

POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE

Thursday, 18 February 2021

Minutes of the meeting of the Policy and Resources Committee streamed live to
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SH03LKj8Z3s> at 1.45pm

Present

Members:

Deputy Catherine McGuinness (Chair)
Sheriff Christopher Hayward (Deputy Chairman)
Deputy Keith Bottomley (Vice-Chairman)
Deputy Tom Sleigh (Vice-Chair)
Randall Anderson (Ex-Officio Member)
Rehana Ameer
Nicholas Bensted-Smith (Ex-Officio Member)
Tijs Broeke
Karina Dostalova
Anne Fairweather
Marianne Fredericks
Alderman Timothy Hailes
Deputy Wendy Hyde (Ex-Officio Member)
Deputy Jamie Ingham Clark
Shravan Joshi
Deputy Edward Lord
Alderman Vincent Keaveny
Alderman Ian Luder
Jeremy Mayhew
Andrew McMurtrie
Wendy Mead
Deputy Andrien Meyers
Deputy Brian Mooney (Chief Commoner) (Ex-Officio Member)
Sir Michael Snyder
Deputy James Thomson (Ex-Officio Member)
Mark Wheatley
Deputy Philip Woodhouse
Alderman Sir David Wootton

In Attendance:

Caroline Addy	Oliver Sells
John Chapman	Jeremy Simons
Sophie Fernandes	Deputy John Tomlinson
Helen Fentimen	
Alderman Alison Gowman	
Graeme Harrower	
Ann Holmes	
Natasha Lloyd-Owen	
Oliver Lodge	
Barbara Newman	
Graham Packham	

Officers:

John Barradell	- Town Clerk & Chief Executive
Adam Rout	- Mansion House & CCC
Alex Redman	- Town Clerks
Amelia Ehren	- City Bridge Trust
Angela Roach	- Assistant Town Clerk & Director of Members Services
Anne Pietsch	- Comptrollers & City Solicitors
Aqib Hussain	- IT
Bob Roberts	- Communications
Bukola Soyombo	- IT
Caroline Al-Beyerty	- Chamberlains
Chris Bell	- City of London Police
Chris Oldham	- Town Clerks
David Farnsworth	- City Grants Officer & Director of City Bridge Trust
Donald Perry	- Markets and Consumer Protections
Devika Persaud	- Town Clerks
Emma Cunningham	- Town Clerks
Giles French	- Innovation & Growth
Ian Hughes	- Built Environment
Ian Simpson	- HR
Jeremy Blackburn	- Mansion House & CCC
Jon Averbs	- Interim Director of Environment
Joseph Anstee	- Town Clerks
Julie Mayer	- Town Clerks
Karen Atkinson	- Chamberlains
Kate Smith	- Town Clerks
Kerstin Mathias	- Innovation & Growth
Lorraine Brook	- Town Clerks
Matthew Pitt	- Town Clerks
Michael Cogher	- Comptroller & City Solicitor
Nick Bodger	- Innovation & Growth
Nick Kenyon	- Managing Director, Barbican Centre
Nigel Lefton	- Remembrancers
Ola Obadara	- City Surveyor
Oliver Bolton	- Police Authority
Paul Double	- Remembrancer
Paul Wilkinson	- City Surveyor
Paul Wright	- Remembrancers
Peter Kane	- Chamberlain
Peter Lisley	- Assistant Town Clerk & Director of Major Projects
Richard Holt	- Town Clerks
Sadaf Anwar	- Comptrollers & City Solicitors
Sanjay Odedra	- Communications

Simi Shah	- Innovation & Growth
Simon Latham	- Town Clerks
Tim Wilson	- City Bridge Trust

1. **APOLOGIES**

There were no apologies.

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

There were no declarations.

3. **MINUTES**

a) **RESOLVED**, that – the public minutes of the Policy and Resources Committee meeting held on 21 January 2021 be approved, subject to the following changes:-

- **Item (4)** – as the Covid Debrief Paper had been agreed, the resolution should read that “Member-level decision making would be required” and “civil resilience training should be offered to Members”.
- **Item (6)** - Marianne Fredericks had abstained from speaking or taking part in the decision on the statues by virtue of her serving on the Planning and Transportation Committee and did not want to pre-determine any future applications for Listed Building Consent.

