

INFORMATION SYSTEMS SUB (FINANCE) COMMITTEE

Tuesday, 25 March 2014

Minutes of the meeting of the Information Systems Sub (Finance) Committee held at Guildhall, EC2 on Tuesday, 25 March 2014 at 11.30am

Present

Members:

Roger Chadwick (Chairman)
Jeremy Mayhew (Deputy Chairman)
Randall Anderson
Andrew McMurtrie
Sylvia Moys
Dhruv Patel
Graham Packham
Tom Sleigh
Deputy John Tomlinson

In Attendance:

Peal Roberts
Andrew Mindenhall

Officers:

Susan Attard	- Deputy Town Clerk
Natasha Dogra	- Town Clerk's Department
Graham Bell	- Chief Information Officer
Colin Ashcroft	- Chamberlain's Department
Chris Anderson	- Chamberlain's Department
Ellen Murphy	- Chamberlain's Department
Avril Stokes	- Chamberlain's Department
Eric Nisbett	- City of London Police

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Hugh Morris.

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

There were no declarations.

3. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

RESOLVED: That the public minutes and non-public summary of the meeting held on 21 January 2014 be approved as an accurate record.

Matters arising

Members asked the Town Clerk to check the attendance at the previous meeting and to update it to ensure the correct Members who were present were listed.

The Chairman informed the Committee that the visit to Agilysys would take place on Friday 28th March at 2pm. A coach had been booked which could take up to 15 people.

4. PROGRESS REPORT ON STRATEGIC PROGRAMMES AND ALL IS PROJECTS

The Committee considered the report of the Chamberlain which provided an oversight of project progress. The report presented the communication approach being used with Chief Officers at Strategy Board. It also illustrated the links between the corporate plan and the Service Reviews currently underway.

Members noted that there were no “red” or “amber” status projects. Members noted the brand new set of charts included in the report, the intention of which was to provide Members with the insight as to how the Portfolio & Change team were monitoring resource allocation.

Officers informed Members that there were a total of 85 projects within the IS division. 33 were in flight, 25 were being scoped, 22 were unallocated, one was closed and four were on hold. Officers stated that their view was that the overall number of projects was too high for an organisation this size and there was a critical review underway of the 85 projects within the portfolio, with a view towards rationalising them.

5. CTO OVERVIEW OF TECHNICAL CHANGE PROJECTS

The Committee considered the report of the Chamberlain which provided Members with an overview of two of the key infrastructure projects, Wide Area Network (WAN) and Remote Access.

Members were informed that the Wide Area Network project was approved by Finance Committee in 2013 and saw the City’s WAN upgraded from a BT based hub and spoke network to a modern, faster and more effective network, provisioned largely from Virgin Media. The new network would support faster and more reliable access to systems and information, which would particularly benefit staff in remote offices, allowing them to obtain a similar level of service to those in the Guildhall.

Officers informed Members that the new network also improved resilience by removing the current dependence on the Guildhall complex as the hub for IS service provision and increasing access capability at all remote sites.

In response to a query, Members noted that the City’s remote access project combined a number of different technologies to improve the ability of staff to work flexibly and access systems and information outside of the Corporation’s offices. Staff with corporate laptops would be able to work at home, or any other place with an internet connection, as if they were in the office.

Members were informed of the high level vision of joint working with City Police and some of the work in progress to deliver this vision as follows:

- Development of a strategy and approach in partnership with the City

Corporation.

- A portfolio of projects with an initial focus on getting the basics right in collaboration with the Corporation
- A new operating model.

6. **QUESTIONS ON MATTERS RELATING TO THE WORK OF THE COMMITTEE**

There were no questions.

7. **ANY OTHER BUSINESS THAT THE CHAIRMAN CONSIDERS URGENT**

There was no other business.

8. **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 on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Part I of the Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act.

9. **NON-PUBLIC MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING**

RESOLVED: That the non-public minutes of the meeting held on 21 January 2014 be approved as an accurate record.

10. **TELECOMMUNICATIONS STRATEGY**

The Committee considered the report of the Chamberlain which updated Members on the Economic Development Chief officer Group (EDCOG) who met on 26th February 2014.

11. **CITY OF LONDON POLICE - A VERBAL UPDATE ON THE MODERNISATION PROGRAMME**

The Committee were provided with a verbal update from the Director of Corporate Services and the City of London Police.

12. **NON-PUBLIC QUESTIONS ON MATTERS RELATING TO THE WORK OF THE COMMITTEE**

There were no non-public questions.

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

There was no other non-public business.

The meeting ended at 12.40pm

Chairman

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