

# MINUTES

**Meeting: London Assembly  
(Mayor's Question Time)**  
**Date: Thursday 22 February 2018**  
**Time: 10.00 am**  
**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/whole-assembly>

**Present:**

Jennette Arnold OBE AM (Chair)	Nicky Gavron AM
Tony Arbour AM (Deputy Chairman)	Susan Hall AM
Gareth Bacon AM	David Kurten AM
Shaun Bailey AM	Joanne McCartney AM
Sian Berry AM	Steve O'Connell AM
Andrew Boff AM	Caroline Pidgeon MBE AM
Leonie Cooper AM	Keith Prince AM
Tom Copley AM	Caroline Russell AM
Unmesh Desai AM	Dr Onkar Sahota AM
Tony Devenish AM	Navin Shah AM
Andrew Dismore AM	Fiona Twycross AM
Len Duvall AM	Peter Whittle AM
Florence Eshalomi AM	

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

- 1.1 There were no apologies for absence.
- 1.2 During the course of the meeting, the Chair welcomed to the public gallery students from the London School of Economics Enterprise Programme and students from the School Council at Gatehouse School, Tower Hamlets.
- 1.3 The Chair updated Members on some of the recent work of the Assembly, including the publication of the latest Brexit Directive, dealing with healthcare; the Environment Committee's examination of burst water mains and sewage issues; the Transport Committee's publication of its report on future transport and session on cycling in London, both of which had received substantial public attention; and that she and Assembly Member Copley had met candidates for the Mayor of Belgrade, regarding the role and work of the London Assembly.

## **2 Declarations of Interests (Item 2)**

- 2.1 The Assembly 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 London Assembly (Plenary) meeting held on 25 January 2018 be confirmed and signed by the Chair as a correct record.**

## **4 Final Draft Consolidated Budget 2018/19 (Item 4)**

### **Report of the Mayor (Item 4a)**

- 4.1 The Assembly received the Mayor's Final Draft Consolidated Budget 2018/19 for the GLA Group.
- 4.2 The Assembly then received an oral statement from the Mayor on the Budget. A transcript of the Mayor's oral statement is attached at **Appendix 1**.
- 4.3 David Bellamy, Chief of Staff, and Martin Clarke, Executive Director of Resources, were also in attendance for the statement and for the duration of the question and answer session.

### **Questions to the Mayor (Item 4b)**

- 4.4 Assembly Members put questions to the Mayor on his Final Draft Consolidated Budget.
- 4.5 The record of the questions put by Members, together with the Mayor's answers is attached at **Appendix 2**.

### **Consideration by the Assembly of the Mayor of London's Final Draft Consolidated Budget Proposals 2018/19 (Item 4c)**

- 4.6 Following the Mayor's departure, the Assembly debated the Mayor's Final Draft Consolidated Budget 2018/19.
- 4.7 The substantive motion before the Assembly was: "To approve the Final Draft Consolidated Budget for 2018/19 with or without amendment".
- 4.8 A formal Budget Amendment, presented on behalf of the London Assembly's GLA Conservative Group, was moved by Gareth Bacon AM and seconded by Shaun Bailey AM (**and is attached at Appendix 3**).
- 4.9 A formal Budget Amendment, presented on behalf of the London Assembly's Green Party Group, was moved by Caroline Russell AM and seconded by Sian Berry AM (**and is attached at Appendix 4**).
- 4.10 In accordance with Standing Order 6.6E(1), a named vote was taken on each Budget Amendment, in the order in which they were moved.
- 4.11 The votes in relation to the Budget Amendment in the name of Gareth Bacon AM were cast as follows:  
  
For the amendment: Gareth Bacon AM, Shaun Bailey AM, Andrew Boff AM, Tony Devenish AM, Susan Hall AM, Steve O'Connell AM, Keith Prince AM and Tony Arbour AM (Deputy Chairman).

**Greater London Authority  
London Assembly (Mayor's Question Time)  
Thursday 22 February 2018**

Against the amendment: Sian Berry AM, Leonie Cooper AM, Tom Copley AM, Unmesh Desai AM, Andrew Dismore AM, Len Duvall AM, Florence Eshalomi AM, Nicky Gavron AM, Joanne McCartney AM, Caroline Pidgeon AM, Caroline Russell AM, Dr Onkar Sahota AM, Navin Shah AM, Dr Fiona Twycross AM, and Jennette Arnold AM (Chair).

Abstentions: David Kurten AM and Peter Whittle AM.

4.12 With 8 votes being cast in favour and 15 votes being cast against, the Budget Amendment did not receive the requisite two-thirds majority to amend the Mayor's budget proposals.

4.13 The votes in relation to the Budget Amendment in the name of Caroline Russell AM were cast as follows:

For the amendment: Sian Berry AM and Caroline Russell AM.

