

POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE

Thursday, 17 November 2022

Minutes of the meeting of the Policy and Resources Committee held at Committee Rooms, 2nd Floor, West Wing, Guildhall on Thursday, 17 November 2022 at 2.00 pm.

Present

Members:

Deputy Christopher Hayward (Chairman)
Deputy Keith Bottomley (Deputy Chairman)
Tijs Broeke (Vice-Chair)
Mary Durcan (Vice-Chair)
Deputy Randall Anderson (Ex-Officio Member)
Deputy Rehana Ameer
Deputy Marianne Fredericks
Alderman Timothy Hailes
Deputy Shravan Joshi
Deputy Edward Lord
Alderman Ian David Luder
Catherine McGuinness
Wendy Mead
Deputy Andrien Meyers
Deputy Brian Mooney
Deputy Alastair Moss (Ex-Officio Member)
Alderman Sir William Russell
Ruby Sayed (Ex-Officio Member)
Deputy Sir Michael Snyder
James Tumbridge
Deputy Philip Woodhouse
Deputy Henry Colthurst (Ex-Officio Member)
Wendy Hyde (Ex-Officio Member)
Alderman Professor Michael Mainelli

In Attendance (Observing Online)

Munsur Ali

Officers:

Caroline Al-Beyerty	- Chamberlain
John Barradell	- Town Clerk and Chief Executive
Michael Cogher	- Comptroller and City Solicitor
Dionne Corradine	- Chief Strategy Officer
Paul Double	- City Remembrancer
Polly Dunn, Clerk	- Town Clerk's Department
Alice Hall	- Bridge House Estates
Barbara Hook	- Town Clerk's Department
Tim Jones	- Innovation and Growth
Luciana Magliocco	- Innovation and Growth

Simon McGinn	- Environment Department
Emma Moore	- Chief Operating Officer
Greg Moore	- Assistant Town Clerk
Damian Nussbaum	- Director of Innovation & Growth
Fiona Rawes	- Bridge House Estates
Bob Roberts	- Deputy Town Clerk
Chris Rumbles	- Town Clerk's Department
Elizabeth Scott	- Innovation and Growth
Soni Virdee	- Chamberlain's Department
Paul Wilkinson	- City Surveyor
Paul Wright	- Deputy Remembrancer

Part 1 - Public Agenda

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from The Rt Hon The Lord Mayor Nicholas Lyons, Ben Murphy, Simon Duckworth and James Thomson.

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

There were no declarations.

3. MINUTES

- a) The public minutes of the Policy and Resources Committee meeting on 20th October were approved.
- b) The public minutes of the Resource Allocation Sub-Committee meeting on 4th October 2022 were noted.
- c) The public minutes of the Resource Allocation Sub-Committee meeting on 20th October 2022 were noted.
- d) The public summary of the Competitiveness Advisory Board meeting on 12th October 2022.

A Member commented on the summary of Competitiveness Advisory Board appearing very short at only half a page. Whilst it was accepted that full minutes would not be provided, it was agreed that a more detailed note would be produced moving forward.

- e) The public minutes of the Communications and Corporate Affairs Sub Committee meeting on 31st October 2022 were noted.

The Chairman referred to one item within the Communications and Corporate Affairs Sub-Committee minutes requiring approval of Policy and Resources Committee. This being a reallocation of Policy Initiatives Fund spending for use on sport engagement, from monies reserved for the Commonwealth Games Queen's Baton relay event.

Members were supportive of the proposal.

RESOLVED: That Members: -

- Agreed to repurpose the underspend of £39,399, allocated from the Policy Initiatives Fund to the Commonwealth Games Queen's Baton Relay event earlier this year, for other sport engagement activity in 2023/24.

4. **OPPORTUNITY LONDON CAMPAIGN**

The Committee considered a joint report of the Executive Director of Environment and City Surveyor seeking approval to continue City Corporation sponsorship of the Opportunity London campaign and seeking agreement to attend MIPIM 2023 as a partner in the campaign.

RESOLVED: Members agreed:

- That £25,000 from the Environment Department (Partnership and Engagement) local risk budget should be used to fund the ongoing sponsorship of Opportunity London.
- That the City of London Corporation should attend MIPIM 2023 with a total budget of £65,000 to be funded via Environment Department's (Partnership and Engagement) local risk budget (£40,000) City Surveyors local risk budget (£20,000) and the Central Communications Director local risk budget (£5,000).
- That £50,000 from the Environment Department (Partnership and Engagement) local risk budget should be used to fund the attendance of an umbrella programme of property related events being supported by Opportunity London.

