

POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE
Thursday, 11 May 2023

Minutes of the meeting of the Policy and Resources Committee held at Committee Rooms, 2nd Floor, West Wing, Guildhall on Thursday, 11 May 2023 at 1.45 pm

Present

Members:

Deputy Christopher Hayward (Chairman)
Deputy Keith Bottomley (Deputy Chairman)
Tijs Broeke (Vice-Chair)
Caroline Haines (Vice-Chair)
Munsur Ali
Deputy Rehana Ameer
Deputy Randall Anderson (Ex-Officio Member)
Deputy Henry Colthurst (Ex-Officio Member)
Deputy Marianne Fredericks
Jason Groves
Alderman Timothy Hailes
Deputy Ann Holmes (Chief Commoner) (Ex-Officio Member)
Deputy Shravan Joshi
Alderman Ian David Luder
Alderman Professor Michael Mainelli
Catherine McGuinness
Deputy Andrien Meyers
Deputy Alastair Moss (Ex-Officio Member)
Benjamin Murphy
Alderman Sir William Russell
Ruby Sayed (Ex-Officio Member)
Tom Sleigh
Deputy Sir Michael Snyder
James Tumbridge
Deputy Philip Woodhouse

In Attendance (Guildhall)

Mary Durkin
Deputy Madush Gupta
Alderman Christopher Makin

In Attendance (observing online)

Paul Martinelli
James Bromiley Davis
Oliver Sells KC
Deputy Mark Bostock

Officers:

Ian Thomas, CBE - Town Clerk and Chief Executive
Bob Roberts - Deputy Town Clerk
Gregory Moore - Assistant Town Clerk and Executive Director, Governance &

	Member Services
Jen Beckermann	- Executive Director and Private Secretary to the Chairman of Policy and Resources Committee
Polly Dunn, Clerk	- Town Clerk's Department
Benjamin Dixon	- Town Clerk's Department
David Mendoza-Wolfson	- Town Clerk's Department
Chris Rumbles	- Town Clerk's Department
Caroline Al-Beyerty	- The Chamberlain
Sonia Virdee	- Chamberlain's Department
Damian Nussbaum	- Executive Director of Innovation & Growth
Luciana Magliocco	- Innovation and Growth Department
Paul Wilkinson	- City Surveyor
Claire Spencer	- Chief Executive Officer, Barbican Centre
Genine Whitehorn	- Chief Operating Officer's Department
Simon McGinn	- Environment Department
Edward Wood	- Comptroller and City Solicitor's Department

With Alderman Ian Luder in the Chair.

1. **APOLOGIES**

Apologies for the meeting were received from The Rt Hon. The Lord Mayor Nicholas Lyons, Wendy Hyde, Deputy Brian Mooney, Deputy James Thomson and Helen Fentimen.

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

There were none.

3. **ORDER OF THE COURT OF COMMON COUNCIL**

The Committee received an Order of the Court of Common Council dated 27th April 2023, appointing the Committee and setting its Terms of Reference for the ensuing year.

RECEIVED

4. **ELECTION OF CHAIR**

The Committee proceeded to elect a Chair in accordance with Standing Order No. 29.

Deputy Christopher Hayward, being the only Member expressing their willingness to serve, was duly elected Chairman for the ensuing year.

The Chairman took the opportunity to thank Members for their continued support in re-electing him, he welcomed new Members to the Committee and also conveyed his thanks to those Members that had not returned for the valued contribution they had made to the work of the Committee.

5. **ELECTION OF DEPUTY CHAIR**

The Committee proceeded to elect a Deputy Chair in accordance with Standing Order No. 30.

Deputy Keith Bottomley, being the only Member expressing their willingness to serve, was duly elected Deputy Chairman for the ensuing year.

The Deputy Chairman took the opportunity to thank Members for their continued support.

6. **ELECTION OF VICE CHAIRS**

The Committee proceeded to elect its two Vice Chairs in accordance with Standing Order No. 30.

