

PORT HEALTH & ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES COMMITTEE

Friday, 22 July 2022

Minutes of the meeting of the Port Health & Environmental Services Committee held at the Guildhall EC2 at 10.00 am

Present

Members:

Deputy Keith Bottomley (Chairman)
Mary Durcan (Deputy Chairman)
Peter Dunphy
Elizabeth King
George Abrahams
Anne Holmes
Marianne Fredericks
Helen Fentimen
Deputy Henry Pollard
Wendy Hyde
Alderman Alexander Barr
Alderman Prem Goyal
Mathew Pritchard
Steve Goodman
Irem Yerdelen
Natasha Lloyd-Owen
Luis Tilleria
Timothy Butcher
Deputy Dr Giles Shilson
Deputy Simon Duckworth (Chief Commoner)

Officers:

Juliemma McLoughlin	- Executive Director, Environment
Gary Burks	- Superintendent & Registrar, City of London Cemetery & Crematorium
Ruth Calderwood	- Environment Department
Paul Chadha	- Chief Lawyer
Jenny Pitcairn	- Chamberlain's Department
Rachel Pye	- Environment Department
Gavin Stedman	- Port Health & Public Protection Director
Polly Dunn	- Town Clerk's Department Officer
Andrew Buckingham	- Media Officer
Elisabeth Hannah	- Environment Department
Robin Whitehouse	- Environment Department
Ian Hughes	- Environment Department
Joe Kingston	- Environment Department

1. **APOLOGIES**

Apologies were received from Henry Jones, Andrew McMurtrie, John Edwards, Oliver Sells QC, Caroline Haines and Alethea Silk.

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

There were no declarations.

3. **URGENT ITEM OF BUSINESS - APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS TO THE LOCAL PLANS SUB-COMMITTEE**

The Committee considered the appointment of one Member of the Port Health and Environmental Services Committee to the Local Plans Sub-Committee of the Planning and Transportation Committee. The Town Clerk informed the Committee that Deputy Chairman Mary Durcan and Elizabeth Anne King had indicated willingness to stand and invited any other declaration of interest in the position. As there were two Members indicating their willingness to stand, a ballot was conducted in accordance with the Standing Orders.

RESOLVED – That Elizabeth Anne King be appointed to the Local Plans Sub-Committee.

4. **MINUTES**

RESOLVED- That the public minutes and non-public summary of the meeting held on 24 May 2022 were approved as an accurate record.

Matters Arising

Officers confirmed early discussions on the Disco ship/ahoy centre had taken place with other London Boroughs who may be involved to consider licensing and conditions, however, there were no further details concerning locations, disembarking, and embarking. Officers said they would continue to monitor the situation and would report back to Committee when further details emerge.

Officers agreed to come back to Committee with figures on the revenue of public lavatories in the City. Officers noted that the contactless trial at Tower Hill was still on-going and a report would be brought back to the Committee in October.

Following Member's query on the campaign regarding litter, which was planned for the summer, Officers confirmed the litter trial had taken on several components.

5. **OUTSTANDING ACTIONS**

The Committee received a report of the Town Clerk setting out the current list of outstanding actions.

The Chairman requested an update on the action listed regarding the measurement and mitigation options for operational rail noise from London Underground effecting the Barbican Estate. The Committee was informed that funding and vibration issues remained high on the priority to the Corporation

and, through the Chairman of Policy and Resources, these points would be highlighted to the Deputy Mayor, Transport and Deputy Mayor, Transport for London (TfL) Sebastian Dance. It was suggested by Members the Deputy Mayor that be invited to properties effected by the noise from the London Underground.

Members queried whether officers had been made aware of any additional funding being provided to cover the costs from Destination City. Officers noted that the wider Corporation position understood there was a challenging funding situation and feedback from the Resource Allocation Sub-Committee was that budgets would be held at their existing levels in terms of contract uplifts and capital spend including other measures. It was noted that implications from this would be absorbed through mid-year budget rounds usually held in September and further discussions would take place between the Chairmen of the Port Health & Environment Services Committee, Finance Committee and Executive Directors for those perspective areas. The Chairman said on behalf of the Committee he would write Executive Director of Innovation and Growth to formally request that the Director of Destination City addresses concerns relating to investment in cleaning and public services.

