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Efficiency and Performance Sub (Finance) Committee

Date: FRIDAY, 21 JANUARY 2022

Time: 1.45 pm

Venue: INFORMAL HYBRID PUBLIC MEETING (ACCESSIBLE REMOTELY)

Members: Deputy Jamie Ingham Clark (Chairman) Jeremy Mayhew (Deputy Chairman) Randall Anderson Deputy Roger Chadwick Henry Colthurst James de Sausmarez Alderman Professor Emma Edhem Deputy Clare James, Farringdon Within South Side Paul Martinelli Deputy Philip Woodhouse

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Accessing the virtual public meeting

Members of the public can observe this public meeting at the below link: <u>https://youtu.be/uTRSJCltj11</u>

This meeting will be a hybrid meeting with participation virtually and from a physical location. Any views reached by the Committee today will have to be considered by the Chamberlain after the meeting in accordance with the Court of Common Council's Covid Approval Procedure who will make a formal decision having considered all relevant matters. This process reflects the current position in respect of the holding of formal Local Authority meetings and the Court of Common Council's decision of 16th December 2021, to recommence hybrid meetings and take formal decisions through a delegation to the Town Clerk and other officers nominated by him after the informal meeting has taken place and the will of the Committee is known in open session. Details of all decisions taken under the Covid Approval Procedure will be available online via the City Corporation's webpages.

A recording of the public meeting will be available via the above link following the end of the public meeting for up to one municipal year. Please note: Online meeting recordings do not constitute the formal minutes of the meeting; minutes are written and are available on the City of London Corporation's website. Recordings may be edited, at the discretion of the proper officer, to remove any inappropriate material.

John Barradell Town Clerk and Chief Executive

AGENDA

Part 1 - Public Agenda

1. APOLOGIES

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

3. **MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING** To agree the public minutes of the meeting held on 23 November 2021.

For Decision (Pages 5 - 8)

4. SECURING 'FLIGHTPATH' SAVINGS AND UNDERSTANDING SERVICE IMPACTS: 2021/22 PROGRESS Report of the Chamberlain.

To Follow.

For Information

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

6. ANY OTHER BUSINESS THAT THE CHAIRMAN CONSIDERS URGENT

7. EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC

MOTION - 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 Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act.

For Decision

Part 2 - Non-Public Agenda

8. **NON-PUBLIC MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING** To agree the non-public minutes of the meeting held on 23rd November 2021.

For Decision (Pages 9 - 12) 9. BARBICAN CENTRE - ECONOMY, EFFICIENCY AND EFFECTIVENESS HEALTH CHECK Report of the Joint Interim Managing Directors, Barbican Centre.

For Information (Pages 13 - 20)

10. DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY & CHILDREN'S SERVICES DEEP DIVE SAVINGS REPORT Report of the Director of Community & Children's Services.

For Information

(Pages 21 - 28)

11. **DEEP DIVE REPORT - CITY OF LONDON POLICE** Report of the Commissioner of the City of London Police.

> For Information (Pages 29 - 42)

- 12. NON-PUBLIC QUESTIONS ON MATTERS RELATING TO THE WORK OF THE COMMITTEE
- 13. ANY OTHER BUSINESS THAT THE CHAIRMAN CONSIDERS URGENT AND WHICH THE COMMITTEE AGREE SHOULD BE CONSIDERED WHILST THE PUBLIC ARE EXCLUDED

EFFICIENCY AND PERFORMANCE SUB (FINANCE) COMMITTEE

Tuesday, 23 November 2021

Draft Minutes of the meeting of the Efficiency and Performance Sub (Finance) Committee held at Guildhall, EC2 on Tuesday, 23 November 2021 at 1.45 pm

Present

Members:

Deputy Jamie Ingham Clark (Chairman) Randall Anderson Henry Colthurst James de Sausmarez Paul Martinelli

Observers

Deputy Roger Chadwick

Mary Durcan (Deputy Chairman – Port Health and Environmental Services Committee) Caroline Haines (Deputy Chairman – Open Spaces and City Gardens Committee)

Officers:

John Cater	-	Committee Clerk
Caroline Al-Beyerty	-	The Chamberlain
Juliemma McLoughlin	-	Executive Director of Environment
Sonia Virdee)-	Chamberlain's Department
Gerry Kiefer	-	Open Spaces Department
Gavin Stedman	-	Markets & Consumer Protection Department
lan Hughes	-	Department of the Built Environment

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Deputy Roger Chadwick, Alderman Professor Emma Edhem, Deputy Clare James, and Jeremy Mayhew.