The Town Clerk confirmed that three expressions of interest had been received from Deputy James Thomson, Tijs Broeke and Caroline Haines. Given the contest this year, Deputy James Thomson wished to fully record his support for the two other candidates, but that he remained interested in standing at the next opportunity.

Following Deputy Thomson's withdrawal, and noting that the deadline for nominations had passed for the Vice Chairmanship, Tijs Broeke and Caroline Haines, being the only Members indicating their willingness to serve were duly appointed Vice Chairs for the ensuing year.

The two Vice Chairs conveyed their thanks to Members for appointing them. Further thanks were also conveyed to Mary Durcan for all her work in support of the Committee during her period as Vice Chair.

7. **MINUTES**

- a) **RESOLVED:** That the public minutes of the Policy and Resources Committee meeting on 20th April 2023 be approved as an accurate record.

Matters Arising

Barbican Strategy Group – A Member referred to the report that was due back with a formal proposal relating to a Barbican Strategy Group, including terms of reference, and added how it would be helpful to agree a date for when to expect this. The Chairman asked officers to reflect on this and confirm when this can be delivered. Assurances were also sought that the all relevant committees are consulted before any decisions are taken.

8. **APPOINTMENTS TO SUB-COMMITTEES, BOARDS AND REPRESENTATIVES ON OTHER COMMITTEES**

The Committee considered a report of the Town Clerk relating to the appointment, composition and terms of reference of the Policy and Resources Committee's Sub-Committee and Working Parties, together with the appointment of representatives on other City Corporation Committees.

The Town Clerk confirmed that in the interests of efficiency the Chairman had proposed approving the various terms of reference, which sets out the composition and responsibilities of the Sub-Committee as drafted in appendices A-I.

A Member referred to Lead Members, and an historic commitment to a Lead Member for Food Schools and an aspiration of training butchers, fishmongers and caterers in support of the markets. The Chairman noted it would be necessary to allow the Policy Leads to run a full year in the role before it can be verified whether the right people were in post, whether any new Policy Leads may be needed and whether any other alterations to the roles may be required.

Members noted that a report was due back in October following completion of the first year of the Policy Lead role. At this point, the intention would be to appoint Policy Leads on a six-month term, to bring them in line with the annual appointments process. The issue the Member raised would be considered at the appropriate point in that process.

RESOLVED: That Members agreed the terms of reference, as detailed in appendices A-I.

It was noted that the Operational Property and Projects Sub-Committee is a joint Sub-Committee and, as such, the terms of reference would be subject to the approval of Finance Committee.

The Town Clerk handed over to the Chairman, who in accordance with Standing Order 27, confirmed his nominees for the various Chairs and Deputy Chairs of the Sub-Committees.

Resource Allocation Sub-Committee – As per the composition of Resource Allocation Sub-Committee, as directed by Court of Common Council, Members noted that it was the Chairman of Policy's role to act as Chairman and the specified role of the Chairman of Finance Committee to act as Deputy Chairman.

Communications and Corporate Affairs Sub-Committee

Chairman – Deputy Keith Bottomley

Deputy Chairman – Deputy Christopher Hayward

Civic Affairs Sub-Committee

Chair – Thomas Sleigh

Deputy Chair – Chief Commoner (Deputy Ann Holmes)

Member Development and Standards Sub-Committee

Chair – Deputy Ann Holmes (Chief Commoner)

Deputy Chair – to be considered at the next Policy and Resources Committee meeting once the full composition of the Sub-Committee was known.

Capital Buildings Board

Chairman – Deputy Sir Michael Snyder
Deputy Chairman – Oliver Sells K.C.

Freedom Applications Sub-Committee

Chair – Deputy Rehana Ameer
Deputy Chairman – Alderman Sir David Wootton

Operational Property and Projects Sub-Committee

Chair – Alderman Timothy Hailes
Deputy Chair – Deputy Shravan Joshi

Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Sub-Committee

Chair – Andrien Meyers
Deputy Chair – Dr Joanna Abeyie, subject to reappointment by Court of Common Council.

