

# MINUTES

**Meeting:** GLA Oversight Committee  
**Date:** Thursday 20 November 2014  
**Time:** 1.00 pm  
**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:**

Len Duvall AM (Chair)  
Tony Arbour AM (Deputy Chairman)  
Jennette Arnold OBE AM  
John Biggs 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 An apology for absence was received from Valerie Shawcross CBE AM for whom John Biggs AM attended as a substitute Member.

## 2 Declarations of Interests (Item 2)

2.1 **Resolved:**

**That the list of Assembly Members' appointments, as set out in the table at Agenda Item 2, be noted as disclosable pecuniary interests.**

- 2.2 In accordance with Standing Order 2.2D, the Chair took the next three items in a different order than that set out on the agenda.

### **3 Senior Employee Remuneration in the GLA Group (Item 7)**

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

3.2 In attendance for this item were the following people:

- Boris Johnson, Mayor of London;
- Sir Edward Lister, Chief of Staff and Deputy Mayor for Policy and Planning; and
- Sir Peter Hendy CBE, Commissioner, Transport for London (TfL).

3.3 During the course of the discussion, the Transport Commissioner was asked to provide an explanation for the rise in the number of staff earning over £100,000 at TfL and to provide details, in terms of remit, performance and salary, of transport commissioner roles from other world cities in order to allow a comparison to be made with his role.

3.4 The Mayor was also asked to consider establishing a consistent approach to exit payments across the GLA Group; to inform the Assembly at the start of the process for the extension of the contract of the Commissioner of Police of the Metropolis; and to provide greater transparency in terms of pay policies, senior employee remuneration and payments for loss of office, across the GLA Group, particularly with reference to London & Partners and the London Pensions Fund Authority.

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

3.6 **Resolved:**

**That the report and discussion be noted.**

### **4 The Mayor's Annual Equalities Report 2013-14 (Item 8)**

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

4.2 In attendance for this item were the following people:

- Munira Mirza, Deputy Mayor for Education and Culture;
- Amanda Coyle, Assistant Director of Health and Communities;
- Sir Peter Hendy CBE, Commissioner, Transport for London; and
- Jeff Jacobs, Head of Paid Service, GLA.

- 4.3 During the course of the discussion, the Transport Commissioner was asked to provide the following additional information:
- Details of TfL's campaign to improve the safety, particularly of women, on the transport network, and in this area, undertake to consider greater collaborative working with London boroughs and the British Transport Police and to look at areas of good practice being implemented elsewhere; and
  - An undertaking that TfL's public satisfaction survey would retain questions on harassment on the transport network.

4.4 Additionally, the Deputy Mayor for Education and Culture was asked to:

- Provide details of the Mayor's actions undertaken to ensure Black and Minority Ethnic (BAME) groups are aware of the Super Connected Cities programme and to monitor the ethnic make-up of the businesses that sign up to it;
- Provide details of what the Mayor has done to address inequalities of broadband access across the capital;
- Provide more granular detail in monitoring and in future Equalities Reports on the education and attainment of the Traveller community;
- Provide data in respect of disability hate crime, for inclusion in the next Annual Equalities Report;
- To recalibrate the traffic-lighting system in future reports to be more stringent and more accurate; and
- Provide details of what actions are being taken to address the issue of debt.

4.5 A transcript of the discussion is attached as **Appendix 2**.

4.6 **Resolved:**

**That the report and discussion be noted.**

## **5 People's Question Time (Item 11)**

5.1 The Committee received the report of the Director of Communications and External Affairs.

5.2 The Assistant Director of External Relations was in attendance and apologised to Members for the problems experienced at the recent People's Question Time (PQT) event in Waltham Forest, in relation to which Members raised concerns about: reputational damage arising from matters such as the incorrect venue details used in advertisements for the event; the lack of information provided to attendees explaining the role of the Assembly; and the inaudibility of

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the sound at the event which made it especially hard for Assembly Members to respond to questions. In addition, Jennette Arnold OBE AM suggested that the Events Team at Waltham Forest be contacted as it had been subject to widespread criticism from attendees who had erroneously assumed it had been responsible for staging the event.