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

There were no declarations.

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING RESOLVED - That the public minutes of the meeting held on 25th October 2021 be agreed as an accurate record.

In response to a query, the Chamberlain and the Chairman informed Members that the TOM savings and the Fundamental Review savings were separate exercises. The 12% TOM savings target was focused on 2021/22 in order to ensure departments met their budgets; whilst the FR savings have been

profiled over the longer-term; the delay in delivery of the FR exercise has been due to the impact on departmental incomes since the onset of the pandemic.

The Chairman added that whilst these were separate, it was critical that both were monitored to conclusion to ensure those both initiatives achieved their aims.

4. SECURING 'FLIGHTPATH' SAVINGS AND UNDERSTANDING SERVICE IMPACTS: 2021/22 PROGRESS

The Sub-Committee received a Report of the Chamberlain concerning updates on the identification of the permanent savings to meet the 12% budget reduction and FR savings already applied to 2021/22 budgets.

The Chamberlain informed Members that discussions were ongoing with the Barbican's executive team and the Barbican Centre Board concerning the Centre's budget; whilst Members were sympathetic to the impact of the loss of income related to the pandemic, they were eager that this was separated as a distinct area in the figures and that the focus on proposals to permanently bring the cost base down were maintained and indeed, accelerated. Further work was required, and a bilateral meeting will be taking place soon to discuss this further. The Chairman added that the Sub-Committee would need to remain vigilant on this area and suggested that Members see how discussions progress over the coming weeks before considering a more formal intervention.

Members were keen to understand whether other departments were struggling with achieving the 12% target and, conversely, whether there were any departments that could potentially deliver greater savings than 12%. The Chamberlain responded that, whilst there were departments which were struggling to achieve the 12%, progress was being made. It was also apparent that new demands were coming through from Members (e.g. Corporate Planning) that would need to be resourced, so analysis was being undertaken by the Chamberlain to consider how these additional pressures and demands could be balanced with the overall need to meet the new budget envelope.

In response to a separate query, the Chamberlain emphasised that, whilst departments were encouraged to expand on and develop lines of income, there was an acceptance that relying too heavily on proposals to drive up income had a significant risk factor, so the primary focus, across the board, remained one of cost reduction in the first instance. A Member added that cost reduction should be considered separately to income opportunities.

In response to concerns about the viability of some department's ability to meet their targets, the Chamberlain assured Members that the goal of the exercise was not to break departments/services, whilst proposals would be considered carefully and a constructive approach would be pursued, the stark reality was that the Corporation faced a significant financial challenge and bearing down on costs was critical. The Chairman added that the zero-based budget review exercise next year offered a potentially game-changing opportunity to reevaluate our priorities, with the consequent impact being accruing significant cost reductions; he added that it was also important to design the Review in conjunction with the new Corporate Plan.

Members were encouraged by the initial plans around the zero-based budget review; it was crucial that officers from across the Corporation were on board and understood the process.

In response to a separate query, the Chamberlain confirmed that departmental variations existed for pay lines due to the impact of cases of flexible retirement, market forces supplements, redundancies etc falling more heavily on certain departments than others.

RESOLVED – that the Sub-Committee noted the Report.

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 were no items of urgent business.

7. 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 Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act.

NON-PUBLIC MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING RESOLVED - That the non-public minutes of the meeting held on 25th October 2021 be agreed as an accurate record.

9. DEEP DIVE REPORT - ENVIRONMENT DEPARTMENT

The Sub-Committee received a Report of the Executive Director of the Environment Department. The Report provided Members with a deep dive analysis of the short-, medium-, and long-term outlook for the Department's finances.

10. NON-PUBLIC QUESTIONS ON MATTERS RELATING TO THE WORK OF THE COMMITTEE

There were no questions.

11. ANY OTHER BUSINESS THAT THE CHAIRMAN CONSIDERS URGENT AND WHICH THE COMMITTEE AGREE SHOULD BE CONSIDERED WHILST THE PUBLIC ARE EXCLUDED

There was no other business.

The meeting ended at 3.15 pm

Chairman

Contact Officer: John Cater tel.no.: 020 7332 1407 john.cater@cityoflondon.gov.uk

By virtue of paragraph(s) 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972.

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