RESOLVED: That Members approved the Chairman's nominations for the position of Chair and Deputy Chair of the various Sub-Committees as detailed.

At this point in the meeting, the Town Clerk confirmed the intention to move to the remaining appointments, with ballots to be conducted in the room as required.

Noting the appointments already agreed through the appointment of a Chair and Deputy Chair of the various Sub-Committees, the following Members were duly appointed.

Resource Allocation Sub-Committee

The following Members were duly appointed:

- Jason Groves
- Deputy Shravan Joshi
- Deputy Andrien Meyers
- Ruby Sayed
- Tom Sleigh
- Deputy James Thomson

Communications and Corporate Affairs Sub-Committee

The following Members were duly appointed:

- Deputy Rehana Ameer
- Jason Groves
- Deputy Shravan Joshi
- Ruby Sayed
- Tom Sleigh

Civic Affairs Sub-Committee

The following Members were duly appointed in addition to Tom Sleigh (who had been appointed Chair):

- Tijs Broeke
- Alderman Ian Luder
- Deputy Andrien Meyers

Member Development and Standards Sub-Committee

The following Members were duly appointed:

- Munsur Ali
- Helen Fentimen

Capital Buildings Board

The following Members were duly appointed in addition to Sir Michael Snyder (who had been appointed Chair):

- Alderman Ian Luder
- James Tumbridge

The Town Clerk took the opportunity to confirm that two of the five Court of Common Council Co-Optee places were appointed in May 2022, for a term ending in April 2026. A further vacancy, in the room of Alderman Luder (who's 2022/23 appointment was one of the Court positions) will be advertised to the Court at the earliest opportunity. Alderman Gowman and Deputy Lord remain on the Board, as detailed in paragraph 27 of the report, and would carry out the remaining two and three years of their term respectively.

Operational Property and Projects Sub-Committee

The following Members were duly appointed in addition to Alderman Timothy Hailes and Deputy Shravan Joshi who had already been appointed Chair and Deputy Chair respectively:

- Caroline Haines
- Tom Sleigh

Equality Diversity and Inclusion Sub-Committee

The following Members were duly appointed in addition to Deputy Andrien Meyers, who had already been appointed Chair:

- Ruby Sayed

Competitiveness Advisory Board

Members noted that four Members of Court of Common Council were appointed to the Board following an interview process in 2021, with these appointments due to be reviewed by Policy and Resources Committee yearly, but with an expectation being that Members would serve a 3 to 4 year term.

RESOLVED: That Members agreed to roll over the existing membership of Competitiveness Advisory Board.

At this point the Committee proceeded to consider representatives on other City Corporation Committees and agreed as follows:

Audit and Risk Management Committee

- Deputy Rehana Ameer

Barbican Centre Board

- Tijs Broeke

Education Board

- Caroline Haines

Local Plans Sub-Committee

- Deputy Christopher Hayward

Economic and Cyber Crime Sub-Committee

- James Tumbridge

Representative for consultation with Court of Aldermen and representatives of the Finance Committee on Mayoralty and Shrievalty Allowances.

- Tom Sleigh

A Member questioned whether consideration could be given to moving back to a method of taking indicative votes online to allow for a more efficient use of Members' time in the meeting. The Chairman added how he considered there to be a greater level of democratic transparency where people were voting in person.

It was suggested that a suitable electronic voting option should be considered, with the electronic voting system being introduced for Court of Common Council. The Chairman asked officers to consider all options around how to conduct this agenda item in future to include electronic voting.

RESOLVED, that the terms of reference of the Sub Committees and Working Parties set out in the report, be endorsed by the Committee, and that the composition of those bodies and the appointments to other committees be approved as detailed.

