

MINUTES

Meeting: London Assembly (Plenary)
Date: Thursday 5 September 2019
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)	Susan Hall AM
Tony Arbour AM (Deputy Chairman)	David Kurten AM
Gareth Bacon AM	Joanne McCartney AM
Shaun Bailey AM	Caroline Pidgeon MBE AM
Sian Berry AM	Keith Prince AM
Andrew Boff AM	Caroline Russell AM
Tom Copley AM	Dr Onkar Sahota AM
Unmesh Desai AM	Navin Shah AM
Len Duvall AM	Fiona Twycross AM
Florence Eshalomi AM	Peter Whittle AM
Nicky Gavron AM	

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

- 1.1 Apologies for absence were received from Léonie Cooper AM, Tony Devenish AM, Andrew Dismore AM and Steve O'Connell AM.
- 1.2 The Chair provided an update on recent Assembly activity including:
- the submission of a response to the proposed Heathrow Airport expansion consultation;
 - a survey by the Transport Committee asking Londoners what they dislike the most about using public transport; and
 - a letter to the Prime Minister asking for his support on the Assembly's Domestic Abuse Register campaign and reminding him of the promises made in the Chamber on the proposed Heathrow expansion.

2 Declarations of Interests (Item 2)

- 2.1 The Assembly received the report of the Executive Director of Secretariat.
- 2.2 The Chair noted that all Assembly Members had been granted dispensations by the Monitoring Officer which meant that, whilst they had a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest in Agenda Item 8, which related to elected Member remuneration, they were properly able to take a decision on those matters.
- 2.3 **Resolved:**

That the list of offices held by Assembly Members, as set out in the table at Item 3, be noted as disclosable pecuniary interests.

3 Minutes (Item 3)

- 3.1 **Resolved:**

That the minutes of the London Assembly (Plenary) meeting held on 4 July 2019, and the London Assembly (Mayor's Question Time) meeting held on 18 July 2019 be signed by the Chair as correct records.

4 Question and Answer Session - London Legacy Development Corporation (LLDC) (Item 4)

Part A:

- 4.1 The Assembly put questions to Sir Peter Hendy CBE, Chair, London Legacy Development Corporation (LLDC), and Lyn Garner, Chief Executive Officer, LLDC, on the work and policies of LLDC.
- 4.2 The record of the questions put by Assembly Members and the answers given is attached as **Appendix 1**, and written answers are attached as **Appendix 2**. The Deputy Chairman assumed the Chair from 10.37am to 12.05pm, so that the Chair was able to put a question to the invited guests.
- 4.3 During the course of the question and answer session, the invited guests undertook:
- To liaise with the Mayor's Cycling Advisor in relation to checking the LLDC's design guidance against the Mayor's Zero Vision aspirations;
 - To consider trialling changes like side-road zebras and other ways of prioritising walking in the Park;
 - To attend a meeting (to be arranged by the Chair of the Assembly) with lead advocates on the return of the LLDC's planning powers to the relevant London boroughs;
 - To provide details of the monitoring outputs on the proportion of developments that are meeting carbon zero requirements;
 - To provide details of how many applications the LLDC has received for funding from the carbon offset fund;
 - To look into whether the LLDC places any restrictions on the private sale of leasehold homes, particularly in relation to high service charges and onerous ground rents;
 - To confirm whether or not private developers – such as Taylor Wimpey at Chobham Manor – charge ground rents to leaseholders on publicly owned land, and to explain what the situation is in relation to any such ground rents;
 - To invite Nicky Gavron AM on a site visit to view the play and recreation facilities provided for children and young people in the residential developments in the Queen Elizabeth Park; to provide details of how many square meters are provided per child for play and recreation facilities within the Park; to provide details as to whether the LLDC obtains developer contributions for providing such facilities; and to provide details of how many children and young people living in and around the Park are using the recreational facilities within it;
 - To provide a breakdown of the percentage of family-sized homes (three or more bedrooms) to be developed/delivered within the Olympic Park, and to provide details of whether the LLDC's delivery of housing is meeting its housing delivery target and the government's housing delivery test.

Part B:

4.4 The Chair formally moved the motion in the agenda, namely:

“That the Assembly notes the answers to the questions asked.”

4.5 **Resolved:**

That the answers to the questions asked be noted.

5 Petitions Update (Item 5)

5.1 The Assembly received the report of the Executive Director of the Secretariat.

5.2 **Resolved:**

That the responses received to petitions presented at recent Assembly Plenary meetings be noted.

6 Motions (Item 6)

6.1 David Kurten AM moved, and Keith Prince AM seconded, the following motion:

“This Assembly notes that the Mayor plans a phased reduction of the maximum age of a licenced taxi from 15 years to 12 years. He also plans to change the criteria for annual registration by mandating the maximum age, meaning that, from November 2019, a taxi will longer be registered unless it has one whole year left before its maximum age, rather than one day as at present.

This will, at a stroke, remove approximately 3,000 taxis from service in the year beginning November 2019, as well as another 1,500 in the year beginning November 2020, and a further 1,500 in the year beginning November 2021.

The Assembly notes that the Mayor currently allows only one model to be licenced new: the LEVC ZEC TX, but production levels of the LEVC ZEC TX are nowhere near high enough to replace the 6,000 taxis which will be removed from service over the next 3 years.

The effect of this will cause real hardship and disruption to many London taxi drivers who simply will not be able to purchase or hire a new taxi due to lack of supply. Thus at least 6,000 taxi drivers will be unable to work which will cause financial, emotional and mental hardship to them and their families.

