

RESOURCE ALLOCATION SUB (POLICY AND RESOURCES) COMMITTEE

Wednesday, 24 January 2024

Minutes of the meeting of the Resource Allocation Sub (Policy and Resources)
Committee held at Committee Rooms, 2nd Floor, West Wing, Guildhall on
Wednesday, 24 January 2024 at 2.30 pm

Present

Members:

Deputy Christopher Hayward (Chairman)	Caroline Haines
Deputy Henry Colthurst (Deputy Chairman)	Deputy Shravan Joshi
Deputy Keith Bottomley	Catherine McGuinness
Tijs Broeke	Ruby Sayed
Jason Groves	Deputy James Thomson

In Attendance

Alderman Timothy Hailes

Officers:

Ian Thomas CBE	Town Clerk and Chief Executive
Caroline Al-Beyerty	The Chamberlain
Paul Wilkinson	The City Surveyor
Dionne Corradine	Chief Strategy Officer
Emily Tofield	Executive Director of Corporate Communications and External Affairs
Bob Roberts	Executive Director, Environment
Greg Moore	Deputy Town Clerk
Daniel Peattie	Chamberlain's Department
Sonia Virdee	Chamberlain's Department
Jonathan Cooper	City Surveyor's Department
John Galvin	City Surveyor's Department
Graeme Low	City Surveyor's Department
Fiona McKeith	City Surveyor's Department
Robert Murphy	City Surveyor's Department
Peter Young	City Surveyor's Department
Ian Hughes	Environment Department
Jen Beckermann	Town Clerk's Department
Ben Dixon	Town Clerk's Department
Polly Dunn	Town Clerk's Department
Ben Dunleavy	Town Clerk's Department

1. **APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence were received from Alderman Sir William Russell and Deputy Randall Anderson.

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

Catherine McGuinness, in respect of Agenda Item 7 on benefits-in-kind, declared that she was a Trustee of the City of London Academies Trust, which received benefits-in-kind from the City Corporation.

3. **MINUTES**

Members received the public minutes and non-public summary of the meeting held on 30 November 2023.

The Town Clerk noted one correction to the minutes was required to record Catherine McGuinness's attendance.

The minutes, as amended, were approved as a correct record.

4. **DRAFT HIGH-LEVEL BUSINESS PLAN 2023/24 - CITY SURVEYOR'S DEPARTMENT**

Members received a report of the City Surveyor concerning the City Surveyor's Department's business plan.

RESOLVED, that – Members:

- a) Note the factors taken into consideration in compiling the City Surveyor's Departmental Business Plan; and
- b) Approve the departmental Business Plan 2024/25.

5. **CIL, OSPR AND CAPITAL BIDS (QUARTER 3 - 2023/24)**

Members received a joint report of the Chamberlain and the Executive Director, Environment, concerning CIL, OSPR and Capital Bids for Quarter 3.

RESOLVED, that – Members approve:

- a) The amendments to the Terms of Reference of the Priorities Board as set out in Appendix 1
- b) The recommendations of the Priorities Board to allocate £30.08m of CIL to the new Museum of London and Sculpture in the City projects and £11.715m of OSPR to the projects listed in the summary above.
- c) The inclusion of the Cyclical Works Programme funding requirements over the medium-term-financial plan against OSPR in 2024/25 budget setting and medium-term financial planning.

6. **SAFE HAVENS IN THE CITY OF LONDON**

Members received a report of the Executive Director of Community and Children's Services concerning safe havens in the City.

RESOLVED, that – Members note the report and endorse the Safe Havens scheme.

7. BENEFITS-IN-KIND REVIEW AND ANNUAL REPORTING

Members received a report of the Managing Director of City Bridge Foundation concerning benefits-in-kind.

The Deputy Chairman recommended that the Resource Allocation Sub-Committee should have general oversight of benefits-in-kind and its annual reporting. The Efficiency and Performance Working Party could undertake any in-depth scrutiny.

An observing Member agreed that, as benefits-in-kind were an allocation of resource like any other, the Sub-Committee was the appropriate home. They noted that the report split out benefits-in-kind by internal department and requested that future reports also include a breakdown of the benefits granted to each external organisation (including the property, grant and benefit values). This would allow Members to see how the City Corporation was supporting external bodies.