5. **BECKFORD & CASS STATUES INTERPRETATION PROJECT**

The Committee considered a report of the Director of Innovation and Growth providing an update to the Beckford and Cass Statues Interpretation Project, noting action taken since the last update and presenting a proposal to delegate authority over the project to Culture, Heritage and Libraries Committee.

The Chairman confirmed he would be happy to support the proposal, but with a caveat that the matter should come back to Policy and Resources Committee in the event that there was any significant slippage on the revised delivery date.

The report and revised timeframe was welcomed by Members. A Member referred to the final wording and suggested this should come back to Policy and Resources Committee for review in advance of production, which the Chairman agreed. A Member, also Chair of Culture, Heritage and Libraries Committee, was also agreeable to this proposal.

A Member remarked on their support for the retain and explain approach. The Member suggested a moveable stand was not a long-term solution and that a permanent display was needed. Officers were asked to consider a display that would not damage the plinth but would allow a message to be on display permanently, which the Chairman acknowledged was a reasonable request.

There was support among Members of the need for a permanent display.

RESOLVED: That Members: -

- Note the content of the report.
- Agreed to delegate authority over the project to Culture, Heritage, and Libraries Committee (CHL) as elected by Court; noting the matter would come back to Policy and Resources Committee in the event that there was any significant slippage on the revised delivery date.

6. UN SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS COMMUNICATION OF PROGRESS REPORT

The Committee considered a report of the Chief Strategy Officer seeking approval of the first annual UN Sustainable Development Goals Communication of Progress Report.

RESOLVED: That Members: -

- Approve the first annual UN Sustainable Development Goals Communication of Progress Report.
- Authorise the Chief Strategy Officer to submit the report for publication on the UN Global Compact internet page, in accordance with the commitment made to do so by 1st January 2023.
- Note the annual £550 membership fee to the UN Global Compact, and that Officers will review our membership and the requirement for future annual reports, prioritising the value added to the City of London Corporation in doing our business.
- Note that commitment to the UN Sustainable Development Goals would be sustained through our policies and ongoing activities in the three themes previously agreed by members of the Policy and Resources Committee.

7. APPROACH AND TIMELINE TO REDEVELOPING THE JOINT PHILANTHROPY STRATEGY AND CORPORATE VOLUNTEERING STRATEGY

The Committee considered a report of the Managing Director of Bridge House Estates providing headlines on progress with the Joint Philanthropy Strategy and the Corporate Volunteering Strategy.

A Member questioned the purpose of the strategies and it was explained that the City Corporation and its associated charities invested time, corporate assets, skills and funds in the region of £66m a year and there was a need to make sure these were as impactful as possible; there was a need to join up all the giving that was taking place at the City Corporation. Members noted that a

report would follow at an appropriate point setting out outcomes of delivery against the strategies.

RESOLVED: That Members: -

- Note the update on the implementation of the Joint Philanthropy Strategy and Corporate Volunteering Strategy.
- Agree an extension to the Joint Philanthropy Strategy of one year;
- Approve the approach and timeline for shaping recommendations for the future direction of the Joint Philanthropy Strategy proposed in paragraph 7; and,
- Agree that the term of the current Corporate Volunteering Strategy be extended by one year until 31st March 2024, allowing the future direction of volunteering work to be considered alongside that of the proposed Joint Philanthropy Strategy review.

8. **PROPOSALS FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF DESTINATION CITY**

The Committee considered a report of the Director of Innovation and Growth setting out progress that has been made since establishing Destination City and outlining the proposed direction of travel for future activity.

A Member, also Chairman of Planning and Transportation Committee, offered his congratulations on the success of the Golden Key event, but raised his concern with the Local Plan that was currently being drafted and the need to include Destination City within this. There were areas that needed clarification for external inspectors to approve the City Corporation's Local Plan and the Destination City Team were urged to engage with the Local Plan Team so that relevant information could be put forward to the inspectorate as part of its consideration of the plan.

There was agreement that collaboration would be critical to the success of Destination City. Destination City should be about cultural elements across the whole City and there was a need to bring as many people to the table as possible. This should include highlighting external events, engaging with the Livery and Churches, linking up to existing tourist sites around the City and ensuring events were being communicated effectively.

A Member expressed her disappointment at the lack of a fireworks display on the evening of the Lord Mayor's show, with this having been a fantastic opportunity to encourage people to stay in the City and take advantage of all it has to offer. A Member responded remarking on the fantastic success of the Lord Mayor's Show this year; a flagship Destination City event tagged on to the Lord Mayor's show would be a welcome addition to enhance the experience of visitors and support community linkages.

