

POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE
Thursday, 14 February 2013

Minutes of the meeting of the Policy and Resources Committee held in the West Wing, Guildhall on Thursday, 14 February 2013 at 11.45 am

Present

Members:

Mark Boleat (Chairman)
Stuart Fraser (Deputy Chairman)
Deputy Ken Ayers (Chief Commoner)
Deputy John Barker (Ex-Officio Member)
Deputy Douglas Barrow
Deputy John Bennett
Ray Catt (Ex-Officio Member)
Roger Chadwick (Ex-Officio Member)
Simon Duckworth
Revd Dr Martin Dudley (Ex-Officio Member)
Martin Farr (Ex-Officio Member)
Marianne Fredericks
George Gillon
Deputy Edward Lord
Jeremy Mayhew
Deputy Wendy Mead
Hugh Morris
Deputy Catherine McGuinness
Deputy Joyce Nash
Deputy Henry Pollard (Ex-Officio Member)
John Scott (Ex-Officio Member)
Deputy Dr Giles Shilson
John Tomlinson (Ex-Officio Member)
Deputy Michael Welbank
Alderman Alan Yarrow

Officers:

John Barradell	- Town Clerk and Chief Executive
Chris Bilsland	- Chamberlain
Michael Cogher	- Comptroller and City Solicitor
Philip Everett	- Director of the Built Environment
Peter Rees	- City Planning Officer, Department of the Built Environment
Peter Bennett	- City Surveyor
William Chapman	- Private Secretary to the Lord Mayor and Chief of Staff
Paul Sizeland	- Director of Economic Development
Liz Skelcher	- Assistant Director, Economic Development Office

Nigel Lefton
Caroline Al-Beyerty
Tony Halmos
Libby Grant
Simon Murrells
Angela Roach

- Director of Remembrancers Affairs
- Financial Services Director
- Director of Public Relations
- Head of Strategic HR Services
- Assistant Town Clerk
- Policy Manager

Alderman Alan Yarrow

The Chairman welcomed Alderman Alan Yarrow as a new Member of the Committee.

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Deputy Michael Cassidy, Alderman Sir Robert Finch, Alderman Sir David Howard, Sir Michael Snyder, James Tumbridge and Alderman Fiona Woolf.

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

There were no declarations.

3. MINUTES

The public minutes of the meeting held on 24 January 2013 were approved.

Matters Arising – Public Relations and Economic Development Sub-Committee

The Chairman referred to a resolution from the Sub-Committee laid round the table which advised that Alex Deane, Wendy Hyde and Ian Seaton had been appointed to serve on the Sub-Committee as co-optees from the wider Court. As a result of the high number of expressions received in serving on the Sub-Committee, it also sought the Grand Committee's approval for the number of co-optees from the wider Court being increased from three to four. The Chairman advised that should the Committee be minded to support the request Sophie Fernandes would be appointed as the fourth co-optee.

RESOLVED - That the number of co-optees appointed to serve on the Public Relations and Economic Development Sub-Committee from the wider Court be increased from three to four.

4. JOINT RESOURCE ALLOCATION SUB-COMMITTEE AND EFFICIENCY AND PERFORMANCE SUB-COMMITTEE WITH COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN

The public minutes of the joint meeting held on 17 January 2013 were noted.

5. RESOURCE ALLOCATION SUB-COMMITTEE MINUTES

The public minutes of the meeting held on 17 January 2013 were noted.

6. **PROJECTS SUB-COMMITTEE MINUTES**

The public minutes of the meeting held on 10 January 2013 were noted.

7. **EDUCATION STRATEGY WORKING PARTY**

The Committee considered the appointment of four Members to serve on the Education Strategy Working Party. 7 expressions of interest were received for the four places available and as a consequence a ballot was undertaken.

RESOLVED – That the following Members be appointed to serve on the Education Strategy Working Party:-

Deputy John Bennett
Marianne Fredericks
Deputy Catherine McGuinness
Deputy Giles Shilson

8. **ENERGY AND SUSTAINABILITY SUB-COMMITTEE**

The Committee considered a report of the Town Clerk concerning the remit and parent Committee for the areas of energy and sustainability.

The Chairman stated that in his view energy largely related to expenditure and it would therefore fit well with the Finance Committee, with that Committee being left to determine how best deal with that area of work. Sustainability was a cross cutting issue and should remain with the Policy Committee. In addition, given its importance, all committees should be reminded that the issue of sustainability should be considered as part of their business.

A Member reminded the Committee that the City Corporation had been selected as a beacon authority for its work on sustainability and not having a dedicated body to oversee the area would in his view be a retrograde step which he could not support.

It was pointed out that the proposed change would not mean that the policy would be lost as oversight for sustainability would remain with the Grand Committee.

A number of arguments were put forward for and against the current way of dealing with the two areas of work and after further discussion a vote was taken which resulted as follows:-

13 votes for the area of energy being transferred to the Finance Committee and sustainability being left with the Policy Committee; and

8 votes against any change.

Deputy Edward Lord and Wendy Mead requested that their votes against the proposal be recorded.

