

MINUTES

Meeting: Environment Committee
Date: Wednesday 23 May 2018
Time: 10.15 am
Place: Chamber, 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/environment

Present:

Caroline Russell AM (Chair)
Leonie Cooper AM (Deputy Chair)
Tony Arbour AM
Jennette Arnold OBE AM
Shaun Bailey AM
Dr Onkar Sahota AM

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

1.1 Apologies for absence were received from David Kurten AM.

2 Declarations of Interests (Item 2)

2.1 The Committee 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 Membership of Committee (Item 3)

3.1 The Chair placed on record her thanks to Assembly Member Cooper for her work on behalf of the Committee during her two years as Chair.

3.2 **Resolved:**

That the membership and charring arrangements for the Environment Committee, as agreed at the Annual Meeting of the London Assembly on 10 May 2018, be noted as follows:

Caroline Russell AM (Chair)

Léonie Cooper AM (Deputy Chair)

Tony Arbour AM

Jennette Arnold OBE AM

Shaun Bailey AM

David Kurten AM

Onkar Sahota AM

4 Terms of Reference (Item 4)

4.1 **Resolved:**

That the terms of reference, as agreed at the Annual Meeting of the London Assembly on 10 May as set out at Agenda Item 4 for the meeting be noted.

5 Standing Delegation of Authority (Item 5)

5.1 **Resolved:**

That the following standing delegation of authority to the Chairman of the Committee, as agreed by the London Assembly at its Annual Meeting on 10 May 2018 and as set out below, be noted:

To respond on the Committee's behalf, following consultation with the lead Members of the party Groups on the committee or sub-committee, where it is consulted on issues by organisations and there is insufficient time to consider the consultation at a committee meeting.

6 Minutes (Item 6)

6.1 Resolved:

That the minutes of the meeting held on 21 February 2018 and 15 March 2018 be signed by the Chair as a correct record.

7 Summary List of Actions (Item 7)

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

7.2 Resolved:

That the completed and outstanding actions arising from its previous meetings of the Committee be noted.

8 Action Taken under Delegated Authority (Item 8)

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

8.2 Resolved:

That the recent action taken by the Chair under delegated authority, namely to agree, in consultation with party Group Lead Members, as follows, be noted:

- **An output arising from the Waste Management Investigation;**
- **An output arising from the discussion on water issues; and**
- **Agree the topic, terms of reference and scope for the Committee's first meeting of 2018/19 Assembly year.**

9 Plastics - Nappies and Period Products (Item 9)

9.1 The Committee received the report of the Executive Director of Secretariat as background to putting questions on the environmental issues related to single-use plastics focusing on period products and nappies to the following invited guests:

- Mandu Reid, Founder, The Cup Effect;
- Alice Walker, Project Manager, Real Nappies for London;
- Kate Metcalf, Co-Director, Women's Environmental Network;
- Tracy Stewart, Director General, Absorbent Hygiene Products Manufacturers Association; and
- Martin Capstick, Managing Director, North London Waste Authority.

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

9.3 The Chair welcomed pupils from Mowlem Primary School, Tower Hamlets.

9.4 During the course of the discussion, Members requested the following additional information:

- Further clarity on how reusable nappies are 40% better for the environment, including whether there is a clear comparison with disposable nappies from Real Nappies for London;
- Further information on the environmental impact from burning plastics in incinerators, whether the waste plants would they run more efficiently if there was less plastic in the waste and what the reusable nappy laundry market in north London looks like from the North London Waste Authority; and
- What the advertising budget is for their products from the Absorbent Hygiene Products Manufacturers Association

9.5 During the course of the discussion the Chair agreed to write to Royal College of Midwives to find out what education they currently provide on cloth nappy innovations.

9.6 **Resolved:**

- (a) That the report and discussion be noted.**
- (b) That authority be delegated to the Chair, in consultation with party Group Lead Members, to agree any output arising from the discussion.**

10 Environment Committee Work Programme (Item 10)

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

10.2 **Resolved:**

That the work programme for the 2018/19 Assembly year, as set out in paragraphs 4.2 to 4.15 of the agenda report be agreed.

11 Date of Next Meeting (Item 11)

11.1 The next meeting of the Committee was scheduled for Thursday, 14 June 2018 at 10.00am in the Chamber, City Hall.

12 Any Other Business the Chair Considers Urgent (Item 12)

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

13 Close of Meeting

13.1 The meeting ended at 12.45pm.

Chair

Date

Contact Officer: Clare Bryant, Committee Officer; telephone: 020 7983 4616;
Email: clare.bryant@london.gov.uk; minicom: 020 7983 4458