

MARKETS COMMITTEE

Wednesday, 16 July 2014

Minutes of the meeting of the Markets Committee held at Committee Room - 2nd Floor West Wing, Guildhall on Wednesday, 16 July 2014 at 11.30 am

Present

Members:

Hugh Morris (Deputy Chairman)	Deputy Joyce Nash
Nicholas Bensted-Smith	Graham Packham
Christopher Boden	Adam Richardson
Alderman Charles Bowman	Elizabeth Rogula
Deputy John Chapman	Ian Seaton
Karina Dostalova	Deputy Dr Giles Shilson
Alderman Timothy Hailes	Angela Starling
Brian Harris	Patrick Streeter
Tom Hoffman	James Tumbridge
Michael Hudson	Mark Wheatley
Wendy Mead	

Officers:

Rakesh Hira	Town Clerk's Department
Peter Lisley	Town Clerk's Department (item 14 only)
Suellen Dooley	Comptroller and City Solicitor's Department
Julie Smith	Chamberlain's Department
Debbie Howard	Chamberlain's Department
Steven Chandler	City Surveyor's Department
Andrew Crafter	City Surveyor's Department
Kay English	Department of the Built Environment
David Smith	Director, Markets & Consumer Protection
Jon Averbs	Markets & Consumer Protection
Malcolm Macleod	Markets & Consumer Protection
Nigel Shepherd	Markets & Consumer Protection
Robert Wilson	Markets & Consumer Protection
Donald Perry	Markets and Consumer Protection Department
Julie Gibbs	Markets and Consumer Protection Department

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from John Scott (Chairman), Alex Bain-Stewart, Deputy Stanley Ginsburg, Christopher Hayward, Jamie Ingham Clark, Deputy Keith Knowles, Edward Lord, Professor John Lumley and Robert Merrett.

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

There were no declarations.

3. **PUBLIC MINUTES**

The public minutes of the meeting held on 14 May 2014 were approved as a correct record.

4. **REVENUE OUTTURN 2013/14**

A joint report of the Chamberlain and Director of Markets and Consumer Protection comparing the 2013/14 revenue outturn for the services overseen by the Committee with the final budget for the year, was considered. The report explained that overall total net income during the year was (£0.561m) whereas the total agreed budget was £0.257m, representing an under spend and/or increase in income generation of (0.818m).

The Chamberlain presented this report explaining that for 2013/14 there was an overall surplus for the Markets & Consumer Protection Department. The table set out in the summary of the report combined both the local and central risk budget figures and the table at page 10 set out the split between both local and central risk figures. It was noted that future reports would ensure the cross reference of figures between the tables to assist Members. There was a local risk underspend of (£411,000) with proposals to carry forward £213,000 for various projects which were set out at page 12. Annex A1 provided a detailed breakdown of local risk and the reasons for significant variances and A2 provided a similar detailed breakdown and explanation for variances for central risk.

A discussion took place and in response to a question by a Member the Chamberlain and the Director of Markets and Consumer Protection pointed out that the proposed carry forwards were discussed with the Chairman and Deputy Chairman prior to being put forward to the Chamberlain for approval in consultation with the Chairman and Deputy Chairman of Resource Allocation Sub Committee.

In relation to the local risk underspend of £655,000 on the City Surveyor's planned works, the explanations for this were set out at page 11. In response to a question from a Member on why the programme of works had been delayed the Superintendent of Billingsgate Market noted that the replacement of the fire alarm system was envisaged to be replaced over a three year period however it was found more cost effective for this to be done in a single phase and would now start in November 2014. He commented that continual discussions were taking place between the Department and the City Surveyor on the delayed projects.

In response to a question by a Member the Director of Markets and Consumer Protection explained that the budget estimates for 2014/15 had not changed since they were presented to Members for approval. Should any changes need to be made exceeding 10% a further report would be submitted to this Committee.

RESOLVED – That the contents of the report be noted.

