

EDUCATION BOARD
Friday, 2 December 2022

Minutes of the meeting of the Education Board held at Committee Room 4 - 2nd
Floor West Wing, Guildhall on Friday, 2 December 2022 at 10.00 am

Present

Members:

Caroline Haines (Chair)
Naresh Sonpar (Deputy Chairman)
Alderman Sir Peter Estlin
John Griffiths
Deputy Madush Gupta
Deputy Shravan Joshi
Bolu Faseun
Mary Robey

In attendance:

James Adeleke
Alderman Robert Howard
Benjamin Murphy
Mandeep Thandi

Officers:

Chloe Ainsworth	- Town Clerk's Department
Anne Bamford	- Community & Children's Services Department
Scott Caizley	- Community & Children's Services Department
Beth Crosland	- Museum of London
Mark Jarvis	- Chamberlain's Department
Catherine McGovern	- Community & Children's Services Department
Scott Myers	- Community & Children's Services Department
John Park	- Town Clerk's Department
Vasima Patel	- Community & Children's Services Department
Gwen Rhys	- Community & Children's Services Department
Torri Stewart	- Community & Children's Services Department
Frazer Swift	- Museum of London
Emily Rimington	- Comptroller & City Solicitor

1. **APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence were received from Benjamin Murphy (Mr Murphy attended the meeting virtually).

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

Deputy Shravan Joshi declared a non-pecuniary interest in respect of item 20 and his role as Chair of the Planning and Transportation Committee.

3. **PUBLIC MINUTES**

The public minutes and summary of the meeting held on 20 October 2022 were approved as a correct record, subject to the following amendment:

- John Griffiths' name was added to the attendance list.

4. **OUTSTANDING ACTIONS**

The Board received a report of the Town Clerk setting out its outstanding actions.

In response to a query, the Board was informed that Officers would explore making training available to stakeholder organisations.

RESOLVED - That the outstanding actions be noted.

5. **LEAD MEMBER FOR ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION**

The Board received a verbal update from the Chair regarding the role of Lead Member for the Environment. The Board was informed that Alderman Robert Howard had expressed his interest in the role and was the only Member who had done so. The Board was therefore invited to approve the appointment of Alderman Howard.

RESOLVED – That Alderman Robert Howard be appointed as Lead Member for the Environment for a term of one year.

6. **CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S PLAN 2022 - 25**

The Board received a report of the Director of Community and Children's Services setting the strategic priorities for the City Corporation to ensure that children and young people who live or study in the Square Mile, or access its services, live the best life that they can.

In response to a query, Members were informed that the City Corporation has safeguarding responsibilities for children in relation to the performance of its functions, and that the local authority in which the children reside is responsible for their social care. The Board requested further clarity about the responsibilities the City Corporation has to its children residents attending schools in other local authorities.

The Board was informed that the City of London's Children's Partnership Board was driving the plan and that it meets every three months to deliver a quarterly progress report. It was noted that these reports are available for interested Members or Committees upon request.

Officers explained that they were striving to achieve a balanced approach to consultation and engagement as they have found that currently cohorts feel over consulted.

RESOLVED – That the report be noted.

7. **GOVERNOR APPOINTMENTS UPDATE**

The Board received a report of the Director of Community and Children's Services providing any updates on governor appointments to the Local Governing Bodies of the City of London Academies Trust (CoLAT) and a list of the current governing body membership of the City Family of Schools.

RESOLVED – That the report be noted.

8. **REVENUE BUDGETS 2023/24**

The Board considered a joint report of the Director of Community and Children's Services and the Chamberlain containing the annual submission of the revenue budgets overseen by the Education Board.

RESOLVED, that Members –

a) Review the provisional 2023/24 revenue budget to ensure that it reflected the Committee's objectives and approve the budget for submission to the Finance Committee;

b) Authorise the Chamberlain to revise these budgets to allow for further implications arising from the agreement by this Committee of specific allocations of funding to Academies and Central Support Services;

c) Agree that minor amendments for 2022/23 and 2023/24 budgets arising during budget setting be delegated to the Chamberlain.

9. **EDUCATION, CULTURAL AND CREATIVE LEARNING AND SKILLS UPDATE**

The Board received a report of the Director of Community and Children's Services updating Members on recent events and activities delivered across the three strategies overseen by the Education Board: Education, Cultural and Creative Learning, and Skills.

The Chair invited Members to recommend guests for the Education Board dinner before the end of January.

RESOLVED – That the report be noted.

10. **CITY SCHOOLS CONFERENCE EVALUATION**

The Board received a report of the Director of Community and Children's Services updating Members on the recent Annual City Schools' Conference and providing insights on the evaluation feedback from the event.

In response to a query from a Member, the Board was informed that once a theme for the events of 2023 has been decided, promotional information will be circulated to Members so that they can promote the events to their networks.

