him. I have also enclosed terms of engagement that you will need to sign and return.

You will be entitled to a fee for each day you act as Lead Commissioner. You will also be entitled to reasonable expenses. Under the terms of the Directions, it is the Council's responsibility to meet these costs and the Secretary of State has set these fees for you at £800 per day. Fees are payable up to a maximum of 150 days per annum for the first year and reducing in year two and further

thereafter. These limits should not be exceeded without prior approval of the Secretary of State. As to reasonable expenses, we would expect these to be in accordance with the rules for senior officers set out in the Council's staff handbook.

In your role as a public appointee, it may be necessary to disclose information on your remuneration as part of annual accounts and you will be required to consent to the disclosure of this information. By accepting this appointment you will be indicating your consent to this.

You will wish to note that the Secretary of State has asked that you and the Commissioner team provide him with regular progress reports on a six monthly basis or at such other times as you and he might agree, with the first report expected as soon as is practical and within the next three months.

Your appointment has the status of an office holder and not of an employee. Nothing in this letter shall be construed as, or taken to create, a contract of service or contract for services between yourself and MHCLG, the Crown, or Liverpool City Council.

Should you have any queries or issues either now or during the Direction period please contact me in the first instance.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for assisting in this intervention. We are very grateful for your commitment to taking up this challenge to improve the performance of Liverpool City Council so that it effectively serves and protects the people of the area.

Yours sincerely,

**CATHERINE FRANCES**

**NOMINATION UNDER THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1999 (DIRECTIONS UNDER SECTION 15(5) AND (6) OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1999 TO LIVERPOOL CITY COUNCIL, 2021)**

The Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government in exercise of his powers under section 15 of the Local Government Act 1999 and in accordance with the Directions to Liverpool City Council dated 10 June 2021 nominates Mike Cunningham QPM as Lead Commissioner to act jointly or severally with the other Commissioners for the period beginning on the date of the Directions and ending on 9 June 2024 or such earlier time as the Secretary of State determines.