

PUBLIC RELATIONS AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT SUB-COMMITTEE

Thursday, 8 May 2014

Minutes of the meeting of the Public Relations and Economic Development Sub-Committee held at the Guildhall EC2 at 3.15pm

Present

Members:

Mark Boleat (Chairman)	Wendy Hyde
Deputy Catherine McGuinness (Deputy Chairman)	Oliver Lodge
Deputy Douglas Barrow	Jeremy Mayhew
Roger Chadwick	Ian Seaton
Deputy Alex Deane	Sir Michael Snyder
Stuart Fraser	

Officers:

John Barradell	- Town Clerk and Chief Executive
Tony Halmos	- Director of Public Relations
Greg Williams	- Public Relations Office
Simon Latham	- Public Relations Office
Paul Sizeland	- Director of Economic Development
Liz Skelcher	- Economic Development Office
Isabelle Almeida	- Economic Development Office
Nigel Lefton	- Remembrancer's Department
Georgina Denis	- Town Clerk's Department
Angela Roach	- Town Clerk's Department

1. APOLOGIES

There were no apologies received.

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

There were no declarations of interest under the code of conduct in respect of items on the agenda.

3. TERMS OF REFERENCE

RESOLVED - That the Sub-Committee note its terms of reference.

4. APPOINTMENT OF CO-OPTED MEMBERS

The Sub-Committee discussed the appointment of co-opted Members from the Court of Common Council to the Sub-Committee. The Sub-Committee agreed to reappoint Oliver Lodge, Ian Seaton and Sophie Fernandes.

The Chairman informed the Sub-Committee that in his opinion those potential candidates for the fourth co-opted membership were the Members who minimally missed election to the Grand Committee, Tom Sleigh, James Tumbridge and Henry Colthurst. Following a discussion the Sub-Committee agreed that the Chairman should approach Tom Sleigh to ascertain his interest and suitability and that the fourth place should be offered to Mr Sleigh subject to the outcome of the Chairman's discussion.

RESOLVED - That:-

1. Oliver Lodge, Ian Seaton and Sophie Fernandes be reappointed as co-opted Members of the Public Relations and Economic Development Sub-Committee; and
2. That the Chairman discuss with Tom Sleigh his interest and suitability for the role of Co-opted Member of the Public Relations and Economic Development Sub-Committee, and subject to the Chairman being satisfied with the outcome of this discussion, that Mr Sleigh be appointed to the aforementioned position.

5. **MINUTES**

The minutes of the meeting held on 20 February 2014 were approved.

Matters Arising

A Member asked for clarification with regards to the efforts made by the Economic Development Office to encourage Member involvement in TheCityUK events and other large events occurring across the City. The Director of Economic Development explained that Members of the Sub-Committee were routinely invited to large TheCityUK events nevertheless his office would ensure that TheCityUK was provided with an updated list of the Sub-Committee's Members, and if there were occurrences where Members were not being appropriately informed he would look to resolve any issues.

6. **2014 PARTY CONFERENCE ACTIVITY**

The Sub-Committee received a report of the Director of Public Relations regarding 2014 Party Conference activity.

The Sub-Committee agreed that the Public Relations Office should contact Members in June 2014 regarding expressions of interest for attending the events. Members queried the level of Member involvement at Party Conferences. The Town Clerk confirmed that it was agreed at the 2 May 2013 Sub-Committee meeting that no more than six Members of the Public Relations and Economic Development Sub-Committee, including the Chairman and relevant Deputy Chairman, should attend each Party Conference.

RESOLVED – That:-

1. The 2014 Party Conference programme be noted; and
2. Members attendance arrangements remain at no more than six Members of the Public Relations and Economic Development Sub-Committee, including the Chairman and relevant Deputy Chairman; and
3. a request for an additional £15,000 for the 2014 Party Conference Programme be submitted to the June 2014 meeting of the Policy and Resources Committee.

7. THINK TANKS ACTIVITIES 2010-2014

The Sub-Committee considered a report of the Director of Public Relations concerning think tank activities for 2010-2014. The Sub-Committee discussed issues with regards to engagement and political balance and agreed that balance and transparency should continue to be embedded in think tank programmes. A Member also requested that future reports include the costs associated with each activity.

RESOLVED - That the content of the report on the 2010-2014 City of London activities with think tanks be noted.

8. BRUSSELS ANNUAL RECEPTION

The Sub-Committee considered a report of the Director of Economic Development on the Brussels Annual Reception. The Sub-Committee agreed that all Members would be contacted early September 2014 with regards to expressions of interest in attending the Annual Reception. Members who had expressed an interest and who had the relevant experience would be included in the delegation.

RESOLVED - That expressions of interest in attending the Brussels Annual Reception be sought from Members in September 2014.

9. INTERNATIONAL REGULATORY STRATEGY GROUP ACTIVITIES UPDATE

The Sub-Committee received an update report of the Director of Economic Development regarding the activities of the International Regulatory Strategy Group (IRSG) and an outline of the Group's areas of activity over the coming months. The Sub-Committee discussed European regulation and the Financial Transaction Tax (FTT), as well as the Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership.

RESOLVED - That the update and forward look on the activities of the International Regulatory Strategic Group (IRSG) be noted.

10. PRE-PRESIDENCY VISIT TO ITALY

The Sub-Committee received a report of the Director of Economic Development regarding the Pre-Presidency visit to Italy by the Lord Mayor, the Chairman of the Policy and Resources Committee and the Chair of the International Regulatory Strategy Group (IRSG).

RESOLVED - That the report on the Pre-Presidency visit to Italy be noted.

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

There were no questions relating to the work of the Sub-Committee.

12. ANY OTHER BUSINESS THAT THE CHAIRMAN CONSIDERS URGENT

There was no items of urgent business.

13. 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 Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act. In addition, for one item which fell under paragraph 100A (2) of the Act relating to confidential information that would be disclosed in breach of an obligation of confidence:-

Item Nos.

Exemption Paragraph(s)

14

1

Part 2 – Non-Public Agenda

14. NON-PUBLIC MINUTES

The non-public minutes of the Public Relations and Economic Development Sub-Committee meeting held on 20 February 2014 were approved.

15. NON-PUBLIC QUESTIONS ON MATTERS RELATING TO THE WORK OF THE SUB-COMMITTEE

There were no non-public questions relating to the work of the Sub-Committee.

16. ANY OTHER BUSINESS THAT THE CHAIRMAN CONSIDERS URGENT AND WHICH THE SUB COMMITTEE AGREES SHOULD BE CONSIDERED WHILST THE PUBLIC ARE EXCLUDED

There was no other business to be considered whilst the public were excluded.

The meeting ended at 3.50pm

Chairman

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