

MINUTES

Meeting: Economy Committee
Date: Thursday 21 January 2016
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: www.london.gov.uk/mayor-assembly/london-assembly/economy

Present:

Fiona Twycross AM (Chair)
Stephen Knight AM (Deputy Chair)
Tony Arbour AM
Jenny Jones AM
Kit Malthouse AM MP
Murad Qureshi AM
Dr Onkar Sahota AM

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

1.1 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 Kit Malthouse AM MP declared an interest in relation to Agenda Item 8 (Extending Childcare Provision – An Ambition Too Far?), noting that his children were currently receiving 15 hours of free childcare a week. Not being deemed a pecuniary interest, this declaration was nevertheless noted by the Committee for reasons of transparency.

2.3 **Resolved:**

(a) That Kit Malthouse AM MP's declaration of a non-pecuniary interest in relation to Agenda Item 8 (Extending Childcare Provision – An Ambition Too

Far?) be noted.

- (b) 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 meeting held on 24 November 2015 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 outstanding actions arising from previous meetings of the Committee be noted.

5 Manufacturing Site Visit (Item 5)

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

5.2 **Resolved:**

- (a) That the summary of the Committee's manufacturing site visit to Brompton Bicycles and The Central Research Laboratory be noted.
- (b) That authority be delegated to the Chair, in consultation with party Group Lead Members, to agree a summary of findings from the visit.

6 A Mayoral Digital Manifesto (Item 6)

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

6.2 **Resolved:**

That the Committee's report, *A Mayoral Manifesto for the Digital Economy*, as set out at Appendix 1 to the report, be noted.

7 Welfare Reform and London's Changing Poverty Profile (Item 7)

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

7.2 **Resolved:**

That the scope for the Committee's meeting in February on welfare reform and London's changing poverty profile, be agreed.

7.3 In accordance with Standing Order 2.2D, the Chair took the next item in a different order from that set out on the agenda.

8 Economy Committee Work Programme (Item 9)

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

8.2 **Resolved:**

That the work programme, as set out in the report, be noted.

9 Extending Childcare Provision - An Ambition Too Far? (Item 8)

9.1 The Committee received the report of the Executive Director of Secretariat as background to putting questions, in two sessions, on the extension of childcare provision. The following invited guests were in attendance for the first session:

- Jill Rutter, Head of Policy, Family and Childcare Trust;
- Shannon Hawthorne, Press and Public Affairs Director, The Pre-school Learning Alliance;
- Claire Schofield, Director of Membership and Communication, National Day Nurseries Association;

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- Allison Jones, Service Manager Early Years, Childcare and Children’s Centres, London Borough of Merton (LB Merton); and
- Penny Kenway, Head of Early Years and Childcare, London Borough of Islington (LB Islington).

9.2 A transcript of the discussion during the first session is attached at **Appendix 1**.

9.3 In the second session, the Committee put questions to Munira Mirza, Deputy Mayor for Education and Culture.

9.4 A transcript of the discussion during the second session is attached at **Appendix 2**.

9.5 **Resolved:**

(a) That the scope and terms of reference for the Committee’s investigation into the extension of free childcare provision be agreed.

(b) That the report and discussion be noted.

10 Date of Next Meeting (Item 10)

10.1 The next meeting of the Committee was scheduled for Wednesday, 24 February 2016 at 10.00 am in Committee Room 5, City Hall.

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

11.1 There were no items of business that the Chair considered to be urgent.

12 Close of Meeting

12.1 The meeting ended at 11.55 am.

Chair

Date

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