Against the amendment: Gareth Bacon AM, Shaun Bailey AM, Andrew Boff AM,, Leonie Cooper AM, Tom Copley AM, Unmesh Desai AM, Tony Devenish AM, Andrew Dismore AM, Len Duvall AM, Florence Eshalomi AM, Nicky Gavron AM, Susan Hall AM, David Kurten AM, Joanne McCartney AM, Steve O'Connell AM, Caroline Pidgeon AM, Keith Prince AM, Dr Onkar Sahota AM, Navin Shah AM, Dr Fiona Twycross AM, Peter Whittle AM, Tony Arbour AM (Deputy Chair) and Jennette Arnold AM (Chair).

4.14 With 2 votes being cast in favour and 23 votes being cast against, the Budget Amendment did not receive the requisite two-thirds majority to amend the Mayor's budget proposals.

4.15 Dr Onkar Sahota AM moved and Caroline Pidgeon AM seconded the following Budget Related Motion:

"This Assembly recognises that the Mayor needs to promote London to mitigate the risks, and pursue alternative partnerships, associated with the UK's decision to leave the EU.

We agree that London & Partners is well placed to promote London and we support the Mayor's decision to increase its budget. However, our support is not without reservations; London & Partners must be able to demonstrate that it possesses the transparency and accountability essential for any organisation spending public money and the Mayor needs to set key performance indicators against this additional budget that can be used to measure its success.

This Assembly unanimously called on previous Mayors to ensure London & Partners abide by the principles of the GLA Group Corporate Governance Framework; to publish a register of gifts, expenses and hospitality for all board members and senior staff; proactively disclose information and to respond to requests for information as if they were covered by the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) and to provide the Assembly's Budget and Performance Committee with a full business plan during the course of its annual scrutiny of the Mayor's budget.

**Greater London Authority  
London Assembly (Mayor's Question Time)  
Thursday 22 February 2018**

We call on the Mayor to ensure that London & Partners take up the principles above and promote London with far greater transparency and accountability.”

- 4.16 Upon being put to the vote, the motion was carried (15 votes cast in favour and 10 votes cast against).
- 4.17 The Chair then formally put the substantive motion, namely:  
‘To approve the Final Draft Consolidated Budget 2018/19 without amendment’.
- 4.18 Upon being put to the vote, the substantive motion was declared lost (with 12 votes being cast in favour and 13 votes being cast against).
- 4.19 The Chair explained that, although the substantive motion had not been agreed, as no amendments to the Budget had been agreed by the requisite majority, and in accordance with Paragraph 8(5) of Schedule 6 to the GLA Act 1999, the Assembly was deemed to have approved, without amendment, the Final Draft Consolidated Budget for 2018/19.
- 4.20 The Chair confirmed that the Assembly had concluded its consideration of the Final Draft Consolidated Budget for 2018/19.

## **5 Mayor's Report (Item 5)**

5.1 **Resolved:**

**That the Mayor's Report, covering the period from 5 January 2018 to 8 February 2018, be noted.**

## **6 Questions to the Mayor (Item 6)**

- 6.1 The Assembly noted that the written answers to all questions submitted to this meeting under the Mayor's Question Time procedure would be provided on 27 February 2018.

## **7 London Assembly (Plenary) Meeting-8 March 2018 (Item 7)**

### **7.1 Resolved:**

**That the Assembly:**

- i) rescinds its previous decision that the 8 March 2018 Plenary Assembly meeting principally be used to hold a question and answer session with the Mayor, as Chair of TfL, and Mike Brown MVO, Commissioner, TfL, for a question and answer session regarding the work and policies of TfL;**
- ii) rescinds the summons notices authorised on 11 January 2018 and issued to the Mayor, as Chair of TfL, and Mike Brown MVO, as Commissioner, TfL, requiring their attendance at the meeting of the London Assembly 9Plenary) at 10am on 8 March 2018, under the provisions of Sections 61 and 62 of the greater London Authority Act 1999 (as amended); and**
- iii) agrees that the London Assembly (Plenary) meeting on 8 March 2018 instead be used principally to: (1) put questions to the Mayor on his draft Transport Strategy; and (2) receive and, in accordance with Section 42B of the Greater London Authority Act 1999 (as amended), consider its response to the Transport Strategy, noting the requirement set out at Standing Order 3.19 for the Mayor to submit the draft strategy to the Assembly by no later than midday six clear working days in advance of the relevant Assembly meeting and noting also that approval is sought on the basis that the Mayor and TfL have agreed informally that Members may still submit questions in relation to the work and policies of TfL to the 8 March 2018 Plenary meeting, for written answer.**

## **8 Date of Next Meeting (Item 8)**

- 8.1** The next scheduled meeting of the London Assembly would be the Plenary meeting which would take place at 10.00am on Thursday 8 March 2018 in the Chamber, City Hall.

## 9 Any Other Business the Chair Considers Urgent (Item 9)

9.1 There were no items of urgent business.

## 10 Close of Meeting

10.1 The meeting closed at 12.53 pm.

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Chair

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Date

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