

POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE
Thursday, 18 February 2016

Minutes of the meeting of the Policy and Resources Committee held at Committee Rooms, 2nd Floor, West Wing, Guildhall on Thursday, 18 February 2016 at 1.45 pm

Present

Members:

Mark Boleat (Chairman)
Jeremy Mayhew (Deputy Chairman)
Deputy Catherine McGuinness (Deputy Chairman)
Hugh Morris (Deputy Chairman)
Alderman Sir Michael Bear
Deputy John Bennett
Sheriff & Alderman Charles Bowman
Deputy Roger Chadwick (Ex-Officio Member)
Henry Colthurst
Deputy Alex Deane
Deputy Billy Dove (Chief Commoner, Ex-Officio Member)
Simon Duckworth
Stuart Fraser
Marianne Fredericks
Deputy the Revd Stephen Haines (Ex-Officio Member)
Wendy Hyde
Vivienne Littlechild (Ex-Officio Member)
Edward Lord
Wendy Mead
Deputy Joyce Nash
Deputy Henry Pollard (Ex-Officio Member)
Jeremy Simons
Deputy John Tomlinson
Michael Welbank (Ex-Officio Member)
Alderman Sir David Wootton

In Attendance:

Tom Sleigh

Officers:

John Barradell	- Town Clerk and Chief Executive
Peter Kane	- The Chamberlain
Michael Cogher	- Comptroller and City Solicitor
Paul Double	- City Remembrancer
Caroline Al-Beyerty	- Financial Services Director
Peter Bennett	- City Surveyor
William Chapman	- Private Secretary and Chief of Staff to the Lord Mayor
Damian Nussbaum	- Director of Economic Development
Bob Roberts	- Director of Communications

Liz Skelcher	- Assistant Director, Economic Development Office
Giles French	- Assistant Director of Economic Development
Sue Baxter	- Town Clerk's Department
Tracey Jansen	- Human Resources
Simon Murrells	- Assistant Town Clerk
Gerald Mehrtens	- Community and Children's Services Department
Angela Roach	- Principal Committee and Members Services Manager

1. **APOLOGIES**

Apologies were received from George Gillon, Andrew McMurtrie, Andrew Parmley, Dhruv Patel, Giles Shilson and Sir Michael Snyder.

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

Henry Colthurst, Catherine McGuinness and Hugh Morris declared an interest in Item no. 17 as directors of the Multi Academy Trust.

3. **MINUTES**

3a. The public minutes of the meeting held on 21 January 2016 were approved subject to the "absence of civilian oversight" being added to the list of reasons why a Member was opposed to the introduction of the Anti-Terrorism Traffic Regulation Order.

3b. The draft public minutes of the Resource Allocation Sub-Committee meeting held on 14 January 2016 were noted.

3c. The draft public minutes of the joint meeting of the Resource Allocation and Efficiency and Performance Sub-Committees with Committee Chairmen held on 14 January 2016 were considered. It was also noted that the minutes would be amended to better reflect that the joint meeting was a meeting of two Sub-Committees.

3d. The draft public minutes of the Projects Sub-Committee meeting held on 26 January 2016 were noted.

3e. The draft public minutes of the Business Ratepayers Consultation meeting held on 3 February 2016 were noted.

4. **WARD NEWSLETTERS**

The Committee considered a resolution from the Standards Committee concerning the provision of guidance relating to the use of the Ward Newsletters in the run-up to the 2017 Common Council elections.

Members noted that the last Ward Newsletter for 2016 was due to be distributed in November. It was also noted that guidance would be issued to all Members of the Court on the use of the City Corporation's facilities and other matters in the lead up to the 2017 Common Council Ward elections.

RESOLVED – that the Standards Committee be advised that the last Ward Newsletter for 2016 would be distributed in November and that guidance would be issued to all Members of the Court in the autumn on the use of City Corporation facilities and other matters in the lead up to the 2017 Common Council Ward elections.

5. EUROPEAN UNION UPDATE

The Committee considered a report of the Town Clerk concerning the timetable for considering the outcome of Government's negotiations with the European Union (EU) Council and the date of the referendum on whether the UK should stay in or leave the EU.

RESOLVED – That the report be noted.

6. STATUTORY DISMISSAL PROCEDURES

The Committee considered a resolution of the Establishment Committee together with a joint report of the Town Clerk and the Director of Human Resources setting out proposals for the Statutory Dismissal Procedures for the Head of Paid Services (Town Clerk), Monitoring Officer (Comptroller and City Solicitor) and the Section 151 Officer (Chamberlain).