5. **SMITHFIELD MARKET - CONDENSER WATER COOLING SYSTEM - UPDATE**

A report of the City Surveyor provided Members with an update on the performance of the Condenser Water Cooling System, at Smithfield Market, which serves Tenants' refrigeration equipment, and the works currently being undertaken to improve the system. The report highlighted that the performance of the condenser water cooling system was currently satisfactory. He reported that operating problems were experienced with two cooling tower fans in May 2014 which led to an increase in the water supply temperature. This caused difficulties for the refrigeration units of one tenant, although did not appear to affect other units. All cooling tower fans were now running again and the third phase of the City's improvement works, aimed at addressing contamination in the system, was underway, and would largely be completed by the end of July 2014. He noted that the Spares Policy had been reviewed and maintenance inspections were taking place on the cooling tower fans.

A discussion took place and in response to a question by a Member the City Surveyor explained that the responsibility for the operation of the system was jointly of both the City Corporation and the individual tenants and that who would specifically be liable for a fault would be dependent on the individual problem.

It was noted that until a new service level specification of the system had been agreed the City Corporation would continue to operate to current standards.

RESOLVED – That the contents of the report be noted.

6. **ENFORCEMENT ACTIVITY AT SMITHFIELD MARKET**

A report of the Director of Markets and Consumer Protection updated Members on the Enforcement Activity carried out by Markets and Consumer Protection enforcement officers and the Food Standards Agency, at Smithfield Market, during the four month period from 1 February 2014 to 31 May 2014. The report provided information on the work carried out by officers in delivering the priorities set out in the Food Standards Agency's National Co-ordinated Food Sampling Programme 2013-14 and an update on the on-going City Corporation/Food Standards Agency joint initiative regarding food delivery vehicles that visited Smithfield Market.

In response to a question by a Member it was noted that the total amount of verbal advice being provided to traders was not excessive.

RESOLVED – That the contents of the report be noted.

7. **CHRISTMAS 2014 - SMITHFIELD MARKET TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT PLAN**

A report of the Superintendent of Smithfield Market updated Members on the measures being taken to implement a more comprehensive Traffic Management Plan at Smithfield Market for the Christmas period 2014, in order

to alleviate the congestion, and at times gridlocking, of traffic around the Market which was experienced during Christmas 2013. The report highlighted that there was an outstanding issue over payment for the increased resources that the City Police and officers considered was required for the expanded traffic management area which Members' guidance was sought on.

It was noted that following further consultation with other interested parties, such as the City of London Police and Highways Department, a final Traffic Management Plan would be presented for approval at the September 2014 Committee meeting.

The Superintendent explained that a considerable amount of work had been undertaken with various discussions taking place with the City Police, SMTA and other parties to improve the traffic management plan.

The Chairman invited the SMTA representative in the public gallery to give her thoughts on the proposed plan; she noted that the tenants were prepared to move forward with the traffic management plan and would engage with the proposal.

In response to a question by a Member it was pointed out that as a matter of routine neighbouring authorities were notified of road closures on boundary streets.

In relation to the funding of the new traffic management plan, Members were of the view that there should be no cost impact to this Committee. It was agreed that officers would explore potential funding streams, including the on-street parking reserve and bring a report to the next meeting.

Members thanked all officers involved in the work that had been carried out in devising the new plan.

RESOLVED – That Members approve the traffic management plan in principle, and that a further report be submitted to the next meeting on the funding proposals for providing additional traffic control measures such as the appointment of private stewards.

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

Smithfield Market Redevelopment Plans

In response to a question by a Member the Deputy Chairman pointed out that the decision to reject the Smithfield Market redevelopment plans by central government fell outside of the remit of this Committee.

9. ANY OTHER BUSINESS THAT THE CHAIRMAN CONSIDERS URGENT

There were no urgent items.

10. **EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC**

RESOLVED – That under Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraph 3 of Part I of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act as follows:-

Item	Paragraph
11 & 12	3
13 & 14	-

11. **NON-PUBLIC MINUTES**

The non-public minutes of the meeting held on 14 May 2014 were approved as a correct record.

12. **SMITHFIELD MARKET - CONDENSER WATER COOLING SYSTEM - APPENDIX**

A non-public appendix to item 5 was received.

13. **NON PUBLIC QUESTIONS ON MATTERS RELATING TO THE WORK OF THE COMMITTEE**

There was one question raised.

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

There was one urgent item of business considered with only Members present.

The meeting ended at 12.40 pm

Chairman

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