

POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE
Thursday, 10 October 2013

Minutes of the meeting of the Policy and Resources Committee held at Committee Rooms, 2nd Floor, West Wing, Guildhall on Thursday, 10 October 2013 at 2.00 pm

Present

Members:

Mark Boleat (Chairman)
Deputy Douglas Barrow (Deputy Chairman)
Jeremy Mayhew (Deputy Chairman)
Deputy Catherine McGuinness (Deputy Chairman)
Deputy Ken Ayers
Deputy John Barker (Ex-Officio Member)
Deputy John Bennett
Roger Chadwick (Ex-Officio Member)
Stuart Fraser
Marianne Fredericks
George Gillon (Chief Commoner)
Alderman Sir David Howard
Edward Lord
Deputy Joyce Nash
Deputy Henry Pollard (Ex-Officio Member)
Stephen Quilter
John Scott (Ex-Officio Member)
Deputy Dr Giles Shilson
Sir Michael Snyder
Deputy John Tomlinson
James Tumbridge
Deputy Michael Welbank (Ex-Officio Member)
Alderman Sir David Wootton
Alderman Alan Yarrow

Officers:

John Barradell	- Town Clerk and Chief Executive
Michael Cogher	- Comptroller and City Solicitor
Paul Double	- City Remembrancer
Peter Bennett	- City Surveyor
William Chapman	- Private Secretary and Chief of Staff to the Lord Mayor
David Pearson	- Director of Culture, Heritage and Libraries
Sue Ireland	- Director of Open Spaces
Caroline Al-Beyerty	- Financial Services Director
Paul Sizeland	- Director of Economic Development
Liz Skelcher	- Assistant Director, Economic Development Office

Tony Halmos	- Director of Public Relations
Di Smith	-
Peter Lisle	- Assistant Town Clerk
Daniel Hooper	- Town Clerk's Department
Simon Murrells	- Assistant Town Clerk
Angela Roach	- Policy Manager

1. **APOLOGIES**

Apologies were received from Deputy Alex Deane, Wendy Mead, Hugh Morris, Alderman Fiona Woolf.

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

Deputy Ken Ayers, Deputy Doug Barrow, Roger Chadwick, the Chief Commoner, Edward Lord, Jeremy Mayhew, Deputy Joyce Nash, Deputy Henry Pollard, Sir Michael Snyder and Michael Welbank all declared an interest in Item no. 16 concerning the fireworks display at the Lord Mayor's Show having received an invitation to an event to view the display from Cook and Butler.

The Chairman also declared an interest in Item No. 10 as a Board Member of Centre for London.

3. **MINUTES**

3.1 **To agree the public minutes of the meeting held on 19 September 2013.**

The public minutes of the meeting held on 19 September 2013 were approved subject to the Chairman's declaration in respect of the Singapore Strategy being amended to read as follows:-

The Chairman referred to the Singapore Strategy at Item No. 12 of the minutes. Cicero was assisting in the arrangements for the Chairman's visit to Singapore. Since the date of the meeting the assets of a start-up company he chaired, trading as Yatterbox, had been acquired by Cicero.

3.2 **To note the minutes of the Public Relations and Economic development Sub-Committee meeting held on 19 September 2013**

The minutes of the Public Relations and Economic Development Sub-Committee meeting held on 19 September 2013 were noted.

4. **PROTOCOL FOR NOMINATIONS TO WARD COMMITTEES**

The Committee considered a report of the Town Clerk concerning a protocol for the nomination of Members for appointment to Ward Committees.

Reference was made to the wording of the protocol and Members were advised that wording of the introduction and principles for making nominations should be amended to read as follows:-

Introduction

This document sets out relevant Standing Orders and protocols relating to the appointment of Members to ward committees.