RESOLVED, that – Members:

- a) note the process undertaken to review benefits-in-kind across CoLC Departments/ Institutions.
- b) approve an additional £10,000 per annum (increased annually in line with pay reviews) from City's Cash Budget for the CGU to provide an enhanced service for departments on an ongoing basis.
- c) Instruct officers to make the appropriate governance arrangements

8. CONSIDERATE LIGHTING CHARTER OPERATIONAL PROPERTY UPDATE

Members received a report of the City Surveyor providing an update on the City Corporation's commitment to the Considerate Lighting Charter.

The Chairman noted, by way of background to the report, that the City Corporation had promoted the Charter without considering its own ability to confirm to it. He was frustrated that this issue had not been resolved.

Following a question from a Member, the Chairman confirmed that the Charter was aspirational i.e. the City Corporation could sign up and work towards the commitments, rather than needing them in place immediately.

Officers confirmed that they hoped to be able to provide further information on the implications of committing to the Charter should the further paper requesting funds to initiate surveys (referenced at paragraph 18 of the report) be approved.

RESOLVED, that – Members:

- a) Note the anticipated steps outlined in Appendix 3 for implementing the Charter for the relevant City of London Corporation operational buildings.

- b) Note the further work needed to confirm the full implications relating to the adoption of the Charter.
- c) Note the commitment to the production of a further paper setting out in more detail any funding request to initiate surveys and determine an accurate capital cost to implementation (aiming for Q1 24/25).
- d) Note the intention to continue to promote the Considerate Lighting Charter via existing channels to encourage adoption and sign up while the work to achieve compliance by the City Corporation is ongoing, and the intention to explore with stakeholders any potential barriers that are preventing them from signing up to the Charter; and the potential for future consideration of a wider publicity campaign.

9. ***23/24 ENERGY & DECARBONISATION PERFORMANCE Q2 UPDATE FOR THE OPERATIONAL PORTFOLIO**

Members received a report of the City Surveyor concerning the energy and decarbonisation performance of the City Corporation's operational property.

RESOLVED, that – the report be received and its contents noted.

10. **QUESTIONS ON MATTERS RELATING TO THE WORK OF THE SUB-COMMITTEE**

A Member welcomed the use of Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) funds for the Museum of London project, and asked if CIL funds could be used on assets owned by the City Corporation for community and cultural uplift.

In reply, officers informed Members that, in order to be eligible for CIL funding, the CIL Funding Regulations required projects to be forms of infrastructure necessary to fund the development of the Square Mile. They undertook to explore the scope of where CIL funds could be used in line with the question. Officers were also carrying out wider work on the Development Plan to ensure that Members had a good understanding of the range of projects that were eligible for CIL funding.

The Chamberlain added that the CIL Neighbourhood Fund had more flexibility to use funds for the wider community and external organisations.

A Member said that restricted funds should be the first source of funding for eligible projects. The Chamberlain agreed, as long as the restricted funds had enough money.

11. **ANY OTHER BUSINESS THAT THE CHAIRMAN CONSIDERS URGENT**

There was no other business.

12. **EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC**

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13. **NON-PUBLIC MINUTES**

The non-public minutes of the Sub-Committee meeting held on 30 November 2023 were approved as a correct record.

14. ***NOTE OF THE INFORMAL SESSION**
The note of the Sub-Committee's informal meeting on 30 November 2023 was received.
15. **GUILDHALL COMPLEX – REFURBISHMENT OPTIONS FOR THE NORTH AND WEST WINGS**
Members received a report of the City Surveyor concerning the refurbishment of the Guildhall complex.
16. **WALBROOK WHARF FEASIBILITY 2027 AND BEYOND**
Members received a joint report of the Chamberlain and the Executive Director, Environment concerning Walbrook Wharf.
17. **WALBROOK WHARF DEPOT - REPLACEMENT OF MECHANICAL AND ELECTRICAL SERVICES**
Members received a report of the City Surveyor concerning the replacement of mechanical and electrical services at Walbrook Wharf.
18. **QUESTIONS ON MATTERS RELATING TO THE WORK OF THE SUB-COMMITTEE**
There were no questions.
19. **ANY OTHER BUSINESS THAT THE CHAIRMAN CONSIDERS URGENT AND WHICH THE SUB-COMMITTEE AGREE SHOULD BE CONSIDERED WHILST THE PUBLIC ARE EXCLUDED**
There was no other business.

The meeting ended at 3.21 pm

Chairman

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