

Gifford, Mayor



A Court of Common Council holden in the Guildhall of the City of London on Thursday, the sixth day of December, 2012.

Post-implementation Review of the Governance Arrangements

At its meeting on 3 March 2011 the Court agreed a number of changes to the City Corporation's Governance. In approving the new arrangements it was also agreed that a post-implementation review should be undertaken after a year of operation to take stock and to ensure that the revised arrangements were operating effectively. To this end, a Working Party was established by the Court to conduct the post-implementation review.

A consultation exercise on the revised arrangements was subsequently carried out over the summer recess on behalf of the Working Party with both Members and City Corporation Committees. The Working Party has considered the responses in detail and concluded that overall the new arrangements are operating well but that there were one or two areas that required modification.

Whilst the various conclusions and recommendations of the Post-implementation Review of Governance are set out within the Working Party's report, the principal changes recommended are as follows:-

- An increase from 10 to 15 in the number of elected Members on the Establishment Committee, two of whom shall have less than 5 years' service on the Court.
- The Chief Commoner should be elected in October rather than September; should take office at the first Court meeting after the wardmotes and the current arrangement whereby there is an expectation that Aldermen will not vote in the election of that office should be dispensed with.
- The West Ham element of the Open Spaces, City Gardens and West Ham Park Committee should be reconstituted as a separate committee but with the same Court-elected Members on each committee.
- The Corporate Asset and Energy and Sustainability Sub Committees be transferred from the Policy and Resources Committee to the Finance Committee and the Planning and Transportation Committee respectively.
- The Policy & Resources Committee should, in future, elect three Deputy Chairmen with the "chairman-in-waiting" being electing one year before the expected date of an election for Chairman.

We submit for consideration and **recommend** approval of, a printed and circulated report containing the various conclusions and recommendations of the Post-implementation Review of Governance Working Party.

Read.

Of particular relevance to your Committee:-

(Extract of the report)

“Culture, Heritage and Libraries Committee

Six Members as well as the Culture, Heritage and Libraries Committee (CHLC) commented on how the new Committee was working. The comments and suggestions ranged from the removal of the cultural elements of its work, whether the Committee and its remit was too large, whether to formalise the work of the Members’ Cultural Strategy Group and whether the Committee should have oversight of the Museum of London and the Spitalfields Music Festival.

With regard to oversight of the Museum and Spitalfields Music Festival, the Working Party noted that such oversight had already been considered as part of the broader consolidation of the CHLC’s responsibilities. Grant funding of the Museum of London is now reported in the Committee’s budget (although agreeing the amount of the budget would remain with the Finance Committee) and the Committee would be responsible for monitoring the activities of the Museum and its alignment with the City’s Cultural Strategy. The Spitalfields Music Festival was however funded by the City Educational Trust Fund and its funding could not be transferred to another body. Nevertheless, earlier this year the Finance Committee agreed that as a condition of the Trust receiving any grant from the City Educational Trust Fund, the views of the Culture, Heritage and Libraries Committee should be sought formally and reported to the Finance Grants Sub-Committee when funding is being considered.

The Working Party also acknowledged the value of the Members’ Cultural Strategy Group (an informal group which was set up to monitor the delivery of the Cultural Strategy and facilitate cross-communication between key cultural institutions in the City and the City Corporation and which comprises the Chairmen and Deputy Chairmen of the Barbican Centre, Guildhall School and Museum of London Boards and the Culture, Heritage and Libraries, Finance, and Policy and Resources Committees). Discussion took place on whether the Group should be formalised and on balance, mainly due to its cross cutting remit, it was felt that the Group was working well in ensuring greater collaboration between the CHLC and the relevant Boards and should therefore remain in its current format.

Recommendation: That the Culture, Heritage and Libraries Committee be advised of the above accordingly.”

Motion – ‘To agree the recommendation set out in the report relating to the Culture, Heritage and Libraries Committee?’

Resolved – That the recommendation set out in the report relating to the Culture, Heritage and Libraries Committee be agreed to.

BARRADELL