The Chairman referred to the three recommendations of the Establishment Committee. He stated that he was supportive of the Chairmen of Policy, Finance and Establishment having oversight for the investigation of complaints concerning the three officers; he did not think it necessary to include all three independent persons of the Standards Committee and suggested that this be changed to any two of the independent persons of that Committee; and he was not supportive of the Standards Committee having oversight of investigations. The Committee supported his views.

Reference was made to the amendment to Standing Orders and it was suggested that consideration also be given to amending Standing Order No. 29 (3) to enable the Chairman of the Statutory Officer Review Panel to be the Chairman of another Committee at the same time. A Member expressed concern about the wording of Standing Order No. 63 as it did not address the process. It was suggested that the approval of the final wording of that Standing Order be delegated to the Town Clerk in consultation with the Chairman and Deputy Chairman.

RESOLVED – That:-

1. the oversight of the investigation of any complaints regarding the Town Clerk, Comptroller and City Solicitor or Chamberlain be the responsibility of the Chairman of the Policy and Resources Committee, the Chairman of the Finance Committee and the Chairman of the Establishment Committee;

2. Subject to the approval of the Court of Common Council:-

- a new non-ward committee be created known as the Statutory Officer Review Panel;
- the Terms of Reference of the Panel be approved as set out in the appendix to the report subject to the composition being amended to include *any two independent persons of the Standards Committee*

3. it be recommended to the Court that Standing Order No.63 be amended, subject to the approval of the final wording of that Standing Order being delegated to the Town Clerk in consultation with the Chairman and Deputy Chairman Policy and Resources Committee; and

4. it be recommended to the Court that Standing Order No. 29 (3) also be amended to enable the Chairman of the Statutory Officer Review Panel to be the Chairman of another Committee at the same time.

7. **DRAFT PAY POLICY STATEMENT 2016/17**

The Committee considered a report of the Director of Human Resources concerning the draft Pay Policy Statement for 2016/17 together with a resolution from the Establishment Committee.

The Committee supported the inclusion of the Head Teachers of the three independent Schools and the Remembrancer in the list of Senior Management together with a note explaining the difference in terms of pay as suggested by the Establishment Committee.

RESOLVED – That, subject to the above-mentioned amendment, the draft Pay Policy Statement for 2016/17 be agreed and be submitted to the Court of Common Council for approval.

8. **INCOME GENERATION - SERVICED BASED REVIEW**

The Committee considered a report of the Chamberlain concerning a cross-cutting review of opportunities for income generation.

Members received a presentation from the Partnerships Adviser, Sue Baxter. The Chairman pointed out that Sue was shortly due to leave the City Corporation and thanked her on behalf of the Committee for her hard work and the contribution she had made to the service based review initiative.

RESOLVED – that the content of the report be noted and the overall proposals be endorsed.

9. **THAMES FESTIVAL TRUST - RIVERS OF THE WORLD**

The Committee considered a report of the Director of Economic Development concerning the Thames Festival Trust's Rivers of the World event in 2016.

RESOLVED – a sum of £15,000 be allocated from the Policy Initiative Fund to Thames Festival Trust's 2016 Rivers of the World project.

10. **NEW ECONOMICS - LECTURE BY YANIS VAROUFAKIS**

The Committee considered a report of the Director of Economic Development proposing the sponsorship of a lecture by Yanis Varoufakis entitled "New Economics" and the sponsorship of an event with former Shadow Chancellor, Chris Leslie MP.

It was noted that the lecture would be organised in partnership with the think tank, Centre for Labour and Social Studies.

RESOLVED – that approval be given to the provision of £15,000 in support of a lecture by Yanis Varoufakis at Haberdashers' Hall and £4,000 for an event with former Shadow Chancellor Chris Leslie MP in the Livery Hall, to be met from the Policy Initiatives Fund for 2015/16, categorised under Events and charged to City's Cash

11. **CITY OF LONDON CORPORATION'S WORK ON EMPLOYABILITY**

The Committee considered a report of the Director of Economic Development concerning the City Corporation's work on employability and the improvements being introduced in support of that area work.

The Committee noted the progress being made by the Study Panel commissioned to look at what more could be done on the employability of young Londoners and heard from the Co-Chairs of the Panel, Alderman and Sheriff Bowman and Debbie Ounsted, on its work.