On behalf of the Chief Executive Officer of CoLAT, the Chair of the Board of Trustees of CoLAT informed Members that a follow-up meeting to drive the social mobility agenda across London was being arranged for January.

The Board discussed the need to develop an action plan arising from discussion points at the conference and agreed that developing partnerships across London would be fundamental to driving progress.

RESOLVED – That the report be noted.

11. **CULTURE MILE LEARNING SCHOOL VISITS FUND**

The Board received a report of the Director of the Museum of London providing the quarterly update on the Schools Visits Fund.

A Member suggested connecting the Gardeners Livery Company with Culture Mile Learning to provide extra resource and opportunities for the School Visits Fund. The Board requested data on the uptake of the fund by CoLAT schools.

In response to a question from a Member, the Board was informed that the funds accrued during the Covid-19 pandemic had been repurposed to increase capacity now.

The Board discussed the requirement for at least 35% of pupils at the school applying for the fund to be eligible for pupil premium. A Member stated that a more nuanced approach to providing access to the scheme would ensure that disadvantaged children in school with more affluent peers could still receive the benefits of the fund. The Board was informed that Officers would explore options for allowing more pupil premium children to access the scheme.

RESOLVED – That the report be noted.

12. **REVIEW OF FUNDING TO THE GUILDHALL SCHOOL OF MUSIC & DRAMA FOR SCHOLARSHIPS**

The Board considered a report of the Principal of Guildhall School of Music and Drama reviewing the City Corporation's payment of £30,000 per annum to the school and demonstrating the impact of the funds.

Noting the City Corporation's Social Mobility Strategy (2018 – 2028), the Board agreed that the report did not contain sufficient detail about how social mobility is considered in the awarding of scholarships. The Chair noted that she had previously requested that the Guildhall School of Music & Drama work with the

City of London Academies so that these pupils might benefit from scholarship opportunities.

RESOLVED – Members authorise the Director of Community and Children’s Services to request evidence on how social mobility is embedded in the Guildhall School of Music and Drama’s scholarship program.

13. CONNECTING COMMUNITIES

The Board received an update on the progress of the Connecting Communities programme.

In response to a query from a Member, the Board was informed that the programme concludes in June 2023 and that the evaluation of the programme would be conducted by Central London Forward. The Board discussed the learning points from the programme so far and the importance of embedding these in future programmes.

RESOLVED – That the report be noted.

14. LONDON CAREERS FESTIVAL UPDATE

The Board received a verbal update from the Director of Community and Children’s Services on the London Careers Festival (LCF).

The Chair invited Members to contact the Lead Partnerships Officer if they would like to be involved in the LCF.

RESOLVED – That the update be noted.

15. QUESTIONS ON MATTERS RELATING TO THE WORK OF THE BOARD

There were no questions.

16. ANY OTHER BUSINESS THAT THE CHAIR CONSIDERS URGENT

There were no items of urgent business.

17. 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 on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraph 3 of Part I of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act as follows:-

Item	Paragraph
18, 20, 21&22	3

18. NON-PUBLIC MINUTES

RESOLVED – That the non-public minutes of the meeting held on 20 October 2022 were approved as a correct record.

19. NON-PUBLIC OUTSTANDING ACTIONS

RESOLVED – That the non-public outstanding actions be noted.

20. **CHAIRS' UPDATES**

The Board received verbal updates in relation to the City Junior School (CJS), City of London School for Girls (CLSG) and CoLAT.

RESOLVED – That the updates be noted.

21. **STANDARDS SCRUTINY MEETINGS OF CITY SPONSORED ACADEMIES**

The Board received a report of the Director of Community and Children's Services detailing the findings of the scrutiny meetings of 1 and 4 November 2022.

RESOLVED – That the report be noted.

22. **CITY PREMIUM GRANT EVALUATIONS**

The Board considered a report of the Director of Community and Children's Services providing Members with a summary of the impact evaluations of City Premium Grants (CPG) funded projects delivered during the 2021/22 academic year.

23. **NON PUBLIC QUESTIONS ON MATTERS RELATING TO THE WORK OF THE BOARD**

There were no questions.

24. **ANY OTHER BUSINESS THAT THE CHAIR CONSIDERS URGENT AND WHICH THE BOARD AGREE SHOULD BE CONSIDERED WHILST THE PUBLIC ARE EXCLUDED**

There were no items of urgent business.

25. **QUESTION RAISED AT THE COURT OF COMMON COUNCIL**

At the conclusion of the meeting, the Chair raised a discussion point for confidential session.

The Town Clerk noted that the meeting was inquorate and therefore, in line with Standing Order 36 of the Court of Common Council, the formal meeting was dissolved. Several Members agreed to remain to discuss this item informally.

Members discussed a question that had been raised for the next Court of Common Council.

The meeting ended at 12.20 pm

Chairman

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