

## **POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE**

**Thursday, 17 March 2022**

Minutes of the meeting of the Policy and Resources Committee held at Committee Rooms, 2nd Floor, West Wing, Guildhall on Thursday, 17 March 2022 at 1.45 pm and livestreamed at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fHh4JcSlkU>

### **Present**

#### **Members:**

Deputy Catherine McGuinness (Chair)  
Christopher Hayward (Deputy Chairman)  
Deputy Keith Bottomley (Vice-Chairman)  
Deputy Tom Sleigh (Vice-Chair)  
Nicholas Bensted-Smith (Ex-Officio Member)  
Tijs Broeke  
Mary Durcan  
Marianne Fredericks  
Caroline Haines  
Deputy Wendy Hyde (Ex-Officio Member)  
Deputy Jamie Ingham Clark  
Shravan Joshi  
Deputy Edward Lord  
Alderman Ian Luder  
Alderman & Sheriff Nicholas Lyons  
Andrew McMurtrie  
Wendy Mead  
Deputy Andrien Meyers  
Deputy Brian Mooney (Chief Commoner) (Ex-Officio Member)  
Sir Michael Snyder  
Deputy Philip Woodhouse  
Alderman Sir David Wootton

#### **In Attendance:**

Mathew Bell	Mark Bostock
Deputy David Bradshaw	Deputy Roger Chadwick
John Chapman	Henry Colthurst
Helen Fentiman	Graeme Harrower
Christopher Hill	Ann Holmes
Benjamin Murphy	Deputy Barbara Newman
Graham Packham	Susan Pearson
Judith Pleasance	Deputy Henry Pollard
Ian Seaton	Oliver Sells
William Upton	Dawn Wright

#### **Officers:**

John Barradell	- Town Clerk and Chief Executive
Michael Cogher	- Comptroller and City Solicitor

Paul Double	- City Remembrancer
Polly Dunn, Clerk	- Town Clerk's Department
Caroline Al-Beyerty	- The Chamberlain
Damian Nussbaum	- Director of Innovation & Growth
Bob Roberts	- Director of Communications
Peter Lisle	- Director of Major Programmes
Gregory Moore	- Assistant Town Clerk
Christopher Rumbles	- Town Clerk's Department
Jacqueline Ryan	- Town Clerk's Department
Gemma Stokley	- Town Clerk's Department
Sonia Virdee	- Chamberlain's Department
Paul Wright	- Deputy Remembrancer
Peter Young	- City Surveyor's Department
Dionne Corradine	- Chief Strategy Officer
Emma Cunnington	- Town Clerk's Department
Anna Dunne	- Programme Director
James Gibson	- Chief Operating Officer's Department
Michael Gwyther-Jones	- Community and Children's Services Department
Richard Messingham	- Town Clerk's Department
Ben Milligan	- Markets Director
Emma Moore	- Chief Operating Officer
Gordon Roy	- Environment Department

The Chair welcomed all Members of the Committee, those Members of the wider Court that were in attendance for item 18 and any Members of the public that were viewing the meeting via the live stream.

**1. APOLOGIES**

Apologies were received from Rehana Ameer, Alderman Tim Hailes, Anne Fairweather, Mark Wheatley and James Thomson.

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

There were no declarations.

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At this point in the meeting the Town Clerk confirmed the Chair's intention to change the running order of the agenda by moving the confidential agenda item 18 to this point in the meeting. This was to allow for wider Members of the Court in attendance to be able to participate in the discussion before the Committee moved on to regular items of business on the agenda. Members were invited to exclude the public temporarily for consideration of this item.

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**RESOLVED:** That under Section 100(A) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public be excluded from the meeting for consideration the following item of business on the grounds it will involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act.

**18. NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE SMITHFIELD MARKET TENANTS' ASSOCIATION IN SUPPORT OF THE MUSEUM OF LONDON AND MARKETS CO-LOCATION PROGRAMME**

The Committee considered a joint report of the City Surveyor, Major Programmes Director, Chief Operating Officer, Markets Director and Chamberlain relating to negotiations with the Smithfield Market Tenants' Association in support of the Museum of London and Markets Co-location Programme.

At the conclusion of discussion on this item Members resolved, that the public be readmitted to the meeting for consideration of the remaining public items of business.

**3. MINUTES**

- a) Public minutes of the Policy and Resources Committee meeting held on 17 February 2022.

A Member referred to item 17 and the reference having been to King William Street Bridge rather than London Bridge.

RESOLVED: That the public minutes of the Policy and Resources Committee meeting held on 17<sup>th</sup> February 2022 be approved, with the above clarification being included.

- b) The draft public minutes of the Resource Allocation Sub-Committee meeting held on 3 February 2022 were noted.
- c) The draft public minutes of the Projects Sub-Committee meeting held on 17 February 2022 were noted.

**4. SUB-COMMITTEE TERMS OF REFERENCE**

The Committee considered a report of the Town Clerk that provided Members with an opportunity for early review and consideration in respect of terms of reference for sub-committees that would sit under the Policy and Resources Committee moving forward.

