

Subject: Work Programme for the GLA Oversight Committee 2014-15

Report to: GLA Oversight Committee

Report of: Executive Director of Secretariat

Date: 11 December 2014

This report will be considered in public

1. Summary

- 1.1 This report provides details of the proposed work for the meetings of the Committee in this Assembly year (2014-15).

2. Recommendation

- 2.1 **That the Committee agrees its work programme for 2014-15, as set out in this report, and identifies any additional issues it wishes to consider at future meetings.**

3. Background

- 3.1 The GLA Oversight Committee has the following overall functions:
- Management and administration of the budget of the Assembly and Secretariat, and overseeing the Assembly's scrutiny work programme;
 - Having oversight, on behalf of the London Assembly, of the Greater London Authority's (GLA) corporate governance policies and activities;
 - Maintaining a watching brief in respect of the activities of the senior officers appointed by the Mayor; and
 - Responding to consultations from the Head of Paid Service and scrutinising the Head of Paid Service function.
- 3.2 Additionally, it was agreed at the Annual Assembly meeting of 11 May 2012 that the GLA Oversight Committee's terms of reference include provision to scrutinise any actions or decisions taken by the Mayor on matters relating to education. The Committee can also scrutinise civil contingency arrangements in London, the provision of services to the public and the performance of utilities in London.

4. Issues for Consideration

4.1 The main work areas of the Committee are summarised below.

Assembly Budget and Scrutiny Work Programme

4.2 The Committee allocates the Assembly's budget and receives a report in March each year on that subject (following the approval of the overall amount of the budget and in advance of the start of the financial year in question).

4.3 The Committee receives quarterly monitoring reports from the Secretariat, scheduled for the Committee meetings in June, September, November and January.

4.4 The Committee approves individual proposals for non-routine expenditure from the scrutiny programme budget which are referred to the Committee by the subject-related committees during the year. The timing of these reports depends upon when the subject-related committees approve projects and refer proposals for expenditure.

4.5 The Committee approves proposals for rapporteurships referred from subject-related committees during the course of the year.

4.6 The Committee also has the power to consider any issue which does not fall into the remit of one of the subject-related committees (for instance, cross-cutting equalities and governance issues).

Staffing Consultations and Appointments

4.7 The Committee will be invited to respond to consultations from the Head of Paid Service (HoPS) from time to time during the year. The Committee's role in relation to these consultations is reactive and therefore the work programme does not predict what reports will be presented and when.

4.8 The Assembly has a role in appointing the statutory officers to the Authority, and this Committee has delegated authority to fulfil that role as and when the need arises. At its meeting of 22 May 2012, the GLA Oversight Committee agreed that the Head of Paid Service Performance Review Panel be established as a working group, and this meets annually (with the next meeting scheduled for December 2014).

Other Items of Consideration

4.9 At the Committee's meeting of 29 January 2013, it was proposed that the Committee receives quarterly updates on the evaluation of the Mayor's Mentoring Programme. It was agreed, given the Committee's level of contentment with the progress and direction of the programme over the previous year, that updates be provided bi-annually for 2014-15.

4.10 At its meeting on 21 March 2013, the Committee asked that it be consulted formally on the annual staff pay review (scheduled for the Committee's meeting in December). At its meeting on 25 February 2014, the Committee agreed to receive details of the progress made to address GLA workforce equalities issues. This is dealt with as part of the Committee's regular Workforce Monitoring Report and update (scheduled for June and October-November).

Scrutiny of the Head of Paid Service Function

4.11 The Committee usually receives reports on the following issues during the course of the year:

- Annual Workforce Monitoring Report, incorporating complaints monitoring (plus a six-monthly update); and
- Governance.

4.12 The Committee also receives a report on the Draft Annual Governance Statement.

Shared Services

4.13 Having previously considered a number of consultation proposals from the Mayor for shared services, the GLA Oversight Committee continues to receive an annual update on the progress of shared services across the Group and considers any proposals that may come forward; this year's update has been scheduled for the Committee's meeting in December, with a more detailed session, consulting on collaborative procurement, planned for January 2015.

Resilience

4.14 Members have also proposed that the Committee considers and discusses the GLA's role in resilience across London. The Chairman of the London Resilience Forum, James Cleverly AM, has been invited to attend the Committee's February 2015 meeting. At its meeting on 16 October 2014, the Committee proposed that the Mayor issues a resilience statement, the first of which will be received at the Committee's February meeting. In addition, it was agreed to hold a short 'real-time' scrutiny investigation at the Committee's December meeting in order to consider the topic of London's resilience arrangements to deal with a potential outbreak of the Ebola Virus Disease in the capital, which is dealt with elsewhere on this agenda.

Remuneration

4.15 The Committee used its June and November meeting to examine the remuneration of senior employees in the GLA Group.

Treasury Management

4.16 It was agreed at its meeting of 11 September 2014, that the GLA Oversight Committee reviews the shared treasury management arrangement between the GLA and the London Pensions Fund Authority after a year of operation. The item will therefore be considered in October 2015, subject to the Committee's agreement of its 2015-16 work programme.

Mayor's Fund for London

- 4.17 At the November meeting of the Committee, it was proposed that the Committee considers scrutinising the Mayor's Fund for London; as this area of work is part of the remit of the Mayor's Senior Adviser for Team London, Volunteering, Charities and Sponsorship, it is proposed that the topic be dealt with at the Committee's meeting in March 2015.
- 4.18 The table set out below shows the Committee's meeting dates for the forthcoming 2014-15 Assembly year and anticipated agenda items. This timetable and agenda items will be reviewed and updated as appropriate.

Date of meeting	Main Agenda Items
Tuesday, 27 January 2015 at 10.00am in Committee Room 5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HoPS Oral Update • HoPS Consultation Reports (if any) • Shared Services – Consultation on Collaborative Procurement • Assembly’s Requirements for Information to be Included in the Mayor’s Annual Report • The London Survey • Workforce Report
Tuesday, 24 February 2015 at 10.00am in Committee Room 5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HoPS Oral Update • HoPS Consultation Reports (if any) • Assembly Annual Report • Assembly Events • Resilience / Annual Resilience Statement
Tuesday, 24 March 2015 at 10.00am in Committee Room 5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HoPS Oral Update • HoPS Consultation Reports (if any) • Allocation of Assembly Budget • The Mayor’s Senior Adviser for Team London, Volunteering, Charities and Sponsorship • Secretariat Quarterly Monitoring Report Q3

5. Legal Implications

- 5.1 The Assembly has the power to establish committees to discharge its functions, and the GLA Oversight Committee is one such committee. The work programme is in accordance with the GLA Oversight Committee’s terms of reference.

6. Financial Implications

- 6.1 There are no financial implications for the purposes of this report.

List of appendices to this report: None

Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985

List of Background Papers: None

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