

MINUTES

Meeting: GLA Oversight Committee
Date: Thursday 17 December 2015
Time: 2.00 pm
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/oversight>

Present:

Len Duvall AM (Chair)
Tony Arbour AM (Deputy Chairman)
Jennette Arnold OBE AM
Andrew Boff AM
Roger Evans AM
Darren Johnson AM
Joanne McCartney AM
Caroline Pidgeon MBE AM

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

- 1.1 Apologies for absence were received from Gareth Bacon AM, for whom Andrew Boff AM attended as a substitute Member, and from Navin Shah AM.

2 Declarations of Interests (Item 2)

2.1 **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 meeting of the GLA Oversight Committee held on 25 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 The Chair advised the Committee that additional correspondence from the Chairman of the London Pensions Fund Authority and the Chairman of TfL's Audit and Assurance Committee had also been received and would be reported formally to the Committee at its next meeting.

4.3 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 setting out changes to the work programme and recent correspondence issued by the Chair of the GLA Oversight Committee under delegated authority.

5.2 Resolved:

That the recent actions taken by the Chair of the Committee under delegated authority be noted.

5.3 In accordance with Standing Orders, the Chair took the next three items of business in a different order than that set out on the agenda.

6 Garden Bridge Design Procurement (Item 7)

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

6.2 In attendance for this item were the following invited guests:

- Boris Johnson MP, Chairman of Transport for London (TfL);
- Mike Brown MVO, Commissioner, TfL; and
- Richard De Cani, Managing Director of Planning, TfL.

6.3 During the course of the conversation, the Committee requested the following additional information:

- Minutes or notes of any meetings between representatives of TfL and Heatherwick Studio in the period before the tender was released;
- Notes, minutes and details of attendees at any meetings held in the United States of America in relation to sponsorship of the Garden Bridge;
- Notes, minutes and details of attendees at the meeting about the Garden Bridge held on 23 May 2013 at Swire House, 59 Buckingham Gate;
- Examples of where, during previous TfL procurement processes, bids submitted after the deadline have been accepted;
- Clarification on the audited notes concerning a meeting to “review the invoices and commercials relating to the two contracts Garden Bridge audit 1563”, specifically on the issue of who scored during the commercial day rate analysis.
- Details of the Board-level processes for reviewing and monitoring major procurement decisions; and
- A copy of the email sent to the three firms involved in the bidding process, advising them in advance that the procurement was about to start.

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

6.5 **Resolved:**

That the report and discussion be noted.

7 Shared Services Update (Item 8)

7.1 The Committee received the report of the Executive Director of Resources. In addition to the Executive Director of Resources, the Chief of Staff was also in attendance for this item.

7.2 The Committee was advised that, as had previously been indicated, the programme’s

direction had changed over time so that joint procurement had become the main focus of the Authority's shared services activity. To that end, a team had been successfully established to identify more general opportunities for collaborative procurement and work had been initiated to combine insurance services across the organisation. The Committee was also informed that the model for new organisations within the GLA, such as the Old Oak and Park Royal Development Corporation, was one built entirely on a platform of shared services.

- 7.3 The Executive Director of Resources explained that, at the request of the Committee and in an effort to provide the utmost level of transparency, the collaborative procurement team had published milestones for every category of activity. The Executive Director of Resources also undertook to share formally the results of internal shared service audits with other parts of the organisation.
- 7.4 The Chief of Staff added that he was confident the Authority would achieve its saving targets by the end of the year and the Chair, on behalf of the Committee, commended officers for their work in this area.

7.5 **Resolved:**

That the report and discussion be noted.

8 Head of Paid Service Oral Update (Item 6)

- 8.1 The Committee received the oral update of the Head of Paid Service.
- 8.2 The Head of Paid Service updated the Committee on the recent health devolution announcement and the pilots covering four themes that were components of the proposals:
- A sub-regional care integration pilot between the London boroughs of Barking and Dagenham, Havering and Redbridge;
 - A sub-regional estates pilot in Barnet, Camden, Enfield, Haringey and Islington;
 - Local care integration pilots for Hackney and Lewisham; and
 - A local prevention pilot in Haringey.
- 8.3 It was anticipated that preparation activity would start in the new year, with the expectation that testing activity for the pilots would start from 1 April 2016, subject to agreement on how the pilots would be resourced.
- 8.4 The whole programme would receive its political direction and be overseen by the London Health Board, chaired by the Mayor with the involvement of borough leaders and other partner organisations.
- 8.5 Andrew Boff AM asked if clarification could be provided on the various roles and

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responsibilities within the arrangements but the Head of Paid Service explained that given that these would be pilots, by their very nature, there would be no predetermination on where responsibilities would ultimately reside, noting that the GLA would likely have varying levels of interest across the pilots.

- 8.6 Jennette Arnold OBE AM suggested that more thought be given to the scrutiny structure underpinning the Assembly's role in relation to devolved powers. It was agreed that the Assembly's Devolution Working Group would make recommendations concerning the role of the Assembly, and that the post-elections Assembly would be provided with appropriate feedback from the current administration in order to ensure the new committee structure would be sufficient for scrutiny purposes. It was also suggested that the Assembly might use its Plenary meetings to review the devolved health arrangements.
- 8.7 The Head of Paid Service also updated the Committee on the preparations for the forthcoming elections, informing Members that he had written to Mayoral candidates and the London list candidates' agents advising of the timelines for the briefing process. It was agreed that an informal update on election planning matters be provided to party Group Leaders.
- 8.8 Jennette Arnold OBE AM suggested that the induction programme should involve former Assembly Members in order to advise newly elected Members on their experiences. The Executive Director of Resources undertook to provide details of the induction programme with Members.

9 Work Programme for the GLA Oversight Committee (Item 9)

- 9.1 The Committee received the report of the Executive Director of Secretariat.
- 9.2 The Chair suggested that the Committee should consider inviting the Chairman of Transport for London's Audit and Assurance Committee to a future meeting of the Committee to conclude the investigation on the Garden Bridge design procurement. Darren Johnson AM proposed that the investigation should conclude with a cross-party letter setting out the Committee's recommendations on the procurement process.

9.3 **Resolved:**

That, subject to the comments recorded above, the work programme for the remainder of 2015-16 be noted.

10 Date of Next Meeting (Item 10)

- 10.1 The next meeting of the Committee was scheduled to be held on Thursday 21 January 2016 at 2pm in Committee Room 5.

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

11.1 There were no items of urgent business.

12 Close of Meeting

12.1 The meeting finished at 4.17pm.

Chair

Date

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