

POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE

Thursday, 6 June 2024

Minutes of the meeting of the Policy and Resources Committee held at Committee Rooms, 2nd Floor, West Wing, Guildhall on Thursday, 6 June 2024 at 1.45 pm

Present

Members:

Deputy Christopher Hayward (Chairman)
Deputy Keith Bottomley (Deputy Chairman)
Tijds Broeke (Vice-Chair)
Caroline Haines (Vice-Chair)
Munsur Ali
Deputy Randall Anderson (Ex-Officio Member)
Deputy Peter Dunphy, Chief Commoner
Mary Durcan (Ex-Officio Member)
Helen Fentimen OBE JP
Steve Goodman OBE
Jason Groves
Alderman Timothy Hailes JP
Jaspreet Hodgson
Deputy Shravan Joshi MBE
Alderman Alastair King DL
Deputy Paul Martinelli
Deputy Andrien Meyers
Deputy Brian Mooney BEM
Alderman Sir William Russell
Deputy Sir Michael Snyder
Deputy James Thomson
Philip Woodhouse

In attendance (In Guildhall)

Deputy Henry Pollard

In attendance (Observing Online)

Deputy Rehana Ameer
Deputy Marianne Fredericks
Benjamin Murphy

Officers:

Ian Thomas CBE
Jen Beckermann

Polly Dunn

- Town Clerk & Chief Executive
- Executive Director and Private Secretary to the Chairman of Policy and Resources Committee
- Assistant Town Clerk and Executive Director, Governance and Member Services

Emma Callaghan	- Town Clerk's Department
Benjamin Dixon	- Town Clerk's Department
David Mendoza Wolfson	- Town Clerk's Department
Chris Rumbles	- Town Clerk's Department
Emily Slatter	- Town Clerk's Department
Caroline Al-Beyerty	- Chamberlain
Marcellina Gilka	- Chamberlain's Department
Lisa Moore	- Chamberlain's Department
Alessia Ursini	- Chamberlain's Department
Sonia Virdee	- Chamberlain's Department
Genine Whitehorn	- Chamberlain's Department
Michael Cogher	- Comptroller and City Solicitor, Deputy Chief Executive
Dionne Corradine	- Chief Strategy Officer
Alison Littlewood	- Chief People Officer
Damian Nussbaum	- Director of Innovation & Growth
Daniel O'Byrne	- Innovation & Growth
Bob Roberts	- Executive Director, Environment
Andrew Trathen (for item 12)	- Director of Public Health, City & Hackney
Claire Giraud (For item 12)	- Senior Public Health Practitioner
Emily Tofield	- Executive Director of Corporate Communications and External Affairs
Paul Wright	- Remembrancer
Peter Young	- City Surveyor's Department
Ben Milligan	- City Surveyor's Department
Robert Murphy	- City Surveyor's Department
James Murray	- City Surveyor's Department
Ola Obadara	- City Surveyor's Department

The Chairman took the opportunity to highlight that it was Bob Roberts' last Policy and Resources Committee meeting before his retirement at the end of the month. The Chairman added how Bob had proved himself to be an invaluable resource for every Member with whom he had worked during his time at the City Corporation.

The Chairman thanked Bob on behalf of the Committee for all he had done in making the City and City Corporation better and offered him very best wishes for his future endeavours, with this receiving the unanimous agreement of all Members.

1. **APOLOGIES**

Apologies were received from The Rt Hon. The Lord Mayor, Michael Mainelli, Deputy Ann Holmes, Deputy Henry Colthurst, Alderman Vincent Keaveny and Benjamin Murphy.

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

The Town Clerk confirmed that Paul Martinelli had been advised by the Monitoring Officer in advance of the meeting of a Declarable Pecuniary Interest in respect of the Markets Co-location Programme item on the agenda.

Munsur Ali declared in interest in respect of Guildhall School of Music and Drama as a Board Member.

James Thomson declared an interest in respect of the Enhanced Suicide Prevention item on the agenda as a Member of the City Bridge Foundation Board.

3. MINUTES

- a) The public minutes of the Policy and Resources Committee meeting on 9 May 2024 were approved as an accurate record.
- b) The draft public minutes of the Civic Affairs Sub-Committee meeting on 22 April 2024 were noted.
- c) The public minutes of the Capital Buildings Board meeting on 24 April 2024 were noted.
- d) The draft public minutes of the Communications and Corporate Affairs Sub Committee meeting on 24 April 2024 were noted.

4. POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

a) **Member Development and Standards Sub-Committee**

The Town Clerk reminded Members of the process for appointments to committees at the last Policy and Resources Committee meeting following which there was one vacancy outstanding on Member Development Standards Sub-Committee.

RESOLVED: That Steve Goodman, being the only Member having indicated their willingness to serve, was duly appointed to Member Development and Standards Sub-Committee for the year ensuing.

b) **Barbican Centre Board**

The Town Clerk reminded Members of Tijs Broeke's appointment at the last meeting as Policy and Resources Committee's nominated representative on Barbican Centre Board.

Mr Broeke, having already been appointed to Barbican Centre Board in his own right, and following discussion with the Chair of Barbican Centre Board, had decided to release the Policy and Resources Committee vacancy and open this up to any other Member who may be interested in serving on the Board.

RESOLVED: That Jaspreet Hodgson, be the only Member having indicated their willingness to serve, was duly appointed on Barbican Centre Board for the year ensuing.

5. CITY CORPORATION'S COAT OF ARMS - APPLICATIONS PAUSE

The Committee considered a report of the Town Clerk providing an update on the current process for the use of the City Corporation's Coat of Arms and seeking agreement to halt the existing application arrangements, pending the outcome of a wider branding review.

A question was raised regarding a timeframe for completion of the branding review, with the Executive Director of Corporate Communications and External Affairs confirming that the review should be completed by the end of this month. A Member added how the City Corporation had previously been poor at protecting its brand and that there was a need to look at doing so moving forwards along with consideration of its commercial position.

RESOLVED: That Members: -

- Agreed to halt the existing Coat of Arms application arrangements, pending the outcomes of a wider branding review;
- Agreed to, in the interim, delegate authority to the Town Clerk, in consultation with the Chairman, Deputy Chairman, Chief Commoner, and Director of Communications & External Affairs, to consider any exceptional applications only.

6. POLICY AND RESOURCES CONTINGENCY/DISCRETIONARY FUNDS

The Committee Considered a report of the Chamberlain providing a schedule of projects and activities which had received funding from the Policy Initiatives Fund (PIF) and the Policy and Resources Committee's Contingency Fund for 2024/25 and future years with details of expenditure in 2024/25.

The Chairman referred to the request presented within the report to increase the multi-year cap, with this being subject to consideration and approval of the Transition Finance Council later in the non-public part of the agenda at item 14. The Chairman confirmed that Members approval was being sought in principle at this stage of the meeting, subject to a full debate and decision at item 14. The Chairman offered Members an assurance that should item 14 not be approved then this recommendation would simply fall away.

RESOLVED: That Members

- Noted the report and contents of the Schedules.
- Agreed to increase the 2024/25 multiyear PIF cap by £42,000 from the 2024/25 Committee Contingency's uncommitted balance of £171,692 should the Transition Finance Council Bid be approved at today's Committee. Whilst the overall 2024/25 PIF uncommitted balance was £1,048,846, there was no funding available for multiyear Bids, as shown

in Paragraph 15. Should this be approved, the remaining available balance for 2024/25 Committee Contingency would be £129,692.

7. RESPONSIBLE PROCUREMENT IMPACT REPORT FY23-24

The Committee considered a report of the Chamberlain providing an update on impact that the City Corporation's supply chain partners have had on the diverse communities it serves, on the City as a vibrant thriving destination and leading on a sustainable environment.

During the discussion that followed, reference was made to diversity and the report providing a good opportunity to provide data and show what was being done in this area. A Member welcomed the City Corporation's partnership with MSDUK. The importance of data collection was highlighted as being crucial in allowing an opportunity to understand the success of a strategy. A member remarked on diversity in the supply chain having first been raised 18 months ago and suggested that it would be good to have data and information available that could be publicly shared.

Members noted that capturing diversity data remained a work in progress. With over 13k active providers it had not been possible to go out to each of them and source diversity data, but with use of Artificial Intelligence being looked at as an area that would help to capture relevant data and allow for better oversight in this area.