Principles for making nominations

- 3. Nominations should take into account all the relevant circumstances including members' availability, knowledge, experience and the need to develop experience, to contribute to the efficient and effective running of the City Corporation.*

Support was expressed for the Protocol as amended. Discussion ensued on the current disparity between Members on the number of ward committees on which Members serve. The Committee noted the disparity but on balance felt that no further action was required.

RESOLVED – that subject to the amendment referred to above and the concurrence of the Court of Common Council the protocol be approved.

5. CITY OF LONDON CORPORATION EDUCATION STRATEGY 2013-2015

The Committee considered a report of the Town Clerk concerning the development of a City of London Corporation Education Strategy for 2013-2015.

The Chairman stated that whilst a lot of work had been done this was the beginning of the process and that once Strategy was adopted a lot more work was still to be undertaken. He thanked the Education Strategy Working Party for all its hard work in getting the Strategy to this point. The Chairman stressed that in agreeing the Strategy Members would not be agreeing the reallocation of funding or changes to constitutions, these would be brought forward in the usual way.

The Chairman of the Working Party was heard in support of the Strategy and also thanked the Members and Officers involved for their efforts. She pointed out that the Strategy had been inspired by the City Corporation's desire to do more for education in London. She stated that it covered 4 to 18 year old pupils only. She also highlighted the vast amount of educational work which was being undertaken across the organisation and the need for more cohesion and collaboration particularly amongst the schools and academies so that good practice could be shared. Reference was also made to the governance arrangements, the creation of an overarching body and to the next steps of the initiative and what this would involve.

Members discussed the Strategy in detail during which the following comments were made:-

- The Strategy was a statement of principles. It presented the City Corporation with the opportunity to take a more holistic look at its educational activities and was welcomed by all Members;
- A vast amount of educational work being was being undertaken across the City Corporation and within the City itself via the Livery companies and other institutions. Efforts should therefore be made to communicate the City's contribution to education more widely;
- With regard to the provision of funding a Member commented that when exploring future allocations it was important to take any impact on bursaries and scholarships into account;
- Reference was made to Prior Weston Primary School and the importance of providing it with support given the numbers of City children who attend it.
- Reference was made to the creation of an overarching committee and the importance of maintaining a relationship with any local institution which contributed to City's outreach activities;
- It would be helpful if an explanation could be included on how the schools chosen as part of the "City family" were selected;
- In response to concerns that the creation of an overarching body might take impetus away from individual institutions, Members were reminded that a lot more work and consultation need to be done before any decision was taken on what the overarching body would look like;
- It was noted that reference to the City of London School and the Museum of London activities had been omitted from the Paper in error and would be included in the report to the Court of Common Council;

After further discussion it was

RESOLVED – that subject to the concurrence of the Court of Common Council the following be approved:-

1. the City of London Corporation Education Strategy 2013-2015 as set out in the appendix to the report;
2. the recommendations and actions contained within the strategy, noting the need to ensure that resources were directed appropriately to implement them;
3. noting that delivering the strategy needed to be endorsed by the Court of Common Council with firm proposals needing to be considered and agreed by relevant City Corporation committees;

4. the focus on improving the governance of the City Corporation's education offering and support action to review the City Corporation's governor appointment processes;
5. the creation of an overarching education body with responsibility for providing strategic oversight and monitoring of the education strategy and the City Corporation's education offering;
6. authority be given to the Chairman of the Policy & Resources Committee to appoint up to two additional members to the Education Strategy Working Party, in consultation with the Chairman of the Education Strategy Working Party, with the Working Party overseeing the implementation of the strategy for an interim period; and
7. the strategy be reviewed after 18 months of it being approved.

6. **PLANNING COMMITMENTS FOR CITY OF LONDON OPEN SPACES**

The Committee considered a report of the Director of Open Spaces concerning the need to engage with local planning authorities on proposed developments or on matters which might have an impact on the City Corporation's open spaces and the additional resources required to do this.

