

POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE
Thursday, 16 September 2021

Minutes of the informal meeting of the Policy and Resources Committee held at via
Microsoft Team <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7Vy2XmUkzDM>
on Thursday, 16 September 2021 at 1.45 pm

N.B. This meeting was held as an informal one, with the views reached by the approved formally by the Town Clerk after the meeting, in accordance with the Court of Common Council's Covid Approval Procedure. This process reflects the current position in respect of the holding of formal Local Authority meetings and the Court's decision of 15 April 2021 to continue with virtual meetings, with formal confirmation of decisions provided through a delegation to the Town Clerk after the informal meeting has taken place and the will of the Committee is known.

Present

Members:

Deputy Catherine McGuinness (Chair)
Sheriff Christopher Hayward (Deputy Chairman)
Deputy Keith Bottomley (Vice-Chairman)
Deputy Tom Sleight (Vice-Chair)
Rehana Ameer
Nicholas Bensted-Smith (Ex-Officio Member)
Karina Dostalova
Anne Fairweather
Marianne Fredericks
Tracey Graham (Ex-Officio Member)
Alderman Timothy Hailes
Deputy Wendy Hyde (Ex-Officio Member)
Deputy Jamie Ingham Clark
Shravan Joshi
Deputy Edward Lord
Alderman Vincent Keaveny
Jeremy Mayhew
Andrew McMurtrie
Wendy Mead
Deputy Andrien Meyers
Deputy Brian Mooney (Chief Commoner) (Ex-Officio Member)
Ruby Sayed (Ex-Officio Member)
Sir Michael Snyder
Deputy James Thomson (Ex-Officio Member)
Alderman Sir David Wootton

In attendance:

Randall Anderson
John Chapman
Oliver Sells

Officers:

John Barradell - Town Clerk and Chief Executive

Douglas Trainer	- Deputy Town Clerk and Chief Executive
Caroline Al-Beyerty	- The Chamberlain
Paul Double	- City Remembrancer
Michael Cogher	- Comptroller and City Solicitor
Damian Nussbaum	- Director of Innovation & Growth
Angela Roach	- Assistant Town Clerk
Juliemma McLoughlin	- Executive Director of Environment
Bob Roberts	- Director of Communications
Nicholas Gill	- Investment Property Director
Paul Wright	- Deputy Remembrancer
Shani Annand-Baron	- Town Clerk's Department
Nick Bodger	- Innovation & Growth
Po Chan	- Innovation & Growth
Kerstin Mathias	- Innovation & Growth
Greg Moore	- Town Clerk's Department
Richard Messingham	- Town Clerk's Department
Chris Rumbles	- Town Clerk's Department
Chris Oldham	- Town Clerk's Department
Greg Moore	- Town Clerk's Department
Anna Dunne	- City Surveyor's Department
Mark Lowman	- City Surveyor's Department
Peter Young	- City Surveyor's Department
James Gibson	- Chamberlain's Department
Sonia Virdee	- Chamberlain's Department
Ruth Kocher	- Environment Department
Julia Makin	- Environment Department
Dr Sandra Husbands	- Director of Public Health
Claire Giraud (for item 20)	- Public Health Practitioner, London Borough of Hackney
Andrew Trathen (for item 20)	- Consultant in Public Health, London Borough of Hackney
Sharon Ament (for item 19)	- Director, Museum of London
Clive Bannister (for item 19)	- Chair, Museum of London Board of Governors (MoLBG)

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Tijs Broeke, Alderman Ian Luder, Wendy Mead, Deputy Alastair Moss, Deputy Philip Woodhouse and the Rt Hon Lord Mayor Alderman William Russell.

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 held on 8 July 2021 were approved.

Matters Arising

Housing Revenue Account – A Member welcomed the Chair’s response to the letter concerning the Housing Revenue Account as well as her recent visit, together with the Deputy Chair, to the Golden Lane Estate. As the Allocated Member for the Estate, the Member remarked on her disappointment at missing the visit and asked that invitations be issued to the relevant Allocated Member should any visits take place to the City’s other estates.

The Chair remarked on how positive it was to see all the works that were underway on the Estate and added that she looked forward to working with the Director of Community and Children’s Services in arranging visits to other estates in due course.

Electoral Engagement – a Member requested an update on how electoral engagement activities had progressed since the last meeting. Given that the Electoral Engagement Manager was not present at today’s meeting, the Chair asked that the Member be provided with an update following the meeting.

- b) The draft public minutes of the Resource Allocation Sub-committee meeting held on 29 June 2021 were noted.
- c) The public minutes of the Projects Sub-Committee meeting held on 23 June 2021 were noted.
- d) The draft public minutes of the Projects Sub-Committee meeting held on 23 July 2021 were noted.
- e) The public summary of the Innovation and Growth Advisory Board meeting held on 5 July 2021 were noted.

4. EXTERNAL CLIMATE ACTION COMMITMENTS AND MEMBERSHIPS

The Committee considered a joint report of the Deputy Town Clerk & Chief Executive and Director of Innovation & Growth that presented two new externally facing commitments that would facilitate further outcomes for the City Corporation’s Climate Action Strategy.