Further clarity was provided on a range of areas of work that continued with an ongoing focus on achieving best practice in procurement. This included being part of the London Responsible Procurement Network with a supplier diversity sub-group, holding a joint public procurements meet the buyer joint event with both Westminster City Council and Greater London Authority, as well as working very closely with MSDUK on holding different round table sessions during the summer to include companies in the supply chain.

The Chamberlain referred to the Responsible Procurement Policy having been brought forward to Policy and Resources Committee 18 months ago, which included six commitments for the organisation, the first one being a focus on climate action and the second being how to develop more diversity in the City Corporation's supply chains. This has remained a commitment moving forwards, through which a relationship with MSDUK has been established and has led to more suppliers coming into the City Corporation's supply chain. The report presented today was setting out the City Corporation's progress towards the six commitments originally approved as part of the Responsible Procurement Policy.

RESOLVED: That Members: -

- Endorsed the Responsible Procurement Impact Report 23-24 and the proposal to publish it with the Responsible Procurement Policy.

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

There were no questions.

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

There were no additional items of business.

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.

Part 2 – Non-Public Agenda

11. **NON-PUBLIC MINUTES**

- a) The non-public minutes of the Policy and Resources Committee meeting on 9 May 2024 were approved as an accurate record.
- b) The draft non-public minutes of the Civic Affairs Sub-Committee meeting on 22 April 2024 were noted.
- c) The non-public minutes of the Capital Buildings Board meeting on 24 April 2024 were noted.
- d) The draft non-public minutes of the Communications and Corporate Affairs Sub Committee meeting on 24 April 2024 were noted.

12. **ENHANCED SUICIDE PREVENTION INITIATIVE**

The Committee considered a report of the Executive Director, Environment putting forward recommendations for a City Corporation enhanced suicide prevention initiative.

13. **CITY FUND - LONDON WALL WEST DEVELOPMENT - DEVELOPMENT AGREEMENT, ACQUISITION OF FERRONERS' HOUSE AND LAND TRANSFER WITH IRONMONGERS COMPANY**

The Committee considered a report of the City Surveyor with a proposal relating to London Wall West Development Acquisition of Ferroners' House and Land Transfer with Ironmongers Company.

14. **TRANSITION FINANCE COUNCIL**

The Committee considered a report of the Executive Director of Innovation & Growth with a proposal relating to a Transition Finance Council.

15. **GUILDHALL SCHOOL OF MUSIC AND DRAMA REQUIREMENT FOR EXTRA WORKSPACE - NORTH WING, GUILDHALL**

The Committee considered a joint report of the City Surveyor and Principal of Guildhall School of Music and Drama relating to Guildhall School of Music and Drama extra workspace requirements.

16. **WARD ELECTIONS - NOMINATION PAPER CHECKS**

The Committee considered a report of the Comptroller and City Solicitor and Deputy Chief Executive relating to ward elections nomination paper checks.

17. **LOCAL GOVERNMENT PENSIONS SCHEME - CASUAL WORKERS**
The Committee considered a report of the Chief People Officer relating to Local Government Pensions Casual Workers.
18. **RESPONSIBLE PROCUREMENT IMPACT REPORT FY23-24**
The Committee received a non-public appendix to be read in conjunction with the Responsible Procurement Impact report at item 7 on the agenda.
19. **DECISIONS TAKEN UNDER DELEGATED AUTHORITY OR URGENCY POWERS**
The Committee received a report of the Town Clerk advising Members of action taken by the Town Clerk between meetings, in accordance with Standing Orders No 41(a) and 41(b).
20. **QUESTIONS ON MATTERS RELATING TO THE WORK OF THE COMMITTEE**
There were no questions.
21. **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

22. **MINUTES**
 - a) The confidential minutes of the Policy and Resources Committee meeting on 9 May 2024 were approved as an accurate record.
 - b) The draft confidential minutes of the Freedom Applications Sub-Committee meeting on 11 April 2024 were noted.
23. **CITY'S WHOLESALE MARKETS CO-LOCATION PROGRAMME OVERVIEW OF EXTERNAL CONSULTANTS' INTENSIFICATION AND DELIVERY REVIEW**
The Committee considered a report of the City Surveyor relating to the City's Wholesale Markets Co-Location Programme overview of external consultants' intensification and delivery review.

The meeting ended at 3.17pm.

Chairman

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