

MINUTES

**Meeting: Budget and Performance
Committee**

Date: Tuesday 24 November 2020

Time: 10.00 am

Place: Virtual Meeting

Copies of the minutes may be found at:

<http://www.london.gov.uk/mayor-assembly/london-assembly/budget-performance>

Present:

Susan Hall AM (Chairman)
Len Duvall AM (Deputy Chair)
Siân Berry AM
Unmesh Desai AM
Tony Devenish AM
Dr Alison Moore AM
Caroline Pidgeon MBE AM
Dr Onkar Sahota AM

1 Apologies for Absence and Chairman's Announcements (Item 1)

- 1.1 The Chairman explained that in accordance with Government regulations the meeting was being held on a virtual basis, with Assembly Members and guests attending remotely.
- 1.2 The Clerk read the roll-call of Assembly Member who were participating at the meeting. There were no apologies for absence.

2 Declarations of Interests (Item 2)

2.1 The Committee 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 of the meetings held on 1 October 2020, 14 October 2020 and 22 October 2020 be signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

4 Summary List of Actions (Item 4)

4.1 The Committee received the report of the Executive Director of Secretariat.

4.2 In accordance with section 100(B)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the Chairman agreed to accept a supplementary agenda which contained an additional appendix to Appendix 3 to the report on the grounds that the information was not ready for publication and it was important that it be considered at the earliest opportunity.

4.3 **Resolved:**

(a) That the ongoing and completed actions arising from previous meetings of the Committee be noted; and

(b) That the completed action arising from a previous meeting of the Budget Monitoring Sub-Committee be noted.

5 Draft GLA Budget 2021-22 (Item 5)

5.1 The Committee received the report of the Chief Officer and Executive Director of Resources.

5.2 In accordance with section 100(B)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the Chairman agreed to accept a supplementary agenda which contained the Capital Strategy set out at Appendix D to the draft Greater London Authority (GLA) Budget 2021-22 on the grounds that the information was not available at the time of publication and it was important that it be considered at the earliest opportunity.

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5.3 The Committee then put questions on the Draft GLA Budget 2021-22 to the following invited guests:

- David Bellamy, Mayor's Chief of Staff;
- Mary Harpley, Chief Officer, GLA;
- David Gallie, Executive Director of Resources, GLA;
- Rickardo Hyatt, Interim Deputy Executive Director for Housing and Land and Assistant Director for Housing, GLA;
- Phil Graham, Executive Director for Good Growth, GLA;
- Sarah Mulley, Executive Director for Communities and Skills, GLA; and
- Niran Mothada, Executive Director for Strategy and Communications, GLA.

5.4 A transcript of the discussion is attached as **Appendix 1**.

5.5 During the course of the discussion, the Committee requested the following additional information:

- An estimated breakdown of the separate council tax and business rates income reductions of the anticipated £38 million shortfall as expected to apply to the GLA Group;
- An update on anticipated council tax shortfalls expected to be incurred by each billing authority, to be shared on a confidential basis as necessary;
- The leverage of spend the GLA secures from working with partners, as based around the nine missions and whether the GLA will set levels of external income it hopes to achieve in future years;
- Further information on the alternative financing mechanism with the City of London Corporation which is expected to deliver a saving of £1 million, to be shared on a confidential basis as necessary;
- Further information on the financial implications of the memorandum of understanding with the Office of National Statistics;
- The recommendations from the Bloomberg review;
- Further information on the housing zones and monies being recycled to fund further loans, including interest accrued, how such interest is reported within the budget, how much money has come back as grant to be recycled and how much has been paid out again;
- A briefing note on future plans for the Adult Education Budget, including details of any underspends and measures to ensure funding is focused on institutions within London;
- A list of projects or initiatives the GLA has not been able to deliver because of vacancies;

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- The number and roles of staff “acting up” to roles above their substantive grades;
- Confirmation of the number of vacancies that are currently being advertised and, of those, how many are new posts; and
- Current estimates of the number of compulsory redundancies to be made across the GLA, to be provided on a confidential basis as necessary.

5.6 Resolved:

- (a) That the report and discussion be noted; and**
- (b) That authority be delegated to the Chairman, in consultation with party Group Lead Members and Caroline Pidgeon MBE AM, to agree any output from the meeting.**

6 Quarter 2, 2020/21 GLA Group Monitoring Reports (Item 6)

6.1 The Committee received the report of the Executive Director of Secretariat.

6.2 In accordance with section 100(B)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the Chairman agreed to accept two supplementary agendas which contained the Q2 reports for the GLA, the London Legacy Development Corporation, the London Fire Brigade, the Old Oak and Park Royal Development Corporation, the Mayor’s Office for Policing and Crime, and Transport for London, on the grounds that the information was not available at the time of publication and it was important that it be considered at the earliest opportunity.

6.3 Resolved:

That the monitoring report for Quarter 2 of 2020/21 be noted.

7 Budget and Performance Committee Work Programme (Item 7)

7.1 The Committee received the report of the Executive Director of Secretariat

7.2 Resolved:

That the work programme for the remainder of 2020 be noted.

8 Date of Next Meeting (Item 8)

8.1 The next meeting of the Committee which would be a virtual meeting was scheduled for Tuesday 8 December 2020 at 10.00am.

9 Any Other Business the Chairman Considers Urgent (Item 9)

9.1 There were no other items of business.

10 Close of Meeting

10.1 The meeting ended at 12:40pm.

Chairman

Date

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