

MINUTES

Meeting: GLA Oversight Committee

Date: Thursday 18 July 2013

Time: 10.00 am

Place: Committee Room 5, 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/oversight>

Present:

Tony Arbour (Deputy Chair)

Jennette Arnold OBE

John Biggs

Andrew Boff

Darren Johnson

Joanne McCartney

Steve O'Connell

Caroline Pidgeon MBE

Valerie Shawcross CBE

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

- 1.1 Apologies were received from the Chair, Len Duvall AM, for whom John Biggs AM was in attendance as a substitute.

2 Declarations of Interests (Item 2)

2.1 **Resolved:**

- a) **That the list of Assembly Members' appointments, as set out in the tables at Agenda Item 2, be noted as disclosable pecuniary interests; and**
- b) **That John Biggs AM's declaration of a non-pecuniary interest in relation to**

Item 11, GLA Pay Award, arising from his membership of the GMB trade union, additionally be noted.

3 Minutes (Item 3)

3.1 Resolved:

That the minutes of the meeting of the GLA Oversight Committee held on 21 May 2013 be signed by the Chair 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 Resolved:

That the completed and outstanding actions arising from previous meetings of the GLA Oversight Committee be noted.

5 Action Taken Under Delegated Authority (Item 5)

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

5.2 In response to concerns voiced by the Committee, the Mayor's Chief of Staff (who was in attendance for Item 6 of the agenda) undertook to provide further details of decisions made by the Mayor in relation to the Stonewall Index.

5.3 Resolved:

That the actions taken by the Chair of the GLA Oversight Committee and the Chair of the Assembly under delegated authority be noted.

6 Transparency of the GLA Group (Item 6)

6.1 The Committee received the report of the Executive Director of Secretariat, as background to putting questions to the following guests:

- Howard Carter, General Counsel, TfL;
- Steve Wood, Head of Policy Delivery, Information Commissioner's Office;

- Martin Hoscik, MayorWatch;
- Sir Edward Lister, Chief of Staff and Deputy Mayor for Planning, GLA; and
- Tom Middleton, Head of Governance and Resilience, GLA.

6.2 A record of the discussion is attached as **Appendix 1**.

6.3 **Resolved:**

- a) That the rapporteur's report *Transparency at the GLA Group* be agreed; and**
- b) That the discussion with invited guests be noted.**

7 The Mayor's Mentoring Programme Update (Item 7)

7.1 The Committee received the report of the Executive Director of Secretariat, as background to putting questions to the GLA's Assistant Director of Health and Communities, Amanda Coyle.

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

- A breakdown of referrals, trained mentors, and matches, by each of the participating boroughs;
- Details of the target-setting process for the local delivery partners, including how the targets were utilised in the bidding process; and
- The criteria by which boys at risk are defined in the output handbook that delivery partners must meet before claims for referrals.

7.3 **Resolved:**

That the report and discussion, as recorded above, be noted.

8 Research into Young People's Views of Stop and Search for Police and Crime Committee Investigation (Item 9)

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

8.2 **Resolved:**

- a) That expenditure to a maximum of £15,000 from the 2013/14 scrutiny programme to commission external contractors to provide research into young people's views of stop and search be approved; and**
- b) That it be noted that the Executive Director of the Secretariat, in consultation**

with the Chair of the Police and Crime Committee, will commission the external contractors to carry out the external research.