9. **MEMBER OBSERVERS ON BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT BOARDS**

The Committee considered a report concerning arrangements in respect of the Member Observer on Business Improvement District Boards in the City.

A Member proposed that under recommendation 3 that the following additional words be added 'or otherwise as maybe mutually agreed by the interested Wards', with Members endorsing this additional form of words.

The Town Clerk confirmed that following publication of the papers, Deputy Alastair Moss had indicated his intention to stand for Cheap only and not also for the Culture Mile Partnership BID Board. As such, this would leave Deputy Randall Anderson as the only nomination to the Culture Mile Partnership BID Board.

RESOLVED: That Members: -

- Agreed the nominations outlined in the report to be Member Observers on the Fleet Street Quarter BID, EC BID, Aldgate Connect BID and Cheapside Business Alliance BID identified, for the financial year 2023/2024.
- Agreed to nominate Randall Anderson as Member Observer to sit on the Culture Mile Partnership BID Board for the financial year 2023/24
- Agreed to future rotation around Wards on an alphabetical basis, where the rotation has not been established, or otherwise as maybe mutually agreed by the interested Wards.

10. **MIPIIM PROPERTY CONFERENCE 2023**

The Committee received a joint report of the Executive Director of Environment and City Surveyor providing an update on the City of London Corporation's activities at the MIPIIM property exhibition in March 2023.

A Member stressed how important the City Corporation's presence at MIPIIM had proved. It provided an invaluable opportunity to work with other parts of London in promoting London, in connecting with other cities across the UK or internationally and with it considered very important to continue attending given this impact. The Member thanked the team involved for all the work they do in support of the event.

The Member commented on a domestic conference that was gaining more prominence and questioned whether the City Corporation should be making more of political presence as well as a property presence.

The Chairman responded and referred to the REiiF conference, which the City Corporation was already participating in through the Chairman of Planning and Transportation's attendance. The Chairman echoed thanks to the team for all their excellent arrangements for MIPIIM, with it providing an opportunity for policy and planning to come together with different but very good reasons for attending given the value it offers.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

11. **DESTINATION BRAND IDENTITY AND DESTINATION WEBSITE**

The Committee received a report of the Executive Director of Innovation and Growth presenting an update on the development of the new destination brand identity and destination website ahead of its launch.

A discussion followed, during which there was an acknowledgement of the importance of an online presence to promote all that was going on the City, but with it also being important not to be too focussed on the programme but to also list and promote venues, promoting accessibility of these and getting people in to use them. Street signage was highlighted as being important, directing people and highlighting areas in the City that make it different to other areas. A Member referred to Culture Mile branding still being on display in certain parts of the City and suggested a walkabout would be beneficial to review this.

In response, it was confirmed that the new brand and website would be looking to promote the entirety of the Square Mile offering, highlighting existing brands, looking to attract new brands, promoting venues and the accessibility of these. The Director agreed to arrange a walkabout to identify those areas still displaying Culture Mile branding, with it being important not to create confusion. Members noted that colleagues in Built Environment would need consulting with to understand how to activate appropriate street signage in the public realm.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

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

There was a discussion regarding the urgent decision to suspend the City Corporation's Membership of the Confederation of British Industry (CBI). Support was offered for the decision taken but a question had been raised on how and when the continued Membership of the organisation would be reviewed. Members noted that a decision had been taken to suspend, rather than end the City Corporation's Membership to allow breathing space until the CBI's Extraordinary General Meeting (EGM) in June when the future of the organisation would be considered and decided by its Members.

A Member expressed concern at finding out about the decision through a media release. The Chairman acknowledged that communications to Members be considered going forward.

There was a question raised regarding the City Corporation's subscription to the CBI and whether the payment had also been suspended, with the Director of Innovation and Growth agreeing to follow up on this point.

