

COURTS SUB (POLICY AND RESOURCES) COMMITTEE

Monday, 12 June 2017

Minutes of the meeting of the Courts Sub (Policy and Resources) Committee held at the Guildhall EC2 at 10.30 am

Present

Members:

Deputy Catherine McGuinness (Chairman)	Alderman Alison Gowman
Alderman Sir David Wootton (Deputy Chairman)	Nicholas Hilliard
Nicholas Bensted-Smith	Michael Hudson
Sir Mark Boleat	Deputy Edward Lord
Sheriff & Alderman Peter Estlin	John Scott

Officers:

Peter Lisley	-	Assistant Town Clerk
Simon Latham	-	Town Clerk's Department
Gemma Stokley	-	Town Clerk's Department
Paul Double	-	City Remembrancer
Charles Henty	-	Secondary and Under Sheriff of London and High Bailiff of Southwark
Gemma Stokley	-	Town Clerk's Department
Nia Morgan	-	City Surveyor's Department
Peter Lisley	-	Assistant Town Clerk
Paul Double	-	City Remembrancer
Simon Latham	-	Town Clerk's Department
Mark Lowman	-	City Surveyor's Department
Paul Friend	-	City Surveyor's Department

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Alderman Sir Michael Bear, Sheriff & Alderman William Russell and James de Sausmarez.

2. MEMBERS' DECLARATIONS UNDER THE CODE OF CONDUCT IN RESPECT OF ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

John Scott declared a non-pecuniary interest stating that he currently served as a JP in the City's Courts.

3. PUBLIC MINUTES

The public minutes of the meeting held on 9 February 2017 were considered and approved as a correct record.

4. DEPARTMENTAL BUSINESS PLAN: CENTRAL CRIMINAL COURT

The Sub Committee considered a report of the Secondary of London presenting, for approval, the business plans for 2017/18 for the Central Criminal Court.

The Secondary reported that this plan would be subject to change following the completion of the restructuring exercise being carried out involving the Central Criminal Court and Mansion House. It was expected that this would be complete by Autumn 2017.

He went on to report that the Major Works Programme was continuing and that Courts 2 and 18 were now currently under refurbishment. Members were also informed that the department had continued to expand the number of events it co-ordinated across all categories – City, Shrieval, etc.

In response to questions regarding catering provisions at the Central Criminal Court, the Secondary stated that the City of London Corporation was looking at re-letting the catering contract. He believed that the Central Criminal Court would be joined with Mansion House under new proposals. The Deputy Chairman commented that this matter warranted further conversation outside of the meeting. He stated that he was aware of suggestions that catering at Mansion House and the Central Criminal Court could be amalgamated but he believed that it had now been successfully argued that both sites had very different, specific requirements.

A Member commented that she had some concerns over those items that the department proposed to measure within the business plan as set out in Appendix 1 to the report. She commented that Shrieval engagement did not feature, for example, and questioned how this might be brought in so that what was measured could be more closely aligned with the ambitions set out. The Deputy Chairman clarified that Shrievalty matters were reported directly to the General Purposes Committee of Aldermen, however, he agreed with the point that this business plan should reflect the ‘fuller picture’.

A Member suggested that the first point set out under ‘ambitions’ should also include the word ‘secure’ to read ‘to provide premises that are safe, *secure*, well maintained and able to respond to the current and future needs of our customers in the 21st C”.

In response to a question regarding the likelihood and risk ratings assigned to ‘Plant Failure’, the Secondary confirmed that this had now been classified as low risk.

RESOLVED – That, the high-level and detailed departmental business plans for the Central Criminal Court be amended as suggested and that revised plans be presented to the next meeting of the Courts Sub Committee.

5. QUESTIONS ON MATTERS RELATING TO THE WORK OF THE SUBCOMMITTEE

There were no questions.

6. ANY OTHER BUSINESS THAT THE CHAIRMAN CONSIDERS URGENT

There were no additional, urgent items of business for consideration.

7. **EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC**

RESOLVED - That under Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Part I of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act.

Item No(s).	Paragraph No(s).
8 & 9	3 & 7
10	3
11	2 & 3
14	1

8. **NON PUBLIC MINUTES**

The non-public minutes of the meeting held on 9 February 2017 were considered and approved as a correct record.

9. **DECISIONS TAKEN UNDER DELEGATED AUTHORITY OR URGENCY POWERS**

The Sub Committee received a report of the Town Clerk advising Members of action taken under delegated authority or urgency powers by the Town Clerk in consultation with the Chairman and Deputy Chairman in accordance with Standing Order Nos. 41(a) and 41(b).

10. **FUTURE OF THE CITY'S MAGISTRATES COURT, 1 QUEEN VICTORIA STREET - GATEWAY 1&2 PROJECT PROPOSAL UPDATE**

The Sub Committee received a report of the City Surveyor providing Members with an update on the feasibility study at the Magistrates Court to increase its capacity; on the current and planned works programme; and discussions with HMCTS regarding funding.

11. **FACILITIES MANAGEMENT PROGRESS UPDATE**

The Sub Committee received a joint report of the Secondary of London and the City Surveyor updating Members on the current progress of the corporate Facilities Management Review as applied to the Central Criminal Court (CCC).

12. **QUESTIONS ON MATTERS RELATING TO THE WORK OF THE SUB COMMITTEE AND WHICH THE SUB COMMITTEE AGREE SHOULD BE CONSIDERED WHILST THE PUBLIC ARE EXCLUDED**

A Member raised questions around the Warwick Square entrance to the Central Criminal Court.

13. **ANY OTHER BUSINESS THAT THE CHAIRMAN CONSIDERS URGENT AND WHICH THE SIB COMMITTEE AGREE SHOULD BE CONSIDERED WHILST THE PUBLIC ARE EXCLUDED**

There were no additional, urgent items of business for consideration in the non-public session.

14. **CONFIDENTIAL MINUTES**

The confidential minutes of the meeting held on 9 February 2017 were considered and approved as a correct record.

The meeting closed at 11.27 am

Chairman

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