



Ministry of Housing,
Communities &
Local Government

Tony McArdle OBE
By email

James Blythe
*Deputy Director, Local Government
Stewardship and Interventions*

**Ministry of Housing,
Communities & Local
Government**
2 Marsham Street
London
SW1P 4DF

www.gov.uk/mhclg

22 July 2025

Dear Tony,

I am writing to confirm that the Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government has nominated you as Lead Commissioner for the purposes and duration of the Directions made on 5 October 2023 under section 15(5) and (6) of the Local Government Act 1999 in relation to Birmingham City Council. I enclose the formal nomination document.

You are nominated as Lead Commissioner for the period from 23 July 2025 to 31 October 2028. Commissioners will have the roles and responsibilities set out in the Directions, a copy of which I enclose, along with a copy of the 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and are accountable to the Secretary of State in that you have been nominated by them and can have your nomination withdrawn by them. I have also enclosed terms of engagement that you will need to sign and return; your nomination is made on the conditions set out in the terms of engagement.

You will be joining the Birmingham Commissioner team, including John Coughlan CBE, Chris Tambini, Pam Parkes, Jackie Belton and Myron Hrycyk, and John Biggs as the political adviser. As is familiar to you, as Lead Commissioner, your role will be to bring together the team, setting the direction and co-ordinating work to exercise the Directions.

As you will be aware, Birmingham City Council has a demanding improvement journey ahead, and is in the midst of a dispute in its waste services. Your leadership will be critical in maintaining momentum and supporting the Council to deliver sustainable change.

You will be entitled to a fee for each day you act as a Lead Commissioner. You will also be entitled to reasonable expenses. Under the terms of the Directions, it is the Authority's responsibility to meet these costs and the Secretary of State has set these fees for you at £1,200 per day. Fees are payable up to a maximum of 150 days per annum. 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 Authority's staff handbook.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for agreeing to assist with this intervention. We are very grateful for your commitment to working in partnership with the Council, with a clear focus on recovery and reform.

Yours sincerely,

James Blythe
Deputy Director, Local Government Stewardship and Interventions

NOMINATION UNDER THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1999 (DIRECTION UNDER SECTION 15(6) OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1999 TO BIRMINGHAM CITY COUNCIL, 2025)

The Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government, in exercise of powers under section 15 of the Local Government Act 1999 and in accordance with the Directions to Birmingham City Council dated 5 October 2023 nominates Tony McArdle as Lead Commissioner for the period ending on 31 October 2028 or such time as the Secretary of State determines.