Matters arising:

Item 6: Tackling Racism Taskforce Final Report

The Chief Commoner challenged the historical accuracy of the reported rebellion of slaves on Beckford’s plantations in Jamaica, which was outlined on page 6 of the minutes. Whilst recognising that this was an accurate recording of the statement made, he disputed, having undertaken his own research, that the historic event was accurate. He reported that his own research had found no evidence of Beckford’s involvement in the rebellion referred to, and one account had suggested he was caring towards his slave workforce. There was a strong challenge by some Members in respect of the comment describing a slave owner as ‘caring’. The Member responded by reiterating his belief that slavery was barbaric but explaining that he was quoting the work that had been used by an historian in terms of describing some slave owners as being more ‘caring’ than others.

The Chair noted that there would be a report later on the agenda to discuss this in more detail, which also proposed that more research would be needed as the work progressed. The Chair stressed the seriousness with, which the Policy & Resources Committee views all forms of slavery, which had been evidenced by the firm decision it had taken at its last meeting.

Item 22d: Non-public minutes of the Hospitality Working Party

Following a question, the Chair advised that the March meeting of the Policy and Resources Committee would receive a report in respect of scheduling

meetings during the recess periods over Easter, Summer and Christmas. At this stage, it is was not intended for this to cover half-term holidays, given the large number of City Corporation meetings. However, should the number of meetings reduce as a result of the implementation of the Lisvane review, this could be revisited to allow for a more family-friendly approach.

- b) **RESOLVED**, that – the public minutes of the joint meeting of the Resource Allocation and Efficiency & Performance Sub-Committees held on 21 January 2021 be noted.
- c) **RESOLVED**, that – the public minutes of the Resource Allocation Sub-Committee meeting held on 4 February 2021 be noted.
- d) **RESOLVED**, that – the public minutes of the Public Relations & Economic Development Sub-Committee meeting held on 14 January 2021 be noted.

4. **RESOLUTION FROM THE PORT HEALTH & ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES COMMITTEE**

The Committee considered a resolution of the Port Health & Environmental Services Committee. The Chairman of the Port Health & Environmental Services Committee stressed that the resolution did not seek to challenge the Target Operating Model (TOM) savings but was future-focused in terms of the appropriate services required by the Square Mile post pandemic, and sought a balance of funding which the Recovery Task Force was well placed to address. The Chair of the Culture, Heritage and Libraries Committee, speaking in support of the Visitor Strategy, stressed the need for street cleaning and public conveniences to be of a high standard.

RESOLVED, that:-

- the Policy and Resources Committee ask the Recovery Task Force to include consideration of services, within their remit, to inform the right provision from a strategic perspective, including any reset/rebalancing of funding to meet the City's future needs.

5. **RESOLUTION FROM THE CAPITAL BUILDINGS COMMITTEE**

The Committee considered a resolution of the Capital Buildings Committee in respect of the annual review of its Terms of Reference, which sought a waiver of Standing Order 29 (2), in order to extend the Chairman's term by one additional year.

The Chair of Policy was of the view that maintaining continuity of leadership on this Committee would be crucial over the next year.

RESOLVED, that:-

- it be recommended to the Court of Common Council that the convention of Standing Order 29 (2) be waived in order to allow the Chairman of the Capital Buildings Committee to extend their term by one year into a fourth year. *NB. It was clarified that this change of term would be subject to the annual re-appointment process by the Court of Common Council and the annual election of Chairman in the normal way.*

6. STREAMLINING GOVERNANCE OF THE NEXT GENERATION FRAUD AND CYBER CRIME REPORTING AND ANALYSIS SERVICE PROJECT

The Committee considered a report of the Town Clerk in respect of a new Committee for the Next Generation Fraud and Cyber Crime Reporting and Analysis Service (FCCRAS) Project. The Committee noted that the Finance Committee had also approved this report earlier in the week.

RESOLVED, that:-

- it be recommended to the Court of Common Council to create a new stand alone, time-limited committee to oversee the FCCRAS project and for the Policy & Resources Committee to pass on its decision-making responsibilities on this project to this new Committee.

7. FRASER 2.0 REVIEW NEXT STEPS

The Committee considered a report of the Town Clerk which set out the proposed recommendations and implementation plan from the Fraser 2.0 Report for strengthening the City Corporation's role in navigating the competitive landscape of UK financial and professional services (FPS). The report also outlined the next steps in establishing the Innovation and Growth Advisory Board.

The Chair of Policy thanked the Policy and Resources Committee and the Court of Aldermen for their work on this, which tied in closely with the competitiveness work within the Governance Review.

RESOLVED, that:-

- The recommendations from the Fraser 2.0 report be noted;
- Proposed implementation plan (see Appendix 1) be approved;
- A Competitiveness Strategy for the City of London Corporation be developed; and
- The next steps in the establishment of the Innovation and Growth Advisory Board be approved.