Reference was made to the high profile composition of the Panel and the enthusiasm shown towards the nature of its work. The overarching aims of the Panel were also explained. This included building on work already being undertaken elsewhere, working in collaboration with others, avoiding duplication by targeting support where it was needed and including smaller firms in the initiative given their local knowledge.

The Chairman of the City Bridge Trust Committee referred to the synergy between the work of the Trust and the work being undertaken on employability and stated that it would be useful if the report was submitted to the City Bridge Trust for information. He also pointed out that to assist with targeting funds each year the Trust undertook an assessment exercise of areas of deprivation and suggested that it might be worth considering for this project.

In addition the Committee noted the progress made in developing an employability Framework and expressed support for the next steps as set out in

paragraph 10 of Annex B of the report. It also supported the use of Section 106 (S106) funding to assist in driving the City Corporation's role as a leader in employability.

RESOLVED – That:-

1. the work of the Study Panel (Annex A) be noted;
2. the progress made in developing the City Corporation's employability Framework (Annex B) be noted and that the next steps in taking Framework forward be agreed as follows:-
 - implement the findings of the Study Panel into youth employability;
 - support the Power of Diversity initiative and other measures to strengthen the diversity of the City workforce;
 - consider how to seize the opportunities offered by the new apprenticeship levy;
 - look systematically at how to develop exemplar employment practices (including through the City Corporation's and City businesses' supply chains); and
 - conduct further geographical analysis; and create a compelling narrative for our work.
3. the proposals to help the City to achieve maximum impact and visibility in its work to support London communities (Annex C) be noted and that, subject to the receipt of the balance of £164k in S106 funding required, approval be given to the use of up to £425,000 per year over three years of S106 funds (which were restricted for use on skills, training and job brokerage) to drive the City Corporation's role as a leader in employability.

12. **POLICY INITIATIVES FUND AND COMMITTEE CONTINGENCY**

The Committee considered a report of the Chamberlain concerning the Policy Initiatives Fund and the Committee Contingency for 2015/16.

Members noted that the initiatives approved earlier this day would alter the balance of the Policy Initiatives Fund to £133,300.

A Member pointed out that the World Athletic Championships was coming to London next year and referred to the previous undertaking to provide support, in the form of hospitality, for major sports events. He questioned whether forthcoming events such as this were continuing to being investigated.

RESOLVED – That the report be noted and that officers be requested to look at the provision of support, in the form of hospitality, for major forthcoming sporting events.

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

In response to a question about the increasing number of emails received by Members from focus and protest groups, the Chairman agreed that that type of activity was on the increase and explained that it was now part of the landscape of those undertaking civic duties. Members had the option to ignore such emails.

14. ANY OTHER BUSINESS THAT THE CHAIRMAN CONSIDERS URGENT

There were no urgent items.

15. EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC

MOTION – 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: -

Item Nos.	Paragraph(s) in Schedule 12A
16a-f	3
17 - 18	3
19	1

Non- Public Agenda

16. NON-PUBLIC MINUTES

16a. The non-public minutes of the meeting held on 21 January 2016 were approved.

16b. The draft non-public minutes of the Resource Allocation Sub-Committee meeting held on 14 January 2016 were noted.

16c. The draft non-public minutes of the joint Resource Allocation and Efficiency and Performance Sub-Committees meeting with Committee Chairmen held on 14 January 2016 were noted. It was also noted that the draft minutes would be amended to reflect the status of the meeting more accurately.

16d. The draft non-public minutes of the Projects Sub-Committee meeting held on 26 January 2016 were noted.

16e. The draft non-public minutes of the Hospitality Working Party meeting held on 28 January 2016 were noted.

16f. The draft non-public minutes of the Ceremonials Working Party meeting held on 29 January 2016 were noted.

17. **ACADEMY EXPANSION PROGRAMME**

The Committee considered and agreed a report of the Director of Community and Children's Services Committee concerning the creation of two further academies in the London Borough of Hackney.

18. **PROMOTING THE CITY REVIEW**

The Committee considered and agreed a report of the Director of Economic Development concerning the Promoting the City Review.

With exception of the Town Clerk, Assistant Town Clerk, Director of Economic Development and the Principal Committee and Members Services Manager all officers withdrew from the meeting whilst the following item was considered.

19. **THE TOWN CLERK TO BE HEARD ON THE PROMOTING CITY REVIEW**

The Town Clerk was heard regarding the cost and staffing implications of implementing the Promoting the City Review.

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

There were no questions.

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

There were no urgent items.

The meeting ended at 3.15pm

Chairman

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