The Town Clerk agreed to run through each Sub-Committee and take feedback on composition, responsibilities and any additional points for consideration. During the discussion that followed the following key points were raised:

- Any reference to Chair of General Purposes of the Court of Alderman should should read his or her nominee throughout.
- Competitiveness Advisory Board arrangements were two Aldermen rather than specifically naming positions.
- A Member referred to delegated authority being granted to Resource Allocation Sub-Committee to agree allocation of resources rather than the Grand Committee retaining oversight, which they considered to be a

huge shift in power. A Member proposed officers be asked to consider possible thresholds, which Members endorsed.

- Civic Affairs Sub-committee 'Four Members of the Court of Common Council' should be elected by Court of Common Council rather than Policy and Resources Committee.
- Members agreed that the Chairman of Finance Committee should be included as part of the composition of Civic Affairs Sub-Committee.
- The Town Clerk added clarification and a proposal relating to Capital Buildings Board; that the Committee consider upholding the existing Court appointments and their remaining terms, which received the support of Members.
- It was suggested terms of reference (composition and responsibilities) for Financial and Property Investment Boards required more detailed consideration and tasked officers with bringing back revised proposals.
- There was a need to ensure appropriate transition from Tackling Racism Taskforce to Equality, Diversity & Inclusion Sub-Committee given the drastic change to composition, ensure there were no gaps in experience and knowledge in moving from one Committee to another.

The Town Clerk highlighted changes to terms of reference may lead to changes to Policy and Resources Committee's terms of reference, with these being updated in the usual way and submitted to Court.

A Member referred to the draft minute extract of the discussion at Benefices Sub-Committee on 7 February 2022 and proposed this be formally referred to the first meeting of Civic Affairs Sub-Committee, which Members supported. The Town Clerk referred to a suggestion that one of the Policy and Resources Committee allocated places goes to the outgoing Chairman of Benefices Sub-Committee, in the first year, to ensure the new Sub-Committee adequately captured all responsibilities it would be overseeing, which Members endorsed.

A Member referred to the current process for the election of Deputy Chair and Vice Chairs and suggested a simpler process moving forward would be to elect a Deputy Chair in one ballot and the Vice Chairs in a second ballot. This would make the process clearer; people would know the candidate they were voting for and for which role. The Deputy Chairman supported this proposed change and suggested a Deputy Chair elected by the whole committee would enjoy far more confidence if they were elected in this way. Members were supportive of this approach, noting this change would require agreement of Court of Common Council.

The Town Clerk proposed using previously scheduled dates for the new schedule of Sub-Committee meetings, which Members supported.

RESOLVED: That Members: -

- Note the various areas of consideration in respect of the Sub-Committee terms of reference would be updated and brought back for final approval in May 2022; and

- Agreed to previously scheduled dates being used to form the schedule of meetings for the new sub-committees.

#### 5. **POLICY INITIATIVES FUND AND COMMITTEE CONTINGENCY**

The Committee considered a report of the Chamberlain providing details of the uncommitted balances of the Policy Initiatives Fund (PIF), the Policy and Resources Committee's Contingency Fund, Committee's Project Reserve and COVID19 Contingency Fund for 2021/22 and seeking approval to carry balances forward into 2022/23.

Members noted that, following publication of the agenda, Court of Common Council had agreed to £125,000 of the 2021/22 unallocated PIF balance going towards supporting the Ukraine Disaster Fund. As such, the unallocated balance of PIF for carry forward as detailed within the report would reduce by £125,000 from £262, 307 to £137,307.

RESOLVED: That Members: -

- Note the contents of the report.
- Approve the 2021/22 unallocated balances on your Committee's PIF and Contingency Fund being carried forward into 2022/23.
- Approve the 2021/22 COVID Contingency Fund balances being carried forward into 2022/23.
- Authorise the Executive Director of IG to repurpose the remaining unspent balance against the Adoption of Competitiveness Strategy - Development of an 'Asset Under Management' Campaign Initiative.

#### 6. **BARBICAN PODIUM WORKS - GOVERNANCE ARRANGEMENTS**

The Committee considered a joint report of the Town Clerk and Comptroller and City Solicitor seeking approval to the Barbican Podium Works being promoted by Policy and Resources Committee to address the 'separation functions' that persons acting in the planning authority functions (both officers and Members) should not be involved in promoting an application for planning permission that comes before them.

RESOLVED: That Policy and Resources Committee recommend to the Court of Common Council that the functions of Planning and Transportation Committee as walkway authority and under Part II of the City of London (Various Powers) Act 1967 in connection with the promotion of the Barbican Podium Works (but not the diversion, alteration, revocation or declaration of any City Walkway) be delegated to Policy and Resources Committee for the duration of the Barbican Podium project.