The Chairman added how any decision relating to the City Corporation's continued Membership of the CBI or any successor organisation would come back to this Committee.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

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

Questions were raised as follows:

Policies on encouraging the return of workers and visitors to the City / use of public transport to do so – Alderman Luder asked the Chairman to confirm that two of the City Corporation’s policies remained: 1) to encourage the return of workers and visitors to the City; and 2) the use of public transport to do so?

The Member further questioned whether the Chairman was aware that the Mayor of London was proposing a policy, on which a consultation period was ending on 23rd May 2023 that would undoubtedly harm both of these objectives: a policy to abolish ‘day travelcards’.

In response, the Chairman remarked on how this proposed policy would be particularly concerning in light of the City Corporation’s ambitions to increase the level of visitor and tourist footfall and spend in the Square Mile in this post-Covid period and to encourage people to travel into the City using non-car options.

The Chairman confirmed that Transport for London were engaging informally with stakeholders at this stage, rather than running a formal consultation and he agreed to write to the Mayor of London raising the City Corporation’s concerns and to also raise the matter at his next regular meeting with Nickie Aiken MP, , to express these concerns in the strongest terms possible.

Confidential Data – Deputy Henry Colthurst raised a concern regarding the apparent increase of confidential data being released into the public domain.

It was questioned whether the Chairman or Town Clerk would consider issuing a general update to all Members reminding them of the reason why there were public, non-public and confidential meetings and papers and the principles behind such decisions. How best to encourage Members to exercise a culture of restraint and self-responsibility to prevent what could otherwise be an unwise public distribution of confidential data.

The Chairman responded and remarked on how he had shared these concerns raised with the Town Clerk, who had taken the opportunity to write to all Members explaining these concerns and outlining some of the implications of disclosing sensitive information.

The Town Clerk responded further adding how he would always be happy to send round further information that could further clarify the legislative basis and differences between types of information and the basis for exemptions. It was stressed that Members would always be subject to sensitive information, with this being required to make decisions and there being a legal obligation to manage information appropriately.

The Chairman stressed that all Members of Court of Common Council should think very carefully before they disseminate information outside of meetings.

Consultation on Measuring Success – Jason Groves referred to Government having launched on Tuesday this week a consultation on Measuring Success, which calls for proposals to help determine additional metrics regulators should publish in order to ensure that reporting on the new secondary objectives contained in the Financial Services and Markets Bill was sufficient to support scrutiny of the regulator’s work in embedding and advancing their objectives. The Member questioned whether the City Corporation would agree to actively participate in this process given the centrality of a proportionate regulatory regime to UK competitiveness.

The Chairman responded acknowledging it as an important matter and confirming that the City Corporation were already actively participating in the process through meeting and discussing with the Chairman of the Treasury Select Committee ways to hold regulators to account and how the City Corporation could support this. The Chairman added that he had raised the issue during his most recent meeting with the City Minister and that he would continue to raise the issue and express the view being picked up from the sector in general in the Square Mile and beyond.

14. **ANY OTHER BUSINESS THAT THE CHAIRMAN CONSIDERS URGENT**
There were no additional items of business.
15. **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.
16. **NON-PUBLIC MINUTES**
 - a) **RESOLVED:** That the non-public minutes of the Policy and Resources Committee meeting on 20th April 2023 be approved as an accurate record.
17. **CENTRAL CRIMINAL COURT PLANT REPLACEMENT: PHASE 5**
The Committee considered a report of the City Surveyor relating to a Central Criminal Court Plant Replacement project.
18. **BARBICAN RENEWAL - NEXT PHASE FUNDING REQUEST**
The Committee considered a joint report of the Chief Executive Officer of the Barbican Centre, City Surveyor and Chamberlain relating to a Barbican Renewal next phase funding request.
19. **QUESTIONS ON MATTERS RELATING TO THE WORK OF THE COMMITTEE**

There were none.

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

There were none.

The meeting ended at Time 3.21pm

Chairman

**Contact Officer: Polly Dunn
polly.dunn@cityoflondon.gov.uk**