8. 2020/21 PAY POLICY STATEMENT

The Committee considered a report of the Director of Human Resources in respect of the 2021/22 Pay Policy Statement, setting out the City Corporation's approach to pay for the most senior and junior members of staff for the succeeding financial year.

The Committee had also received a supplementary document in respect of an amendment to paragraph 27 of the report, in respect of the Government's revocation of Public Sector Exit Payment Regulations.

RESOLVED, that:-

- the Pay Policy Statement for 2021/22 be agreed and recommended to the Court of Common Council for final approval.

9. COMMONWEALTH ENTERPRISE AND INVESTMENT COUNCIL

The Committee considered a joint report of the Remembrancer and the Director of Innovation and Growth which sought approval to continue funding the City Corporation's support for the Commonwealth Enterprise and Investment Council for the next two years.

RESOLVED, that:-

- funding of £20,000 per annum for two years be approved, to be met from the 2021/22 and 2022/23 Policy Initiatives Fund, to support:
 - a) the renewal of the City Corporation's status as a strategic partner of CWEIC (£10,000); and
 - b) the provision of desk space in the Guildhall complex (an assessed equivalent of £10,000).

10. IMPACT INVESTING INSTITUTE BOARD APPOINTMENT

The Committee considered a report of the Director of Innovation and Growth in respect of the appointment of a new Board Member to the Impact Investing Institute (III), under the terms of the City Corporation's three-year grant agreement with the Institute.

RESOLVED, that:-

- Alderman Robert Hughes- Penney be appointed to the Impact Investing Institute (III) Board, to ensure that the Institute's work continues to be reviewed and supported by a Member with extensive financial services expertise.

11. CULTURE AND DIVERSITY WORKING GROUP

The Committee considered a report of the Director of Major Projects, which responded to the recommendations of the Tackling Racism Taskforce, under its Culture workstream, approved at the last meeting. Before the meeting, the Committee had received an alternative set of recommendations in respect of this report, recommending the establishment of a Member/Officer Working Group to look at the statues of Beckford and Cass in more detail.

The Chair acknowledged that, whilst this had been a highly-charged and long-standing debate, the City Corporation's immediate priorities included recovery from the pandemic, competitiveness, climate action and its own programme of reform. It was noted that a similar motion proposed for the next meeting of the Court would be withdrawn, if this report were to be agreed today with the tabled revised recommendations.

The Chair thanked the Co-Chairs of the Tackling Racism Taskforce and the Deputy Chairman of Policy for their work in presenting a set of revised recommendations, which would allow a way forward and more time to evaluate all options, returning to the Court of Common Council with a full recommendation that would avoid division and protect the City Corporation's reputation and heritage as a diverse and inclusive organisation.

The Deputy Chairman endorsed this and applauded the work of the Tackling Racism Taskforce in seeking real and positive changes, and a process that would take account of funding, planning, research, costs and the views of the

government. The Deputy Chairman also felt that, ultimately, the will of the Court should prevail in terms of proposals for the Great Hall.

On the proposed composition of this Working Group, there was a point of clarity made that the five vacancies elected by the Policy and Resources Committee could also be filled by Members of the wider Court, rather than just elected from the Policy & Resources Committee. This would enable the Working Party to draw on the Court's wider pool of experience and willingness to serve.

In concluding, the Chair stressed the importance of a balanced and objective Working Party that would not focus on just one statue. It was noted that the Co-Chairs of the Tackling Racism Taskforce did not want to be Members of the Working Group themselves but were keen to engage where appropriate.

The Committee also noted that the Town Clerk was content for two officers to serve on the Working Group and this would be endorsed at the next meeting.

Following the resolution of the Policy and Resources Committee on 21st January and to take this matter forward, it was **RESOLVED**, that:-

- A Statues Member/Officer Working Group of 12 persons be established; comprising 5 members to be elected by the P & R Committee (one of whom should be the Chair of the Culture, Heritage & Libraries Committee) together with a further 5 members elected by the Court of Common Council and 2 Officers.
- That the Terms of Reference of the Statues Working Group be as follows:
 - a) To consider and fully evaluate a wide range of options for addressing concerns relating to the Guildhall statues of William Beckford and Sir John Cass.
 - b) To provide, by the end of September 2021, a full report to the Court setting out the options considered, the evaluations of those options and recommendations to the Court.
- That until the Court has considered the Report of the Statues Working Group, and agreed how to proceed with these statues, no further action be taken nor commitment made in relation to them.