- 5.3 The Assistant Director of External Relations explained that it had not been possible to re-print the promotional material for the event due to the short timescales but an attempt had been made to mitigate the error by positioning officers appropriately to sign-post attendees, and that the website and tickets for the event had shown the correct details.
- 5.4 The Committee was also advised that preparations for the next PQT, as set out in the report, would include making information on the Assembly available to attendees, superior venue acoustics and lighting, a better located Members' room for the event and more forethought given to Members' departure at the end of the evening. However, the Assistant Director of External Relations added that, whilst acknowledging the Members' concerns and committing to resolving those matters for the future, it was noted that the feedback from the public had been more positive.

5.5 **Resolved:**

**That, subject to the comments made at the meeting and recorded above, the proposals for People's Question Time on Thursday 19 March 2015 contained in the report be noted.**

## **6 Minutes (Item 3)**

6.1 **Resolved:**

**That the minutes of the meeting of the GLA Oversight Committee held on 16 October 2014 be signed by the Chair as a correct record.**

## **7 Summary List of Actions (Item 4)**

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

7.2 **Resolved:**

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

## **8 Action Taken Under Delegated Authority (Item 5)**

- 8.1 The Committee received the report of the Executive Director of Secretariat setting out recent correspondence issued by the Chair of the GLA Oversight Committee under delegated authority.
- 8.2 The Head of Paid Service advised the Committee that his response to the Chair's letter had been issued and circulated informally to Members.

### **8.3 Resolved:**

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

## **9 Head of Paid Service Oral Update (Item 6)**

- 9.1 There were no items of information that required an oral update from the Head of Paid Service.

## **10 Assembly Budget Requirement 2015-16 (Item 9)**

- 10.1 The Committee received the report of the Executive Director of Secretariat.

### **10.2 Resolved:**

**That the London Assembly's draft budget requirement for 2015-16 be agreed for recommendation to the Mayor, subject to any changes that might be necessary prior to the final agreement on the budget in February 2015 to reflect:**

**(a) Any further advice from the Executive Director of Resources on contingencies and financial reserves; and**

**(b) Any changes that emerge during the remainder of the budget process.**

## **11 Draft Committee Timetable 2015-16 (Item 10)**

- 11.1 The Committee received the report of the Executive Director of Secretariat.

### **11.2 Resolved:**

**That the draft timetable of London Assembly and committee meetings for the 2015-16 year, noting that the final programme of meetings would be subject to**

**related decisions by the London Assembly to be taken at the Annual Meeting in May 2015, be approved in principle.**

## **12 Work Programme for the GLA Oversight Committee (Item 12)**

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

12.2 **Resolved:**

- (a) That the work programme for the remainder of 2014-15 be noted.**
- (b) That it be agreed to hold a scrutiny session at its meeting on 11 December 2014 on the resilience preparations in London for dealing with a potential outbreak of the Ebola Virus Disease.**
- (c) That consideration be given to adding a scrutiny investigation of the Mayor's Fund for London to the Committee's work programme.**

## **13 Date of Next Meeting (Item 13)**

13.1 The next meeting of the Committee was scheduled to be held on 11 December 2014 at 10am in Committee Room 5.

## **14 Any Other Business the Chair Considers Urgent (Item 14)**

### **Devolution Working Group (Item 14a)**

14.1 The Chair, in accordance with section 100(B)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, had agreed to accept Agenda Item 14(a) (Devolution Working Group) – which had been circulated under cover of a Supplementary Agenda for the meeting – as urgent business in order to allow the matter to be discussed at the earliest opportunity.

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

14.3 **Resolved:**

- (a) That the title of the Fiscal Devolution Working Group be changed to the Devolution Working Group and its terms of reference amended as set out in the report; and**

- (b) That the proposals for how the Devolution Working Group would take forward its work be noted.

## 15 Close of Meeting

15.1 The meeting ended at 4.40pm.

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Chair

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Date

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