

## **COURTS SUB (POLICY AND RESOURCES) COMMITTEE**

**Monday, 19 February 2018**

**Minutes of the meeting of the Courts Sub (Policy and Resources) Committee held at the Guildhall EC2 at 10.00 am**

### **Present**

#### **Members:**

Deputy Catherine McGuinness (Chairman)	Alderman & Sheriff Timothy Hailes
Alderman Sir David Wootton (Deputy Chairman)	Nicholas Hilliard
Nicholas Bensted-Smith	Michael Hudson
Alderman Alison Gowman	Deputy Edward Lord

#### **Officers:**

George Fraser	-	Town Clerk's Department
Vic Annells	-	Executive Director, Mansion House & CCC
Adam Rout	-	Mansion House
Paul Friend	-	City Surveyor's Department
Jessica Lees	-	City Surveyor's Department

### **1. APOLOGIES**

Apologies were received from James de Sausmarez and John George Stewart Scott.

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

Edward Lord declared a non-pecuniary interest, stating that he served as a JP sitting in the City's Courts and was Deputy Chairman Elect of the Central London Bench. Alderman Sir David Wootton and Alderman Alison Gowman declared that they are JPs sitting in the City's Courts. Alderman and Sheriff Tim Hailes is also a JP but currently not sitting.

### **3. MINUTES**

The Sub-Committee considered the minutes from the last meeting, held on 8 December 2017.

A Member noted that an item from the previous minutes under item 5 – *Magistrates Court Update* required inclusion within the Outstanding References. He explained that the poor condition of the gowns in the Magistrates Court was an issue that needed to be addressed. He explained that District Judges at City of London Courts had also been wearing their own gowns, and had now even adopted wearing them when sitting at Westminster, believing them to hold great symbolic value. It was confirmed that the City gowns were only taken to Westminster on a temporary basis as required, and

the stock was therefore maintained. The Deputy Chairman agreed that the maintenance of the gowns was an important issue. A Member noted that the Aldermen's gowns at the Central Criminal Court also required replacement. The Chairman requested that the cost of gown replacement at the City of London Magistrates Court be determined. (1)

**RESOLVED** – That the minutes be approved.

4. **OUTSTANDING REFERENCES**

The Sub-Committee received a report of the Town Clerk that summarised the outstanding actions from previous meetings.

**OR4 – Tour of the Old Bailey**

A Member noted that the tour of the Mayor's and City of London Court still had not taken place. The Chairman noted that there had been a couple of unsuccessful attempts at organising this, though suitable dates had not yet been found. (2)

**RESOLVED** – That the report be received.

5. **QUESTIONS ON MATTERS RELATING TO THE WORK OF THE SUB-COMMITTEE**

There were no questions.

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

There was no further business.

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 because they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Part I of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act.

Item Nos.	Paragraph
8-15	3

8. **NON-PUBLIC MINUTES**

The Sub-Committee considered the non-public minutes from the last meeting, held on 8 December 2017.

**RESOLVED** – That the minutes be approved.

9. **WORK PLAN**

The Sub-Committee received a report of the Town Clerk that summarised the work plan of the Sub-Committee for 2018.

**RESOLVED** – That the report be received.

10. **COURTS PROJECT PROGRAMME**

The Sub-Committee received a report of the City Surveyor that detailed the timeline of all current projects relating to the City of London's Courts.

**RESOLVED** – That the report be received.

11. **CENTRAL CRIMINAL COURT WORKS (VERBAL UPDATE)**

The Sub-Committee heard a verbal update from the Head of Operations of Mansion House & Central Criminal Court on the works ongoing in relation to the Central Criminal Court.

**RESOLVED** – That the oral update be noted.

12. **CENTRAL CRIMINAL COURTS - COURT REFURBISHMENT AND ASSOCIATED JURY ROOMS UPDATE**

The Sub-Committee received a report of the City Surveyor that provided Members with an update on the works to refurbish the Central Criminal Court Courtrooms and associated Jury Rooms.

**RESOLVED** – That the report be received and recommendations be made to the Policy & Resources Committee.

13. **NEW COMBINE COURTS FACILITY FEASIBILITY STUDY (VERBAL UPDATE)**

The Sub-Committee heard a verbal update from the City Surveyor on the recent feasibility study that had taken place focusing on the new Combined Courts Facility.

**RESOLVED** – That the City Surveyor be heard.

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

There were no further questions.

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

There was no further business.

**The meeting closed at 11.22 am**

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Chairman

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