

Meeting: Nuleaf EGM
Date: 18th June 2024
Item: 2
Subject: Proposed amendment to Nuleaf constitution
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1. Introduction

Nuleaf was founded some 20 years ago, with Cumbria County Council and Manchester City Council being the prime instigators. In helping establish Nuleaf, Manchester City Council was acting on behalf of the network of Nuclear Free Local Authorities (NFLA). In recognition of this, the NFLA were given special recognition within the Nuleaf constitution.

Most significantly, the October 2005 Nuleaf AGM agreed to recognise the role of the NFLA in developing Nuleaf membership by offering up to 5 voting places on the Nuleaf Steering Group. More recently, Nuleaf members agreed to create a dedicated NFLA Vice-Chair for the organisation. Within the constitution, these additional rights were conditional on receipt of a Contributing membership fee from a NFLA affiliated local authority.

The NFLA has recently informed Nuleaf that Manchester City Council no longer intends to continue as a Contributing member of Nuleaf. It is therefore proposed that the Constitution be amended to reflect this change.

2. Proposed changes to the Nuleaf Constitution

Nuleaf's current constitution can be viewed here¹. The proposed amendments are:

That Article 8 of the Constitution be altered to read 'Contributing and corresponding member authorities are entitled to attend (a) Annual General Meetings (AGMs) and (b) quarterly Steering Group (SG) meetings. Only Contributing member authorities are entitled to vote at AGMS and SG meetings.'

That Article 16 of the Constitution be amended to read 'Nuleaf shall have a Chair and a Vice -Chair, who will be councillors from contributing member authorities. The Chair and Vice-Chair will be appointed by the AGM. Should a vote be required, voting powers will be restricted to councillors from contributing member authorities and to one vote per authority.'

¹ <https://www.nuleaf.org.uk/about/constitution/>

It is also proposed that Article 18 of the Constitution be amended to read '*The AGM shall take place in June of each year, immediately after a SG meeting, unless agreed by a vote of contributing members at a Steering Group meeting.*'

The amendment to Article 18 does not relate to the role of the NFLA and is instead intended to change the default timing of the AGM from March to June. The advantage of holding the AGM in June is that by this time the audited accounts for the previous financial year can be presented and a clear understanding of funding for the year ahead should be known.

3. Recommendation:

That the Steering Group approve the proposed amendments to Articles 8, 16 and 18 of the Nuleaf constitution.