

Subject: Action Taken Under Delegated Authority

Report to: Economy Committee

Report of: Executive Director of Secretariat

Date: 2 March 2021

This report will be considered in public

1. Summary

- 1.1 This report sets out recent action taken by the Chair of the Economy Committee under delegated authority.

2. Recommendation

- 2.1 **That the Committee notes the actions taken by the Chair of the Economy Committee under delegated authority, in consultation with party Group Lead Members, namely to agree:**
- (a) **The Committee's letter to the Mayor as an output for the meeting on the changing nature of work after COVID-19, as attached at Appendix 1; and**
 - (b) **The Committee's letters to London Councils, the Government and London borough Leaders requesting additional information on Universal Basic Income, as attached at Appendices 2-6.**

3. Background

- 3.1 Under Standing Orders and the Assembly's Scheme of Delegation, certain decisions by Members can be taken under delegated authority. This report details those actions.
- 3.2 At its meeting on 15 December 2020, the Committee held a meeting on the changing nature of work after COVID-19 and resolved:
- That authority be delegated to the Chair, in consultation with party Group Lead Members, to agree any output from the discussion.*
- 3.3 Following that meeting, the Chair consulted party Group Lead Members on the Committee's letter to the Mayor.

3.4 At its meeting on 20 January 2021, the Committee considered a motion referred to it by the London Assembly on Universal Basic Income (UBI) and resolved:

That authority be delegated to the Chair, in consultation with party Group Lead Members, to agree letters to the Government and London Councils seeking additional information to contribute to the Committee's investigation on UBI.

3.5 Following that meeting, the Chair consulted party Group Lead Members on the Committee's letters to the following:

- The Rt Hon Steve Barclay MP, Chief Secretary to the Treasury;
- Will Quince MP, Parliamentary Under-Secretary, Department for Work and Pensions; and
- Councillor Georgia Gould, Chair, London Councils.

3.6 In addition to the letters agreed by the Committee at their meeting in January 2021, the Chair consulted party Group Lead Members on letters to the Leaders of the London boroughs of Islington and Richmond upon Thames asking if they would be willing to share with the Committee any subsequent correspondence they have had with the Government following motions being passed in support of UBI trials in their boroughs.

4. Issues for Consideration

4.1 Following consultation, the Chair agreed the Committee's letter to the Mayor, which was sent on 26 January 2021. The letter is attached at **Appendix 1**.

4.2 Following consultation, the Chair agreed the Committee's letters on UBI, which were sent on 19 February 2021, the letters are attached as follows:

- Letter to the Chief Secretary to the Treasury, **Appendix 2**;
- Letter to the Parliamentary Under-Secretary, DWP, **Appendix 3**;
- Letter to the Chair, London Councils, **Appendix 4**;
- Letter to the Leader, London Borough of Richmond upon Thames, **Appendix 5**; and
- Letter to the Leader, London Borough of Islington, **Appendix 6**.

4.3 The Committee is asked to note the letters and the actions taken under delegated authority.

5. Legal Implications

5.1 The Committee has the power to do what is recommended in the report.

6. Financial Implications

6.1 There are no direct financial implications to the Greater London Authority arising from this report.

List of appendices to this report:

Appendix 1 – Letter to the Mayor, dated 26 January 2021

Appendix 2 – Letter to the Chief Secretary to the Treasury, dated 19 February 2021

Appendix 3 – Letter to the Parliamentary Under-Secretary, DWP, dated 19 February 2021

Appendix 4 - Letter to the Chair, London Councils, dated 19 February 2021

Appendix 5 - Letter to the Leader, London Borough of Richmond upon Thames, dated 19 February 2021

Appendix 6 - Letter to the Leader, London Borough of Islington, dated 19 February 2021

Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985

List of Background Papers:

Member Delegated Authority Form: 1258 [Changing Nature of Work After COVID-19]

Member Delegated Authority Form: 1266 [Universal Basic Income]

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