

Committee(s) Policy & Resources Committee – for information	Dated: 11/05/2023
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: Deputy 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).

Main Report

Delegated Decision: Committee Terms of Reference and Standing Order Changes

BACKGROUND: The Court of Common Council chooses to delegate a number of the City of London Corporation’s statutory, charitable and private responsibilities to a series of Committees. The decisions surrounding this delegation takes place annually at the Court of Common Council held in the month of April each year.

To ensure that these responsibilities and powers are reflective of the work of the Committee and are otherwise appropriate in delivering the work of the City Corporation, each committee is invited to review its own terms of reference ahead of April Court, to provide suggested changes to their own terms of reference. It is then the responsibility of the Policy & Resources Committee to review these submissions and in turn make a recommendation to the Court of Common Council in April, for final approval and adoption.

Beyond this annual review (which is considered business as usual), a number of changes had been considered as part of a ‘Light Touch Governance Review’ (LTGR). The LTGR was commissioned to assess any immediate problems and concerns arising out of changes made in response to a Governance Review conducted by the Lord Lisvane in 2020.

The result of these processes culminated in a report to the Policy & Resources Committee on 23 March 2023, where changes were agreed for recommendation to

the Court of Common Council due to be held on 27 April 2023. At that meeting, authority was also delegated to allow consideration of any further changes sought, where committees had not been ready to submit to the March meeting of Policy & Resources. Where anticipated, these were highlighted to P&R to inform the granting of delegated authority.

Since the meeting, submissions had been received on behalf of the following Grand Committees:

- Board of Governors of the City of London School
- Board of Governors of the City of London School for Girls
- Board of Governors of the City of London Freeman's School
- Barbican Centre Board
- Health and Wellbeing Board
- Culture Heritage and Libraries Committee
- Planning & Transportation Committee
- Bridge House Estates Board
- Policy and Resources Committee

Recommendation: That the Town Clerk, in consultation with the Chairman and Deputy Chairman of the Policy and Resources Committee resolved to:-

1. Consider and approve the following revised terms of reference for submission to the Court of Common Council in April 2023:

- Board of Governors of the City of London School
- Board of Governors of the City of London School for Girls
- Board of Governors of the City of London Freeman's School
- Barbican Centre Board
- Health and Wellbeing Board
- Culture Heritage and Libraries Committee
- Planning & Transportation Committee
- Bridge House Estates Board
- Policy and Resources Committee

2. Consider and approve a proposed amendment to Standing Order 29, to allow for the Chair of the Bridge House Estates Board to serve for up to 4 consecutive years, for submission to the Court of Common Council in April 2023.

Urgent Decision: Governance Developments in Confederation of British Industry (CBI)

BACKGROUND:

The Confederation of British Industry (CBI) is Britain's biggest business lobby group. It is currently dealing with allegations of rape and sexual misconduct, with a number of senior officials and staff under investigation.

The CBI announced that it is suspending all key activities until June — when CBI members will vote on its future. More than 65 firms have axed or suspended membership and engagement with the CBI while waiting for the outcome of an independent investigation.

The CBI is a pan sector organisation whose membership includes firms and trade associations. It has over one hundred policy specialists and has the biggest policy unit outside of Whitehall. It has a membership over around 190,000 businesses and traditionally had a very strong regional network. The CBI typically held numerous

events across the year, to which the Corporation had access by virtue of its membership.

The CBI has already suspended all policy and membership activity until an Extraordinary General Meeting (EGM) in June, when the future of the organisation will be decided by members.

Current Position

The CBI's EGM is in June, when CBI is expected to set out its proposed way forward.

The City Corporation has no events or meetings planned with the CBI. Given the gravity of the continued revelations about behaviour at the CBI, it had been recommended that the City Corporation suspends its membership.

The following organisations have ended their memberships with the CBI: ABB UK, Accenture, Adnams, Arup, Association of British Insurers, Aviva, BMW, Compass, Deloitte, EY, Ford, Fidelity International, Goldman Sachs, Imagination Technologies, ITV, Jaguar Land Rover, JLL, John Lewis, Kingfisher, National Grid, NatWest, Manchester Airports, Mastercard, Phoenix Group, The People's Partnership, RSA Insurance Group, Sage, Schroders, TLT, Vitality, Virgin Media/O2, Vodafone, WPP and Zurich UK.

The following organisations have paused their activities with the CBI: Asda, AstraZeneca, Akzo Nobel, Babcock, Bank of Ireland, Barclays, Bayer, BP, BT, British American Tobacco, Costain, Diageo, DLA Piper, Ford, GSK, Heathrow, HSBC, InterContinental Hotels Group, JLL, JPMorgan, KPMG, Legal & General, Lidl, Lloyds Banking Group, Macquarie Group, ManpowerGroup UK, Marks and Spencer, McKinsey, Meta, Morgan Stanley, Neptune Energy, Nissan, Novartis, PwC, Reckitt Benckiser, Relx, Roche, Rolls-Royce, Royal Mail, Sainsbury's, Santander, Scottish Power, Shell, Smith & Nephew, Spirax Sarco, Tesco, TSB, Uber and Unilever.

Responding to the developing allegations about the CBI, a suspension of the City Corporation's membership had been proposed as an appropriate course of action.

REASON FOR URGENCY: Given the developing situation with the CBI, a Member decision was required prior to the next Policy and Resources Committee meeting taking place on Thursday 11th May 2023.

Recommendation: That the Town Clerk, in consultation with the Chairman and Deputy Chairman resolved to: -

- Agree suspension of the City Corporation's membership of the Confederation of British Industry.

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:

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