RESOLVED – That:-

1. £25,000 be allocated to cover the cost of planning consultancy work to aid the protection of the Open Spaces from development pressures and in so doing shape relevant local planning authority Plans. The cost would be met from the Policy and Resources Committee's contingency for 2013/14 and charged to City's Cash; and
2. it be noted that if demand for work continued into financial year 2014/15 in the first instance attempts would be made to meet the costs from the Open Spaces budget. In the absence of resource within the Open Space budget, a similar amount may be sought for completing work in Financial Year 2014/15.

7. **SPONSORSHIP OF DIGITAL SHOREDITCH 2014**

The Committee considered a report of the Director of Economic Development proposing the continued sponsorship of Digital Shoreditch, a digital technology festival, taking place in 2014.

RESOLVED – That approval be given to funding of £20,000 to cover the costs of sponsoring Digital Shoreditch 2014, split into a contribution of £9,750 payable directly to Digital Shoreditch and a sum of £10,250 to cover in-kind support in the form of connected events/hospitality at Guildhall, both sums to be charged to City's Cash and met from the contingency for 2013/14 (£13,160) and 2014/15 (£6,840).

8. SPONSORSHIP OF LONDON WORKS - A SOCIAL ENTERPRISE TEMPORARY RECRUITMENT AGENCY

The Committee considered a report of the Director of Economic Development proposing a contribution of £100,000 to assist with seed funding for London Works, a social enterprise temporary recruitment agency set up by the East London Business Alliance.

RESOLVED – That:-

1. approval be given to a contribution of £100,000 to London Works, split into two annual contributions of £50,000 over the 2013/14 and 2014/15 financial years, to be met from the Policy Initiatives Fund for the respective years, categorised under 'Communities' and charged to City's Cash;
2. it be noted that the proposed contribution would be subject to London Works accepting referrals from each of the City's seven neighbouring boroughs and working closely with the Brokerage Citylink; and
3. Deputy Catherine McGuinness be appointed as the City Corporation's representative on the board of London Works.

9. LOCAL GOVERNMENT INFORMATION UNIT (LGIU): CORPORATE SUBSCRIPTION FOR MEMBERS AND OFFICERS

The Committee considered a report of the Director of Public Relations proposing the City Corporation's subscription to the LGiU, a local democracy think tank.

RESOLVED – that the City Corporation subscribes to the Local Government Information Unit at a cost of £10,000 per annum funded from the Policy Initiatives Fund for 2013/14 and 2014/2015, categorised under the *Research* section of the Fund and charged to City's Cash.

10. CENTRE FOR LONDON: CORE FUNDING

The Committee considered a report of the Director of Public Relations proposing continued support for the Centre for London, a politically independent, not-for-profit think tank.

RESOLVED – that sponsorship of the Centre for London be approved for a maximum of two years at a cost of £20,000 per year to be met from the Policy Initiatives Funds for 2013/14 and 2014/15 categorised under the *Research* section of the Fund and charged to City's Cash.

11. RESULTS OF TRIENNIAL OPINION POLLING OF THE CITY OF LONDON CORPORATION'S KEY AUDIENCES

The Committee considered a report of the Director of Public Relations summarising the results of the latest poll of key audiences commissioned by the City Corporation.

Members noted that generally there had been improvement in perceptions of the City since the last poll was conducted.

RESOLVED – that the report be received together with the report produced by TNS and that they key findings be noted.

12. PUBLIC RELATIONS OFFICE ACTIVITIES REPORT: JULY-SEPTEMBER, 2013

The Committee considered a report of the Director of Public Relations updating it on the activities undertaken by the Public Relations Office since the last report in July 2013.

RESOLVED – That the report be received and the content noted.

13. POLICY INITIATIVES FUND / COMMITTEE CONTINGENCY

The Committee considered a statement of the Chamberlain on the use of the Policy Initiatives Fund and the Committee's contingency for 2013/14.

RESOLVED – That the content of the report be noted.

