

Committee(s) Policy & Resources Committee – for information	Dated: 07/07/2022
Subject: Decisions taken under delegated authority or urgency powers.	Public
Which outcomes in the City Corporation’s Corporate Plan does this proposal aim to impact directly?	See Background Report
Does this proposal require extra revenue and/or capital spending?	See Background Report
If so, how much?	See Background Report
What is the source of Funding?	See Background Report
Has this Funding Source been agreed with the Chamberlain’s Department?	See Background Report
Report of: Town Clerk	For Information
Report author: Chris Rumbles, Town Clerk’s Department	

Summary

This report advises Members of action taken by the Town Clerk in consultation with the Chairman and Deputy Chairman, in accordance with Standing Order Nos. 41(a) and 41(b) since the last meeting.

Recommendation

That Members note the action taken since the last meeting of the Committee.

Main Report

- Since the last meeting of the Committee, approval has been given under urgency procedures or delegated authority arrangements, pursuant to Standing Order No. 41, as follows: -

Urgent Decision: Approval of appointment of co-opted Governor Professor Sir David Cannadine to the Board of Governors of the Museum of London

BACKGROUND:

On 31 March 2022, the term of the Rt Hon Lord Paul Boateng, one of the three external appointments made by the City Corporation to the Museum of London’s Board, expired.

The Museum subsequently undertook a head-hunting exercise for a suitable candidate. Whilst the Museum operated in best faith throughout the process, a misunderstanding unfortunately arose regarding the correct process to follow when seeking formal approval of the appointment. The Museum of London approached the Chair of Policy and Resources Committee direct seeking approval of the appointment whereas, it was in fact the approval of Policy and Resources Committee that was required. During the process, it had also been identified that a representative of Policy and Resources Committee should have served on the interview panel prior to a formal recommendation being made.

It has subsequently been identified that this misunderstanding in relation to process was likely to have arisen due to staff turnover at the Museum of London over the past several years. The Museum is now fully aware of the appropriate processes; however, having already conducted the aforementioned process in identifying a suitable candidate, the Museum of London were keen to seek the preferred candidate's agreement to joining the Board.

The Museum were keen for the appointment to be formally ratified and for this to then allow them to fully utilise the candidate's unique skillset at the earliest opportunity.

REASON FOR URGENCY: The next meeting of the Board of Governors of the Museum of London is due to be held on 6 July 2022, the day before the next meeting of Policy & Resources Committee. The unique skillset that the candidate would bring to the Board was such that their presence as a full Member at the Board was highly desirable, and an appointments process having been conducted in good faith (albeit incorrectly), confirmation was sought in time for the Museum of London Board of Governors meeting.

Recommendation: Approval was therefore sought and granted by the Town Clerk, in consultation with the Chairman and Deputy Chairman to:-

- The appointment of Professor Sir David Cannadine for a term expiring 26 June 2026.

In accordance with Standing Order 41 (a) and 41 (b), Members are asked to note the recent decisions taken by the Town Clerk in consultation with the Chairman and Deputy Chairman.

Copies of background papers concerning these decisions are available from Chris Rumbles on request.

Contact:

Chris Rumbles

Tel 020 7332 1405

Christopher.rumbles@cityoflondon.gov.uk