

# MINUTES

**Meeting: London Assembly  
(Mayor's Question Time)**  
**Date: Wednesday 16 March 2016**  
**Time: 10.00 am**  
**Place: Chamber, City Hall, The Queen's  
Walk, London, SE1 2AA**

Copies of the minutes may be found at: <http://www.london.gov.uk/mayor-assembly/london-assembly/whole-assembly>

**Present:**

Jennette Arnold OBE AM (Chair)	Jenny Jones AM
Tony Arbour AM (Deputy Chairman)	Stephen Knight AM
Gareth Bacon AM	Kit Malthouse AM MP
Mayor John Biggs AM	Joanne McCartney AM
Kemi Badenoch AM	Steve O'Connell AM
Andrew Boff AM	Caroline Pidgeon MBE AM
James Cleverly AM MP	Murad Qureshi AM
Tom Copley AM	Dr Onkar Sahota AM
Andrew Dismore AM	Navin Shah AM
Len Duvall AM	Valerie Shawcross CBE AM
Roger Evans AM	Richard Tracey AM
Nicky Gavron AM	Fiona Twycross AM
Darren Johnson AM	

## **1 Apologies for Absence and Chair's Announcements (Item 1)**

- 1.1 There were no apologies for absence.
- 1.2 During the course of the meeting, the Chair welcomed to the public gallery visitors from: Surface Transport at Transport for London; the Roedkilde Gymnasium in Denmark; Annunciation Primary School, Burnt Oak; George Mitchell Primary School, Waltham Forest; Fenstanton Primary School, Abbots Park; and the Sydenham Society. In addition, the Chair welcomed Martin Hoscik, author of the MayorWatch web site, to the meeting.

## **2 Declarations of Interests (Item 2)**

- 2.1 The Assembly received the report of the Executive Director of Secretariat.

### **2.2 Resolved:**

**That the list of offices held by Assembly Members, as set out in the table at Agenda Item 2, be noted as disclosable pecuniary interests.**

## **3 Minutes (Item 3)**

### **3.1 Resolved:**

**That the minutes from the London Assembly (Mayor's Question Time) meeting held on 22 February 2016 be signed by the Chair as a correct record.**

## **4 Mayor's Report (Item 4)**

- 4.1 The Assembly noted the Mayor's Report covering the period from 9 February to 2 March 2016.
- 4.2 In accordance with Standing Order 5.4A, the Mayor gave an oral update on matters occurring since the publication of his report. The record of the oral update is attached at **Appendix 1**.

## **5 Questions to the Mayor (Item 5)**

- 5.1 The record of the discussion with the Mayor, including oral answers given by the Mayor to Members' questions, is attached as **Appendix 2**.

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- 5.2 The written answers to those questions not asked or unanswered during the meeting is attached as **Appendix 3**.
- 5.3 During the course of the question and answer session the Chair proposed, and it was agreed, that Standing Order 2.9B be suspended to extend the meeting in order to allow the remaining questions on the priority order paper to be put to the Mayor and for the remaining items of business on the agenda to be considered.
- 5.4 At the conclusion of the question and answer session, the Chair thanked the Mayor for his answers and, noting that this would be the Mayor's last London Assembly Mayor's Question Time meeting given that he was not standing at the 2016 GLA elections, thanked him for his attendance at Mayor's Question Times over the previous eight years and presented him with a gift on behalf of the London Assembly.
- 5.5 The Assembly then agreed the motion set out on the agenda in the name of the Chair, namely:  
  
**"That the Assembly notes the answers to the questions asked".**

## **6 Appointment of Independent Persons (Item 6)**

- 6.1 The Assembly received the report of the Executive Director of Secretariat.

6.2 **Resolved:**

**That it be agreed to confirm the appointments of Suzanne McCarthy and Alan Simcock as Independent Persons under Section 28(7) of the Localism Act 2011 for the period up to 30 June 2018, subject to the approval of the Mayor.**

## **7 Proposed Minor Changes to the GLA's Standing Orders (Item 7)**

- 7.1 The Assembly received the report of the Executive Director of Secretariat.

7.2 **Resolved:**

**That it be agreed to approve and adopt the minor revisions to the Greater London Authority's Standing Orders attached at Appendix 1 and Appendix 2, and set out in paragraph 3.9 of the report, to come into effect at the close of the meeting.**

## **8 Proposed Delegation to the Chair of the Assembly (Item 8)**

8.1 The Assembly received the report of the Executive Director of Secretariat.

8.2 **Resolved:**

**That it be agreed to delegate authority, in relation to urgent matters only, in respect of the Assembly's powers and functions (apart from those that cannot under the Greater London Authority Act 1999 be delegated), to the Chair of the Assembly, in consultation with the Deputy Chairman, party Group Leaders and relevant committee Chair(s), from the close of this meeting until the next scheduled meeting of the Assembly, which will be the Assembly's Annual Meeting on 13 May 2016.**

## **9 Motion (Item 9)**

9.1 The Chair moved and the Deputy Chairman seconded the following motion:

"That the London Assembly places on record its gratitude to the following retiring Members for their contributions to the Assembly and the Greater London Authority and that the Chair of the Assembly writes to the Members expressing appreciation of their contributions to London government:

- Mayor John Biggs AM;
- James Cleverly AM MP;
- Roger Evans AM;
- Jenny Jones AM;
- Darren Johnson AM;
- Stephen Knight AM;
- Kit Malthouse AM MP;
- Valerie Shawcross CBE AM; and
- Richard Tracey AM."

9.2 Gareth Bacon AM, Len Duvall AM, Caroline Pidgeon MBE AM and Darren Johnson AM joined the Chair and Deputy Chairman in expressing thanks, personally and on behalf of their Groups, to those Members who were not standing for re-election for their contribution to the work of the Assembly.

## **10 Date of Next Meeting (Item 10)**

10.1 The next scheduled meeting of the London Assembly would be the Assembly's Annual Meeting which would take place at 10.00am on Friday 13 May 2016.

## **11 Any Other Business the Chair Considers Urgent (Item 11)**

11.1 There was no urgent business.

## **12 Close of Meeting**

12.1 The meeting closed 1.17pm.

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Chair

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Date

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