14. DECISIONS TAKEN UNDER DELEGATED AUTHORITY OR URGENCY POWERS

The Committee received a report of the Town Clerk reporting action taken by the Town Clerk in consultation with the Chairman and Deputy Chairman since the last meeting of the Committee in accordance with Standing Orders 41(a) and 41(b).

RESOLVED – that it be noted that approval was given to the following:-

1. the Chairman of the Policy and Resources Committee serving on the newly created UK National Advisory Board to the G8 Social Impact Investment Taskforce; and
2. support for the Global Law Summit (GLS), which was being organised by the Government, Bar Council and Law Society to celebrate the 800th anniversary of the Magna Carta in 2015 as follows:-
 - i) the non-exclusive use of the ground floor outer Livery room in the Guildhall North Wing by GLS staff free of charge for approximately 18 months starting from a date to be agreed on the basis of ad hoc sharing with Livery Company clerks;
 - ii) waiver of the inclusive notional cost of occupation at the rate of £13,635 per annum; and

- iii) the Remembrancer becoming a director of the limited liability company set up to establish the Summit.

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

There were no questions.

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

The following items of urgent business were considered:-

Lord Mayor's Show

The Committee considered the following matters in connection with the Lord Mayor's Show:-

Armed Forces and the City Corporation Covenant

The Remembrancer sought support to the Lord Mayor to sign a covenant between the Armed Forces and the City Corporation, as part of the Lord Mayor's Show, which acknowledged the Armed Forces and the sacrifices made by the various military groups.

RESOLVED – that approval be given to the Lord Mayor's signing of a covenant, as part of the Lord Mayor's Show, between the Armed Forces and the City Corporation which acknowledged the Armed Forces.

Fireworks Display

A report of the Director of Public Relations was laid round the table concerning the additional cost associated with traffic and public safety management activities for the fireworks display.

RESOLVED – that approval be given to the following:-

1. an increase not exceeding £62,000 to the cost of providing the fireworks display to include additional traffic management, public safety and crowd and related events management issues. The total cost not to exceed £155,000 to be met from the Committee's City's Cash contingency for 2013/14; and
2. the appointment of AD Health and Safety as a specialist event company to oversee the management of the fireworks event.

London First Aviation Campaign

The Committee considered a report of the Director of Public Relations proposing support for London First's aviation campaign entitled Let Britain Fly.

RESOLVED – That approval be given to one-off financial support of £25,000 to London First's aviation campaign, *Let Britain Fly*, to be met from the Policy Initiatives Fund for 2013/14 categorised under the *Research* section of the Fund and charged to City's Cash.

Members' Informal Meeting

The Chairman referred to the regular themed discussion meetings he hosted to assist Members in becoming more familiar with the City Corporation's work. He advised that whilst the meetings were well received they reduced the number of topics which could be considered at the Members' Informal meetings without causing duplication. He referred to the next Members' Informal meeting which was scheduled to take place in November and questioned the merits of it proceeding with insufficient business.

A Member expressed concern about cancelling the meeting without proper consultation and, in general, the Committee was of the view that the meeting should proceed as it provided an open forum for discussion and that Members should be asked if there were any specific items that they wished to raise.

RESOLVED – That the Members' Informal meeting scheduled for November should proceed as planned.

17. 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 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act:-

Item Nos.	Paragraph(s) in Schedule 12A
18	3
19	1 and 3
20	1 and 3

18. NON-PUBLIC MINUTES

The non-public minutes of the meeting held on 19 September 2013 were approved.

19. CONTINUATION OF EMPLOYER ENGAGEMENT MANAGER ROLE IN THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OFFICE

The Committee considered and agreed a report of the Director of Economic Development concerning the role of the Employer Engagement Manager.

20. **CITY CORPORATION HOSPITALITY**

The Remembrancer was heard in relation to a forthcoming Honorary Freedom and associated hospitality. The Committee supported the proposal.

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

There were no questions.

22. **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 for consideration.

The meeting ended at 3.15pm Time Not Specified

Chairman

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