RESOLVED – that:-

1. the area of energy be transferred to the Finance Committee with that Committee being left to determine how best deal with the area of work and that the area of sustainability be left with the Policy and Resources Committee;
2. given its importance, all committees should be reminded that the issue of sustainability should be considered as part of their business; and
3. the Court of Common Council be informed accordingly.

9. **CITY OF LONDON RESERVE FORCES AND CADETS ASSOCIATION - FUNDING**

The Committee considered a report of the Town Clerk concerning the future funding of the City of London Reserve Forces & Cadets Association (CoL RFCA).

A Member reminded the Committee that CoL RFCA was not a charity. He also expressed concern about the level of grant funds spent by the CoL RFCA on hospitality. It was pointed out that the events organised by the CoL RFCA enabled it to engage with employers and promote its activities. A Member were also said that since the last grant was made there had been a huge shift in how the organisation spent its funds and that any decision to withdraw funding would be damaging to the CoL RFCA and to the City Corporation's reputation.

The Chairman pointed out that the merits of the organisation was not being questioned but in order for the Committee to make an informed decision a more substantive paper was needed. The purpose of the current paper was merely to alert Members to the issue.

RESOLVED – That the content of the report be noted and that a more detailed report be prepared for the next meeting of the Committee.

10. **REGULATION OF INVESTIGATORY POWERS ACT 2000 (RIPA) - REVISED POLICY AND PROCEDURE**

The Committee considered a report of the Town Clerk concerning proposed revisions to the City Corporation's policy and procedures in respect of the Regulation of Investigatory Powers Act (RIPA). It was noted that changes were being made as a result of the Protection of Freedoms Act 2010-12.

RESOLVED – That:-

1. the content of the report be noted and the revised policy and procedure in respect of the Regulation of Investigatory Powers Act 2000 (RIPA) be approved;

2. a quarterly review of the use of the 2000 Act be submitted to the Committee to ensure that the policy was being used consistently and remained fit for purpose; and
3. the outcome of the Office of Surveillance Commissioner's inspection on 21st September 2012 be noted and that information regarding the Corporation's RIPA arrangements be disseminated to relevant officers.

11. TOWN CLERK'S BUSINESS PLAN - PROGRESS

The Committee considered a report of the Town Clerk updating it on the activities contained in the business plan as at 31 December 2012.

The Chairman complimented the style and concise nature of the report.

RESOLVED - That the report be received and its content noted.

12. PAY POLICY STATEMENT

The Committee considered a report of the Director of Human Resources concerning the publication of the Pay Policy Statement.

The Chairman questioned the appropriateness of the wording of paragraphs 13 and 14 of the Statement, which concerned how salaries were apportioned between the City Corporation's three funds, and suggested that it be revisited and the approval of the final wording be delegated to the Town Clerk in consultation with the Chairman and Deputy Chairman. Members supported his suggestion.

RESOLVED – That:-

1. in order to meet the requirements of the Localism Act 2011 a Pay Policy Statement be published and that the approval of the final wording of the Statement be delegated to the Town Clerk in consultation with the Chairman and Deputy Chairman; and
2. the revised Statement be submitted to the Court of Common Council for approval.

13. UK POWER NETWORKS DRAFT LONDON BUSINESS PLAN FOR 2015 - 2023

The Committee considered a report of the City Surveyor concerning the City Corporation's response to UK Power Network's (UKPN) draft London business plan.

A Member supported the response, in particular, the view that infrastructure needed to be dealt with in advance of development. He suggested that this be made clear in the covering letter. The Chairman questioned the merits of including covering letters as there was a tendency for them to become

detached from supporting papers. He therefore suggested that officers include a summary of the City Corporation's key points in the submission.

RESOLVED – That:-

1. the proposed response be approved and be submitted as the City Corporation's response to UKPN's London business plan consultation, subject to the inclusion of a summary of the key points; and
2. the Corporate Property Advisory Team be requested to report back to the Committee on UKPN's consultation on the final version of its London business plan in April 2013.

14. **PLATINUM PARTNERSHIP WITH LONDON & PARTNERS**

The Committee considered a report of the Director of Culture, Heritage and Libraries proposing that the City Corporation take up Platinum membership of London & Partners (tourism).

A Member, who was also the Chairman the Culture, Heritage and Libraries Committee, suggested that the review and the development of the more bespoke element of the membership proposals be undertaken in consultation with the Chairman of the Culture, Heritage and Libraries Committee. The Chairman supported his suggestion and commented that it would also be useful for the work of London & Partners to be the theme of a future Members Discussion Breakfast.

RESOLVED – That:-

1. approval be given to the City Corporation becoming a Platinum Member of London & Partners (tourism) at a total cost of £75,000 spread over a period of three years and that this be funded from the Committee's Policy Initiatives Fund under its 'Promoting the City' category. This would be charged to City's Cash in three equal instalments of £25,000 with the first payment being due on 1 April 2013 and the remaining two on the same date each year thereafter; and
2. the Director of Culture, Heritage and Libraries be requested to review and develop the membership proposal over the three-year term (at no additional cost) to achieve best value and maximum benefit for the City Corporation and its visitor services stakeholders in consultation with the Chairman of the Culture, Heritage and Libraries Committee.