12. **ANTI-TERRORISM TRAFFIC REGULATION ORDER REVIEW**

The Committee received a report of the Director of the Built Environment in respect of the Anti-Terrorism Traffic Regulation Order (ATTRO) Review. Due to the large-scale cancellation of events in 2020 due to COVID-19, the ATTRO had not been used at all in the last 12 months, but from a City Police perspective, retaining the permanent ATTRO remained important because it afforded them the ability to react quickly, if the intelligence necessitated it, to protect the public.

RESOLVED, that:-

- the report be noted.

13. **CITY FUND 2021/22 BUDGET**

The Committee considered a report of the Chamberlain, which presented the overall financial position of the City Fund. Following a question it was confirmed that the Finance Committee had agreed to freeze the business premium, not increase core Council Tax but to increase Social Care Premium. A Member reported that he felt that not increasing Council Tax was a mistake and would send a negative message to the Government when it came to the Fair Funding Review.

A Member also asked for a tracker to be maintained and reported to this Committee which would help Members to understand progress made by department on savings.

RESOLVED, that:-

- the report be noted.

14. 2021/22 CITY'S CASH BUDGETS AND MEDIUM-TERM FINANCIAL PLAN

The Committee considered a report the of the Chamberlain in respect of the 2021/22 Budget and medium-term financial outlook for City's Cash and Guildhall Administration. It was noted that the report should be read in conjunction with the City Fund and Bridge House Estates Budget reports on this agenda.

RESOLVED, that:-

- the report be noted.

15. BRIDGE HOUSE ESTATES (BHE) (REG. CHARITY NO. 1035628) - REVENUE BUDGET 2021/22 AND MEDIUM-TERM FINANCIAL PLAN

The Committee considered a report of the Chamberlain which provided an update on the 2020/21 forecast and presented the 2021/22 revenue budget and Medium Term Financial Plan (MTFP), covering 2022/23 – 2024/25, for Bridge House Estates.

RESOLVED, that:-

- the report be noted.

16. REGULATION OF INVESTIGATORY POWERS (RIPA) ACT 2000 UPDATE

The Committee received a report of the Comptroller and City Solicitor which provided an update on the Regulation of Investigatory Powers (RIPA) Act 2000.

RESOLVED, that:-

- the report be noted.

17. ANNUAL REPORT FOR SOCIAL MOBILITY AND DIGITAL SKILLS STRATEGIES, SOCIAL MOBILITY EMPLOYER INDEX RATING AND STRATEGIC FOCUS FOR 2020-21

The Committee received a joint report of the Chief Grants Officer and Director of City Bridge Trust, the Director of Innovation and Growth and the Director of Community and Children's Services which presented three pieces of work in support of the Social Mobility and Digital Skills Strategies.

RESOLVED, that:-

- the following be noted:
 - i) Progress made in the delivery of both strategies in 2019-20;
 - ii) the City Corporation's rating on the Social Mobility Employer Index; and
 - iii) the proposed future direction of the strategies.

18. POLICY INITIATIVES FUND AND COMMITTEE CONTINGENCY

The Committee received a report of the Chamberlain which provided the schedule of projects and activities which have received funding from the Policy Initiatives Fund (PIF), the Policy and Resources Committee's Contingency Fund, Committee's Project Reserve, COVID19 Contingency Fund and Brexit Contingency Fund for 2020/21 and future years, with details of expenditure in 2020/21.

RESOLVED, that:-

- the report be noted.

19. QUESTIONS ON MATTERS RELATING TO THE WORK OF THE COMMITTEE

There were two questions:-

Recovery Task Force

A question was raised concerning the composition, governance arrangements and planned actions of the Recovery Task Force. In response, the Policy Chair updated Members on three key workstreams that were being undertaken to ensure that Members had wider oversight:

1. Recovery Task Force
2. COVID-19 'Recovery From' Officer Group
3. Return to the Office

Specifically in answer to the Member's question, the Policy Chair noted that this Committee had already received reports updating Members on the governance of the Recovery Task Force and at its November meeting, it was agreed that the project would be led by a small core team from Innovation and Growth (IG) and Department of the Built Environment (DBE) supported by departmental working groups and external consultants. The project would be overseen by the Chairs of Policy & Resources and Planning & Transportation Committees, supported by their deputies, officers, and with input from the Lord Mayor. It had also been previously noted that the Task Force would draw on existing material from the Climate Action Strategy, the draft CityPlan 2036, Transport Strategy, London Recharged and other relevant sources.