#### 7. **CAPITAL FUNDING UPDATE - REQUEST FOR DELEGATED AUTHORITY**

The Committee considered a report of the Chamberlain relating to projects in the capital programme that were reliant on central funding previously agreed 'in principle' as part of the annual capital bids and seeking delegated authority to the Town Clerk, in consultation with the Chair and Deputy Chairman of Policy and Resources Committee to approve drawdown of funds until the next

planned meeting of Policy and Resources Committee on Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> May 2022.

RESOLVED: That Members: -

- Delegate authority to the Town Clerk, in consultation with the Chairman and Deputy Chairman of the Policy and Resources Committee, to approve requests to draw-down against central funding allocations previously approved in principle via the annual capital bids process.

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

**Ukraine** – A Member referred to Court of Common Council having recently condemned the military action being taken by Russia in Ukraine and they questioned whether the City Corporation should consider condemning China who had failed to condemn the Russian government's actions. The Chair responded confirming the City Corporation continued to support actions and sanctions that were being imposed against Russia. At this time, HM Government had not proposed the same form of sanctions with China and as such the City Corporation would maintain its current position. This would be reviewed should Government change its position.

**Abuse of Human Rights** – A Member referred to agreement at Court of Common to a report on policy on ethical investments and international engagement and questioned which officer would be leading on this. Members noted the Chief Operating Officer would be leading on this piece of work, with a Working Group of senior officers having been established to consider a range of issues and report back.

**Committee Room Microphones** – A Member referred to earlier difficulties with the microphones and questioned whether wireless rather than wired microphones could be explored during the period in advance of the new municipal year. The Chief Operating Officer acknowledged the issues experienced. There was currently no budget available to implement a new system in advance of the new municipal year but .

A Member responded and suggested there was a need to get a system in place that was fit for purpose and given the relative cost suggested any approval needed to achieve this could be taken under urgent decision to get it done.

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*At this point in the meeting, in accordance with Standing Order 40, a decision was taken to extend the length of the meeting.*

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The Deputy Chairman agreed that there was a need to resolve the issue, with the current problems looking unprofessional to those observing the meeting.

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

**World Wildlife Fund for Nature (WWF) Earth Hour** – The Chair referred to WWF promoting Earth Hour that would be taking place on 26 March 2022. WWF were asking businesses and organisations to turn off non-essential lights for one hour between 8.30pm to 9.30pm on a specific day in March, as a symbol of commitment to the planet. Members were being asked to support the event this year, agreeing to City Corporation buildings switching off non-essential lights and agreeing to the promotion of the event to city residents and businesses. Members endorsed the proposal.

RESOLVED: That Members:-

- Approve the City Corporation supporting World Wildlife Fund's Earth Hour through the City Corporation buildings switching off non-essential lights and through promotion of the event to city residents and businesses.

**Chair of Policy** – The Chair remarked on this being her last meeting as Chair and how she wanted to take the opportunity to thank Members and officers for their support over the last five years, which had been a period like no other with the challenges that have been faced.

It had been good to see partnerships strengthened in a number of areas and to see the progress the City Corporation had been able to make in supporting Covid recovery, setting a pathway to net zero and in increasing London's role on ESG and supporting UK competitiveness.

The Chair thanked Members of this Committee and the wider Court for giving her an opportunity to play her part in this.

The Chair thanked the various Deputies and Vice Chairs who have worked with her, Lord Mayor's she has had the privilege to work alongside, and the Chairman of GP Committee of Aldermen who had been so helpful in forging a one team approach.

The Chair concluded by giving a very warm thank you to the dedicated officers across the City Corporation who deliver the contribution the organisation makes.

The Deputy Chairman responded and thanked the Chair for her outstanding leadership and to wish her well for whatever she goes on to do in the future.

10. **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.

11. **NON-PUBLIC MINUTES**

- a) The non-public minutes of the Policy and Resources Committee meeting held on 17 February 2022 were agreed.
  - b) The draft non-public minutes of the Projects Sub-Committee meeting held on 17 February 2022 were noted.
  - c) The draft non-public minutes of the Resources Allocation Sub-Committee meeting held on 3 February 2022.
12. **CITY HOSPITALITY COST GUIDELINES 2022/23**  
The Committee considered a report of the Remembrancer relating to City Hospitality Guidelines 2022/23
13. **GUILDHALL CHARGING REVIEW**  
The Committee considered a report of the Remembrancer relating to a Guildhall Charging Review.
14. **CHIEF INVESTMENT STRATEGY OFFICER**  
The Committee received a report of the Chamberlain providing an update in relation to a Chief Investment Strategy Officer.
15. **QUESTIONS ON MATTERS RELATING TO THE WORK OF THE COMMITTEE**  
There were no questions.
16. **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 of business.
17. **CONFIDENTIAL MINUTES**  
  
RESOLVED: That the Confidential minutes of the Policy and Resources Committee meeting on 17 February 2022 were agreed.
18. **NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE SMTA IN SUPPORT OF THE MOL AND MCP PROGRAMMES**  
The Committee considered this item earlier in the meeting.

**The meeting ended at 3.50pm**

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Chairman

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