A Member highlighted the Climate Action Strategy target referenced within the listed as supporting “net Zero by 2040 in the Square Mile”, suggested this should be amended to read “to support the achievement of being net zero by 2040 in the Square Mile”. The Chairman acknowledged this point adding that, notwithstanding what the City Corporation was able to achieve within in its own remit, it would also be working in support of other others in terms of the wider City in achieving this goal.

A Member noted the Cities Race to Zero pledge included a commitment to reach net-zero in the 2040s or sooner, or by mid century at the latest, and

suggested this appeared ambiguous and could be construed as providing latitude to delay achieving the City's own earlier targets. It was clarified to Members that the Cities Race to Zero had a broader set of targets that were not all as ambitious as the City Corporation's own Climate Action Strategy; signing up to the Cities Race to Zero pledge would not impact on the City Corporation's own targets and ambitions as agreed as part of that Strategy.

RESOLVED: That approval be granted to sign up to the pledges to Cities Race to Zero and UK100, as well as for the proposed senior level sponsors as set out in the report.

5. INNOVATION & GROWTH BOARD ADVISORY BOARD (IGAB): BOARD NOMINATIONS AND NAME CHANGE

The Committee considered a report of the Director of Innovation & Growth proposing name change for the Innovation and Growth Advisory Board (IGAB) and presenting two prospective external Members for appointment thereto.

In response to a question concerning the relationship between IGAB and the Public Relations Sub-Committee, it was advised that both were and would remain subordinate bodies of the Policy & Resources Committee with complementary yet distinct roles, with the latter focusing on communications in particular and the former on questions of competitiveness. Following further queries, it was clarified that IGAB had no decision-making power and simply acted in an advisory capacity to Policy & Resources, which was responsible for taking all decisions relating to that area of activity.

Following questions concerning the balance of expertise on IGAB, particularly in relation to the tech sector, both the Chair and Director of Innovation & Growth responded confirming efforts had been made as part of recruitment to strike a suitable balance, with there being several individuals on the Board with a lead role in the tech sector. It was suggested it would be helpful if future papers could remind the Committee of the experience of those serving.

Concerns were raised relating to the transparency of IGAB meetings, with there being a tension between allowing observers and in facilitating an environment where individuals with valued expertise were able to give advice fully and frankly in a small private session. Following further discussion, the Chair acknowledged Members' concerns and it was agreed that a way forward would be to share IGAB agendas with interested Members in advance of each meeting; subsequently, where a Member wished to attend a particular meeting, they could approach the Chair for agreement to do so.

RESOLVED: That Members approve:-

1. The adoption of a new name for IGAB of 'Competitiveness Advisory Board'.
2. The appointment of Marisa Drew and Laura Mason two external Members of the Board for the 2021-2022 term.

6. DESTINATION CITY: STRATEGIC REVIEW - PROGRAMME OVERVIEW AND GOVERNANCE PROPOSALS

The Committee considered a report of the Director of Innovation & Growth that provided Members with an overview of the proposed *Destination City – Strategic Review* and sought agreement to the approach to the review and governance arrangements.

RESOLVED: That Members agree the approach to the strategic review and approve the governance arrangements, noting they would be formally submitted to Court of Common Council for ratification at its October 2021 meeting.

7. **APPOINTMENT OF ASSISTANT TOWN CLERK AND EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF GOVERNANCE AND MEMBERS SERVICES**

The Committee considered a report of the Deputy Town Clerk & Chief Executive updating on the process for the appointment of an Assistant Town Clerk and Executive Director of Governance & Members Services and seeking approval to start the process with the establishment of a Recruitment Panel.

The Chair of Policy confirmed an agreement that the Chair of Establishment Committee would Chair the Recruitment Panel.

Noting the opportunity to appoint another Member of either Policy and Resources Committee or Establishment Committee to be selected to the Panel, it was noted that the Establishment Committee had proposed Ruby Sayed be appointed. Following discussion as to various options, the Committee was agreed that Ms Sayed should be appointed.

RESOLVED: That Members: -

1. Agree that the seven Members of the Recruitment Panel for the new Assistant Town Clerk and Executive Director of Governance & Members Services be appointed as follows: -
 - Chair of the Establishment Committee
 - Deputy Chair of the Establishment Committee
 - Chair of the Policy and Resources Committee
 - Deputy Chairman of the Policy and Resources Committee
 - Town Clerk & Chief Executive
 - Deputy Town Clerk & Chief Executive
 - Ruby Sayed.
2. Note that the Chair of Establishment Committee would Chair the Recruitment Panel.

8. **PRE-ELECTION PERIOD - COMMITTEE TIMETABLE**

The Committee considered a report of the Town Clerk confirming the previous practice of minimising the number of committee meetings in the weeks immediately preceding the City-wide elections and seeking approval to implementation of such arrangements for elections in March 2022 and beyond.

RESOLVED: That Members: -

1. Support the principle of committee meetings being minimised in the period 22 February to 24 March 2022 and agree to the implementation of such arrangements.
2. Note the various steps to mitigate the impact of the reduction in meetings, as outlined in paragraphs 15 to 19 of the report.
3. Endorse the adoption of this principle for all future City-wide elections.