A Member, also Chair of Community and Children's Services Committee, referred to a lack of communication regarding the Destination City Golden Key event, with City businesses indicating they were not aware of the events and would have bettered prepared and stayed open for it had they known it was

happening; communication in advance would be a crucial element moving forward.

The Member added how there was an opportunity to make the City truly inclusive and attractive for all, with this being an important consideration as part of Destination City.

Reference was made to the existing Customer Relationship Management system being managed under the remit of Innovation and Growth and it was questioned why a separate system would be needed to Destination City. The Customer Relationship System should be an asset available to the whole organisation and the Member asked the Director of Innovation and Growth to give thought to this and operation of only one system.

A Member remarked on the City's primary purpose being a focus on business, with this needing reflecting in any resolutions. In response, it was confirmed that a huge amount of engagement had already taken place with the Chairs of the Business Improvement Districts, with all of them keen to become involved in Destination City and this addressing the balance in this regard.

The Chairman concluded the discussion, stressing that Destination City was all about supporting businesses in the City.

RESOLVED: That Members: -

- Approve the key strategic priorities as highlighted in the Implementation Plan;
- Approve the 3-Point Business Plan, for Destination City to elevate the Welcome, Wayfinding and Wow Factor experience across the Square Mile.

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

The Committee received a report of the Chamberlain providing a schedule of projects and activities which have received funding from the Policy Initiatives Fund (PIF), the Policy and Resources Committee's Contingency Fund, Committee's Project Reserve and COVID19 Contingency Fund for 2022/23 and future years with details of expenditure in 2022/23.

RESOLVED: That Members: -

- Note the report and contents of the schedules.

10. **DECISIONS TAKEN UNDER DELEGATED AUTHORITY OR URGENCY POWERS**

The Committee received a report of the Town Clerk advising Members of non-public action taken in consultation with the Chairman and Deputy Chairman, in accordance with Standing Order Nos. 41(a) and 41(b) since the last meeting.

RECEIVED

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

High Level Financial Impact Summary - A Member, also Chairman of Finance Committee, referred to the Capital Programme, additional funding approved for the Salisbury Square Development and approval of the Markets Co-Location Programme impacting on the City Corporation's finances.

The Member added how any movement in these major projects could potentially impact on the City Corporation's investment approach when looking at what can be done in other areas over the next 15 years. The Member suggested that Policy and Resources Committee and Finance Committee would benefit from receiving a regular high-level summary from the Chamberlain and City Surveyor providing a level of detail to allow oversight and review.

During a brief discussion that followed, it was noted that Resource Allocation Sub-Committee provided oversight, but that Policy and Resources Committee would have the right to a level of oversight and review whilst not going into the detail. It was suggested that a board level report would be appropriate in providing a level of detail for oversight and review, which Members were supportive of.

A Member, also Chairman of Property Investment Board, referred to the level of sales under his Board's remit and confirmed that he would support a board level summary providing relevant headline information.

The Chairman concluded the discussion confirming now was not the time to debate the issue and agree a policy. The Chairman asked the Town Clerk to take the question away and come back with a proposed way forward.

Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Sub-Committee - A Member referred to funding that had previously been granted for a hostel and an assistance centre supporting homeless people. A hostel had opened this week and was proving to be an excellent facility and a positive project providing support for up to 26 people. An assistance centre would be opening next year and the Member wanted to take the opportunity to highlight the positive work of the City Corporation in these two areas. The Member added how she looked forward to welcoming Members to the assistance centre when it opened next year.

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

There were no additional items of business.

13. **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.

Part 2 – Non-Public Agenda

14. NON-PUBLIC MINUTES

- a) The non-public minutes of the Policy and Resources Committee meeting on 20th October 2022 were approved.
- b) The non-public minutes of the Resource Allocation Sub-Committee meeting on 4 October 2022 were noted.
- c) The non-public minutes of Resources Allocation Sub-Committee meeting on 20 October 2022 were noted.

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

A Member asked a question relating to the Museum of London Relocation Project.

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 additional items of business.

Part 3 - Confidential Agenda

17. MINUTES

- a) The confidential minutes of the Policy and Resources Committee meeting on 20th October 2022 were approved.
- b) The confidential minutes of the reconvened Policy and Resources Committee meeting on 3 November 2022 were approved.

18. CITY REMEMBRANCER

The Committee considered a confidential report relating to the City Remembrancer.

The meeting ended at 4.29pm

Chairman

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