9 Head of Paid Service Oral Update (Item 8)

- 9.1 The Committee was informed by the Head of Paid Service that the 2020 Vision document had been published on the 11 June 2013 and would be discussed in more detail with the Mayor at the Assembly Plenary meeting of 24 July 2013.
- 9.2 Actions arising from the 2020 Vision report included developing shared lobbying activities with the Chair of the London Finance Commission (LFC), Professor Tony Travers; key Mayoral meetings, including planned meetings with The Core Cities; and work on a scoping proposition for the major infrastructure project plan, about which the Head of Paid Service had previously suggested the Assembly should be involved.
- 9.3 Further planned follow-up activity included overhauling the role and remit of the London Enterprise Panel, as reflected in the LFC and 2020 Vision reports; and discussions with London Councils and borough leaders to consider next steps, particularly in terms of skills and employment City Deals and double devolution activity.
- 9.4 The Head of Paid Service cautioned that whilst the Mayor had expressed an aspiration to publish the infrastructure plan for the 2020 Vision by the end of 2013, there would be inherent difficulties in doing so due to the potential wide-ranging scope of the plan and players involved. In order to settle the scope and to pave the way for the actions outlined above, the Head of Paid Service had, in conjunction with the Chief of Staff, established an informal group to monitor and progress actions arising from the document.
- 9.5 The Committee requested that it receives a formal report on the infrastructure plan at a future meeting and, depending on timing, an informal written update in time for its September meeting. It was also requested that the Assembly be kept fully informed of progress on any resultant devolution of powers in order that the Assembly could put forward concomitant devolution claims as appropriate; the Head of Scrutiny and Investigations advised the Committee that a Working Group had already been established to consider this issue.
- 9.6 The Committee was also informed by the Head of Paid Service of activity to celebrate the anniversary of the London 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games, including the Team London Go Local event, the Anniversary Games, Ride London and the Festival of Disability Sport.
- 9.7 The Committee raised concerns with the Head of Paid Service about the deterioration in sound quality in the Chamber, and were advised that the Executive Director of Secretariat had been investigating a system upgrade. The Head of Paid Service agreed to look into the

matter further.

10 People's Question Time (Item 10)

- 10.1 The Committee received the report of the Director of External Affairs.
- 10.2 The Committee raised the issue that a location in Enfield had not been identified to host a People's Question Time (PQT) event but was advised that this was due to a lack of a suitable venue. Nevertheless, the Assistant Director of London Engagement undertook to review the arrangements for that constituency for future events.
- 10.3 Concerns were also raised about the timing of the 5 November 2013 PQT, the long-term logistical thinking on booking suitable venues and the lack of consultation with constituency Assembly Members on venue choices. The Assistant Director of London Engagement noted these comments and agreed to consider venues across the whole of the Hackney, Islington and Waltham Forest constituency for the November 2014 PQT.

10.4 Resolved:

That, subject to the comments made in the meeting and recorded above, the report and proposals for People's Question Time on Tuesday 5 November 2013 be noted.

11 GLA Pay Award (Item 11)

- 11.1 The Committee received the report of the Head of Paid Service.
- 11.2 John Biggs AM declared a non-pecuniary interest arising from his membership of the GMB trade union.
- 11.3 Members expressed concerns about the option proposing a 1 per cent pay increase for all staff, and the Deputy Chairman suggested that such an increase should only apply to the first three pay grades.
- 11.4 On being put to the vote, the Committee agreed to support, by 6 votes for and 1 against, the Unison pay claim for 2013-14, as outlined in Appendix 1 of the report.

11.5 Resolved:

That the Unison pay claim for 2013-14 in relation to the GLA annual pay settlement that proposed increases of 2.5% for Grade 1-4, 2% for Grade 5-7, 1.5% for Grade 8-10 and 1% for Grade 11-13, be recommended to the Head of Paid Service.

12 Annual Governance Statement 2012-13 (Item 12)

12.1 The Committee received the report of the Head of Paid Service and Executive Director of Resources.

12.2 **Resolved:**

That the Annual Governance Statement 2012-13 be noted.

13 Workforce Report (Item 13)

13.1 The Committee received the report of the Head of Paid Service.

13.2 **Resolved:**

That the Workforce Report be noted.

14 Secretariat Quarterly Review, Quarter 1, 2013-14 (Item 14)

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

14.2 **Resolved:**

That the report be noted.

15 Work Programme for the GLA Oversight Committee (Item 15)

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

15.2 **Resolved:**

That the report be noted.

16 Date of Next Meeting (Item 16)

16.1 The next meeting of the Committee was scheduled to be held on Tuesday 10 September at 10am in Committee Room 5.

17 Any Other Business the Chair Considers Urgent (Item 17)

17.1 There were no items of additional business.

18 Close of Meeting

18.1 The meeting finished at 12.54pm.

Chair

Date

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