RESOLVED- That the report be noted.

6. **BREXIT UPDATE**

The Committee was provided with a verbal update of the Executive Director Environment regarding the current position with the Brexit process.

RESOLVED, That the verbal update be noted.

7. **TRANSPORT FOR LONDON CONSULTATIONS**

The Committee considered a report of the Executive Director Environment regarding Transport for London (TfL) consultations on the changes to the bus network in London and the Ultra-Low Emission Zone (ULEZ) expansion and road user charging.

Responding to a query from a Member, officers clarified that whilst TfL were expanding the ULEZ area, this did not directly affect the City. It was noted that there was an overall benefit from the London Mayor's direction in terms of air quality improvements and at present the road user charging part of the proposal had not put forward a date for when changes would take place. Regarding potential implementation of zero emission zones in the City, officers said the public consultation for Beech Street was likely to take place in September with an intention to reintroduce some form of an air quality scheme with longer terms plans being funding dependent on a wider air quality zone healthy streets approach for the streets surrounding the Barbican.

RESOLVED- That:-

- i) the proposed response to the consultation on proposed expansion of the ULEZ and future road user charging, set out in paragraphs 25 and 26 be approved; and

- ii) Authority be delegated to approve the final wording of the response to the Director of City Operations in consultation with the Chairmen and Deputy Chairmen of the Streets & Walkways Sub Committee and the Planning & Transportation Committee and the Port Health and Environmental Services Committee.

8. CEMETERY EXCAVATOR REPORT

The Committee considered a report of the Executive Director Environment seeking permission for the purchase of a replacement JCB 3CX excavator, at the cost of £90,000, for a range of work carried out at the cemetery.

RESOLVED- That Members:

- i) That budget of £90,000 be approved for the purchase of this vehicle in order to reach the next Gateway.
- ii) That the project budget of £90,000 (excluding risk) be noted; and
- iii) That the total estimated cost of the project currently at £90,000 (excluding risk) be noted; and
- iv) That it be noted there was no Costed Risk Provision is approved due to the fact that this is a straightforward vehicle purchase; and
- v) That option 1, the purchase of a JCB 3CX Compact is approved.

9. *REVENUE OUTTURN 2021/22

The Committee received a joint report of the Chamberlain and Executive Director Environment. The report compared the year 2021/22's outturn with the final budget with an underspend of £3.287m, with £353,000 agreed to carry forward.

RESOLVED- That the report be noted.

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

There were no questions received in the public session.

11. ANY OTHER BUSINESS THAT THE CHAIRMAN CONSIDERS URGENT

The Chairman made a statement updating the Committee on the Government action on sewage in waterways.

The Committee were informed that the Chairman had asked officers to write to the Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs to welcome the Environment Agency's recent report, and to ask them to clarify whether the Government intends to implement the recommendations. The Chairman said he would report back to the Committee with the Government's response in the autumn.

12. 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 1 of the Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act.

13. **NON-PUBLIC MINUTES**
RESOLVED- that the non-public minutes of the meeting held on 24th May be approved as an accurate record.
14. **HARC - FORWARD PLAN - JULY 2022**
The Committee considered a report of the Executive Director Environment on the Heathrow Animal Reception Centre Forward Plan.

RESOLVED- That the report be approved.
15. **WALBROOK WHARF FEASIBILITY 2027 AND BEYOND**
There were no questions.
16. ***PORT HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES DEBTORS - PERIOD ENDING 31 MARCH 2022**
The Committee received a report of the Chamberlain informs the Committee of the invoiced income outstanding as at March 31 2022.
17. **NON-PUBLIC QUESTIONS ON MATTERS RELATING TO THE WORK OF THE COMMITTEE**
There were no questions.
18. **ANY OTHER BUSINESS THAT THE CHAIRMAN CONSIDERED URGENT AND WHICH THE COMMITTEE AGREES SHOULD BE CONSIDERED WHILST THE PUBLIC ARE EXCLUDED**
There were no items of urgent business.

The meeting closed at 11:45am

Chairman