Chief Commoner

A Member asked a question concerning the role of the Chief Commoner and whether the Chief Commoner was meant to represent all Members of the Court of Common Council. The Member also asked for further detail behind the extension of the current Chief Commoner's term of office from April 2021 to April 2022.

20. ANY OTHER BUSINESS THAT THE CHAIRMAN CONSIDERS URGENT

There were two items of urgent business:-

Kalifa Review

The Policy Chair updated Members that the Kalifa Strategic Review would be launched the following week and asked officers to circulate a summary paper to Members of this Committee with more detail.

Ward Committees

The Chairman of Finance raised an issue where he felt there was an anomaly with ward committees, where current Standing Orders do not allow the Alderman of the Ward to stand when their Common Councillor does not want to for whatever reason. The practice is for this vacancy to instead be opened up to the full Court rather than offered to the Alderman of the Ward, which seems to be counter-productive. He asked for the Policy & Resources Committee to delegate authority to the Town Clerk in consultation with the Chair and Deputy Chairman of Policy & Resources Committee to change the relevant Standing Order and get this agreed at the Court of Common Council meeting in March to get this in place ahead of the next civic year.

The Chairman of the General Purposes Committee of Aldermen then asked for time to consult with Aldermen on this proposal at an informal meeting taking place the following week.

21. EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC

RESOLVED: That under Section 100(A) 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.

22. NON-PUBLIC MINUTES

- a) The non-public minutes of the Policy & Resources Committee meeting held on 21 January 2021 were approved as a correct record.
- b) The non-public minutes of the joint meeting of the Resource Allocation and Efficiency & Performance Sub-Committees held on 21 January 2021 were approved as a correct record.
- c) The non-public minutes of the Resource Allocation Sub Committee held on 4 February 2021 was approved as a correct record.

23. CYCLICAL WORKS PROGRAMME (CWP) AND ADDITIONAL RESOURCES FOR CITY FUND PROPERTIES (ARCFP) REQUEST FOR FUNDING FOR 2021/2022

The Committee considered a report of the Chamberlain which sought approval of funding for the proposed one-year Cyclical Works Programme (CWP) for 2021/22.

24. **CITY CULTURAL SUPPORT: BARBICAN RENEWAL AND LSO GRANT**
The Committee considered a joint report of City Surveyor and the Managing Director, Barbican Centre, in respect of the Barbican renewal and LSO grant.
25. **MARKET TENANTS AND COVID 19 - PROPOSAL FOR ADDITIONAL SUPPORT**
The Committee considered a joint report of the City Surveyor and the Director of Markets and Consumer Protection in respect of a proposal for additional support for market tenants affected by the COVID-19 pandemic.
26. **BRIDGE HOUSE ESTATE COMMITTEE PROPOSALS**
The Committee considered a joint report of the Town Clerk and Chief Executive and The Chief Grants Officer and Director of City Bridge Trust in respect of the proposed Terms of Reference for a Bridge House Estates Board. Alongside this report, Members received a resolution of the Social Investment Board setting out their views on the proposals.
27. **CENTRAL CRIMINAL COURT PLANT REPLACEMENT: PHASE 3**
The Committee considered a Gateway 6 Outcome Report of the City Surveyor in respect of Phase 3 of the Central Criminal Court Plant Replacement.
28. **CENTRAL CRIMINAL COURT EAST WING GROUND MEZZANINE COOLING AND HEATING REPLACEMENT**
The Committee considered a Gateway 3-4 report of the City Surveyor in respect of the East Wing Ground Mezzanine Cooling and Heating Replacement at the Central Criminal Court.
29. **PROPERTY PROJECTS GROUP (PPG) COVID-19 CAPITAL PROJECTS FUND - UPDATE**
The Committee considered a report of the City Surveyor in respect of the Covid-19 Capital Projects Fund.
30. **DECISIONS TAKEN UNDER DELEGATED AUTHORITY OR URGENCY POWERS**
The Committee received a report of the Town Clerk in respect of a decision taken under delegated authority (Standing Order 41b) since the last meeting of the Committee.
31. **QUESTIONS ON MATTERS RELATING TO THE WORK OF THE COMMITTEE**
Two questions were raised concerning:-
a) the Chief Commoner's Handbook
b) TOM Recruitment update.
32. **ANY OTHER BUSINESS THAT THE CHAIRMAN CONSIDERS URGENT AND WHICH THE COMMITTEE AGREE SHOULD BE CONSIDERED WHILST THE PUBLIC ARE EXCLUDED.**
There were no items of urgent business.

The meeting ended at 3.17 pm

Chair

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