15. **ANGELS IN THE CITY**

The Committee considered a report of the Director of Economic Development concerning continued funding for the City Corporation's Angels in the City initiative, delivered by London Business Angels Ltd.

RESOLVED – That the City Corporation continues to support the Angels in the City initiative at a cost of £50,000 to be met from the Policy Initiatives Fund (under the Communities heading) and charged to City's Cash and that the cost be split into two annual contributions of £25,000 in 2013/14 and 2014/15.

16. DIGITAL DERRY - FUNDING

The Committee considered a report of the Director of Economic Development concerning the proposed funding of the "Digital Derry" initiative, the aim of which was to stimulate the Derry/Londonderry economy and bolster the relationship between Digital Derry and Tech City.

RESOLVED – That the City Corporation supports the "Digital Derry" initiative at a cost of £30,000, with a review next year, to be met from the 2013/14 Policy Initiatives Fund (under the Promoting the City heading) and charged to City's Cash.

17. DECISIONS TAKEN UNDER DELEGATED AUTHORITY OR URGENCY POWERS

The Committee received a report of the Town Clerk advising of the action taken by the Town Clerk in consultation with the Chairman and Deputy Chairman since the last meeting of the Committee in accordance with Standing Orders 41(a) and 41(b).

RESOLVED – That it be noted that approval was given to the waiver of the City Corporation's Procurement Regulations to remove the requirement to advertise the design services connected with the Members Accommodation Project through the London Tenders Portal.

18. POLICY INITIATIVES FUND AND COMMITTEE CONTINGENCY

The Committee considered a statement of the Chamberlain on the use of Policy Initiatives Fund and the Committee's contingency for 2012/13.

RESOLVED – That the content of the statement be noted.

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

In response to a question on the decanting arrangements for the Members Accommodation Project, Members were advised that this was being looked into. The work to be undertaken was due to be dealt with in phases and the intention was to undertake as much work as possible during the summer recess period.

20. ANY OTHER BUSINESS THAT THE CHAIRMAN CONSIDERS URGENT

The Committee considered the following items of urgent business:-

Reducing Alcohol Related Harm

The Committee considered a note of the Town Clerk concerning a request received from the Department of Health for the City Corporation to host a small team of officers working on a reduction of alcohol related harm project from 1st April. It was noted that discussion was still taking place with the Department of Health. Therefore a decision on providing this service was being sought in principle and would be subject to the approval of the more detailed arrangements being delegated to the Town Clerk in consultation with the Chairman and Deputy Chairman.

RESOLVED - That approval be given in principle to the City Corporation hosting a small team of officers working on a reduction of alcohol related harm project from 1st April and that the approval of the more detailed arrangements be delegated to the Town Clerk in consultation with the Chairman and Deputy Chairman.

Aldermanic Eligibility

The Chairman referred to the note he had circulated to all Members on the progress of the work being undertaken to address Aldermanic Eligibility. He said that a number of Members had raised the issue of age restrictions and advised that this was a matter for the Court of Alderman as age limits could not be imposed by legislation. A report on the outcome of the Working Party's deliberations was due to be considered at the next meetings of the General Purposes Committee of Alderman and the Policy Committee.

Martin Farr and Robert Duffield

The Chairman pointed out that Martin Farr and Robert Duffield were not intending to stand for re-election to the Court of Common Council in the forthcoming elections. He thanked them both on behalf of the Committee for their support and contribution to the work of the Policy Committee over the years.

21. EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC

Motion – 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 Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act.

Item Nos.	Paragraph(s) in Schedule 12A
22-28	3

Part 2 – Non-Public Agenda

22. NON-PUBLIC MINUTES

The non-public minutes of the meeting held on 24 January 2013 were approved.

23. JOINT RESOURCE ALLOCATION SUB-COMMITTEE AND EFFICIENCY AND PERFORMANCE SUB-COMMITTEE WITH COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN

The non-public minutes of the joint meeting held on 17 January 2013 were considered and the actions contained therein endorsed.

24. RESOURCE ALLOCATION SUB-COMMITTEE MINUTES

The non-public minutes of the meeting held on 17 January 2013 were considered and the recommendations contained therein approved.

25. PROJECTS SUB-COMMITTEE MINUTES

The non-public minutes of the meeting held on 10 January 2013 were noted.

26. FIRST REGISTRATION OF THE CITY'S FREEHOLD TITLES - PROGRESS

The Committee considered and approved a joint report of the City Surveyor and the Comptroller and City Solicitor concerning the progress of the City Corporation's title registration project.

27. 2 FANN STREET - BID ANALYSIS

The Committee considered and approved a joint report of the Director of Community and Children's Services and the City Surveyor concerning the outcome of the first stage of the bid analysis in respect of 2 Fann Street, EC2.

28. AFFORDABLE HOUSING

The Committee considered and noted the content of a report of the Director of Community and Children's Services and the City Surveyor concerning the City Corporation's housing policy and the on-going work being undertaken to increase the supply of affordable housing.

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

There were no questions whilst the public were excluded.

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

There were no items of urgent business for consideration.

The meeting ended at 12.30pm.

Chairman

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