9. **LONDON COUNCILS' NOMINATION TO THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS OF THE MUSEUM OF LONDON**

The Committee considered a report of the Town Clerk setting out the background to the appointment of external candidates to the Board of Governors of the Museum of London Board and proposing Councillor Kaya Comer-Schwartz (London Borough of Islington) for appointment as a City of London Corporation Governor of the Museum of London Board.

A Member raised a wider question concerning the composition of the Board and the balance of appointments given the Corporation's significant investment in the Museum. The Town Clerk clarified that the overall composition of the Museum of London Board was specified by legislation which allocated a set number of appointments to both the Greater London Authority and the City Corporation. The Chair further clarified that London Councils were asked to nominate a representative to the Board as one of the City Corporation's appointments, which was the recommendation Members were being asked to approve today.

RESOLVED That the appointment of Councillor Kay Comer-Schwartz as a City of London Corporation Governor of the Museum of London for a four-year term concluding 15 September 2025 be approved.

10. **ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE 'SOCIAL' STRATEGIES: RESPONSIBLE BUSINESS, SOCIAL MOBILITY, DIGITAL SKILLS AND CLIMATE ACTION STRATEGIES FOR 2020-21**

The Committee received a joint report of the Chamberlain, Managing Director of Bridge House Estates, Director of Innovation & Growth and Director of Community & Children's Services presenting a combined annual report for the Responsible Business, Social Mobility, Digital Skills and Climate Action Strategies for 2020-21.

Reference was made to the report having recently been received by the Establishment Committee, during which Members had stressed the importance of being able to understand the number and type of views the strategies and reports experienced, to help identify what the reports were being used for and subsequently inform future content. Consequently, moving forwards the reports would be located on a part of the website that would be able to track views and this information would be included as part of future reporting.

RESOLVED: That the report be received, and its content noted.

11. REVENUE OUTTURN 2020/21

The Committee received a joint report of the Town Clerk, Chamberlain and Remembrancer comparing the revenue outturn for the services overseen by the Committee in 2020/21 with the final budget for the year.

RESOLVD: That the report be received, and its contents noted.

12. POLICY AND RESOURCES CONTINGENCY/DISCRETIONARY FUNDS

The Committee received a report of the Chamberlain providing the schedule of projects and activities which had received funding from the Policy Initiatives Fund, the Committee's Contingency Fund, the Committee's Project Reserve, and the COVID19 Contingency Fund.

RESOLVED: That the report be received, and its content noted.

13. DECISIONS TAKEN UNDER DELEGATED AUTHORITY OR URGENCY POWERS

The Committee received a report of the Town Clerk updating Members on action taken by the Town Clerk in consultation with the Chair and Deputy Chairman, in accordance with Standing Order Nos 41(a) and 41(b) since the last meeting.

RESOLVED: That the report be received, and its content noted.

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

There were no questions.

15. ANY OTHER BUSINESS THAT THE CHAIRMAN CONSIDERS URGENT

There were no additional items of business.

16. 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 of business 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.

17. NON-PUBLIC MINUTES

- a) The non-public minutes of the Policy and Resources Committee meeting held on 8 July 2021 were agreed.
- b) The draft non-public minutes of the Resource Allocation Sub-committee meeting on 29 June 2021 were noted.
- c) The non-public minutes of the Projects Sub-Committee meeting held on 23 June 2021 were noted.

- d) The draft non-public minutes of the Projects Sub-Committee meeting held on 23 July 2021 were noted.

18. MARKETS CO-LOCATION PROGRAMME

The Committee considered and approved a joint report of the City Surveyor, Major Programmes Director, Chief Operating Officer, Markets Director and Chamberlain updating Members on the Markets Co-location Programme.

19. MUSEUM OF LONDON: UPDATE ON RELOCATION TO WEST SMITHFIELD

The Committee considered and approved a report of the Town Clerk concerning the relocation of the Museum of London.

At this point in the meeting, in accordance with Standing Order No.40 a decision was taken to extend the length of the meeting by up to thirty minutes.

20. SUICIDE PREVENTION IN THE CITY OF LONDON

The Committee considered a report of the Deputy Town Clerk & Chief Executive providing information and background data to allow Members to understand the current position in relation to suicide prevention.

21. SECURE CITY PROGRAMME - VULNERABLE PEOPLE WORKSTREAM

The Committee considered and approved a joint report of the Director of the Environment and the Commissioner of City of London Police updating on the Secure City Programme – Vulnerable People Workstream.

22. GREEN HORIZON SUMMIT AT COP26 (GHS@COP26)

The Committee received a report of the Director of Innovation & Growth updating on progress in relation to the Green Horizon Summit at COP26.

23. NON-PUBLIC DECISIONS TAKEN UNDER DELEGATED AUTHORITY OR URGENCY POWERS

The Committee received a report of the Town Clerk advising Members of decisions taken under urgency or delegated authority powers since the last meeting.

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

There were no questions.

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

Members received an update from the Chair relating to support arrangements associated with the Afghan resettlement.

The meeting ended at 4.05pm

Chairman

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