The Assembly therefore calls upon the Mayor to reconsider his plans and to maintain the maximum taxi licence age at 15 years.

We also call upon the Mayor to restore the Mercedes Vito as an approved vehicle for first-time taxi registrations until such time as there is greater supply and competition in the market for new taxis, and more electric charging points are available in Central London which can be accessed easily by taxi drivers.”

6.2 During the course of the debate, the Chair proposed, and it was agreed, to extend the meeting in accordance with the provisions of Standing Order 2.9, in order to complete the business on the agenda for the meeting.

6.3 Following debate, and upon being put to the vote, the motion was agreed (6 votes cast in favour, 3 votes cast against).

6.4 Caroline Pidgeon MBE AM moved, and Florence Eshalomi AM seconded, the following motion:

“This Assembly notes the recent decision by the Department for Transport to issue to Govia a short-term extension of the South Eastern passenger franchise until November, with an option of a further extension to 1 April 2020.

This Assembly reiterates its long standing support for the devolution of train franchises and for more suburban rail services to be run on the successful model of London Overground.

This Assembly believes that the lack of interest in the bidding process for the South Eastern passenger franchise provides a vital opportunity for the merits of train devolution to be fully reconsidered by the Department for Transport.

This Assembly urges the chair of the London Assembly to write a joint letter with the Mayor of London showing unanimous support for greater devolution of train franchises in London, starting with many of the metro train lines that currently exist in the South Eastern passenger franchise.”

6.5 Following debate, and upon being put to the vote, the motion was agreed unanimously.

6.6 Shaun Bailey AM moved, and Susan Hall AM seconded, the following motion:

“This Assembly notes that between July 2016 and January 2018 there were 348 reported incidents of sexual assault on the London Underground, of which 100 were on the Central line – nearly double that of the next most reported line, the Victoria line at 55. The Assembly also notes almost one in four sexual assaults on the Tube network happen on the Central line. Unlike most other lines its trains do not have CCTV cameras.

TfL plans to fit Central Line trains with cameras by 2023. This is unacceptable.

This Assembly urges the Mayor to direct TFL to bring forward their plans to fit CCTV cameras on the Central line.”

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- 6.7 Sian Berry AM moved, and Caroline Russell AM seconded, the following amendment to the motion:

To add the following to the end of the motion: “and to do more to promote awareness of the limited retention periods for public transport CCTV images.”

- 6.8 Onkar Sahota AM moved, and Florence Eshalomi AM seconded, the following amendment to the motion:

That the last paragraph be amended to read: “This Assembly welcomes the increase in reporting of unwanted sexual behaviour to the police leading to the arrests of over 1000 people since the Report it to Stop it campaign was launched. The Assembly urges the Mayor to continue to do everything he can to tackle the issue, including directing TFL to bring forward their plans to fit CCTV cameras on the Central line.”

- 6.9 In accordance with Standing Order 3.6, Shaun Bailey AM, as mover of the motion, accepted both amendments to the motion.

- 6.10 Upon being put to the vote, the altered motion, namely:

“This Assembly notes that between July 2016 and January 2018 there were 348 reported incidents of sexual assault on the London Underground, of which 100 were on the Central line – nearly double that of the next most reported line, the Victoria line at 55.

The Assembly also notes almost one in four sexual assaults on the Tube network happen on the Central line. Unlike most other lines its trains do not have CCTV cameras.

TfL plans to fit Central Line trains with cameras by 2023. This is unacceptable.

This Assembly welcomes the increase in reporting of unwanted sexual behaviour to the police leading to the arrests of over 1000 people since the Report it to Stop it campaign was launched. The Assembly urges the Mayor to continue to do everything he can to tackle the issue, including directing TFL to bring forward their plans to fit CCTV cameras on the Central line and to do more to promote awareness of the limited retention periods for public transport CCTV images.”

was unanimously agreed.

- 6.11 Fiona Twycross AM moved, and Tom Copley AM seconded, the following altered motion:

“In light of both the Mayor’s evidence and the numerous official Government documents detailing the negative impact of leaving the European Union (EU) without a deal, this Assembly believes that a no-deal Brexit would have a disastrous impact on London. We welcome moves by Parliament to prevent a no-deal Brexit.

This Assembly is concerned about the intent of the Government to leave the EU without a deal regardless of the evidence presented and that the principles of our democratic process are being threatened by the apparent lengths the Government

will go to to enable a no-deal Brexit. A no-deal Brexit would harm London's most vulnerable residents, harm businesses and harm London's economy and the reputation of the city.

In light of these concerns, we support the Mayor's call for a no-deal Brexit to be taken off the table. This Assembly calls on the Mayor to write to the new Prime Minister, enclosing his evidence on the impact to London and by extension the UK, to continue his efforts and to urge the Government and Members of Parliament him not to take the UK out of the EU without a deal."

6.12 Following debate, and in accordance with Standing Order 6.6E(1), a named vote was taken on the above motion.

6.13 The votes in relation to the altered motion in the name of Fiona Twycross AM were cast as follows:

For the motion: Sian Berry AM, Tom Copley AM, Unmesh Desai AM, Len Duvall AM, Florence Eshalomi AM, Nicky Gavron AM, Joanne McCartney AM, Caroline Pidgeon MBE AM, Caroline Russell AM, Dr Onkar Sahota AM, Navin Shah AM, Fiona Twycross AM, Jennette Arnold OBE AM (Chair) and

Against the motion: Susan Hall AM, David Kurten AM, Peter Whittle AM, Tony Arbour AM (Deputy Chairman).

6.14 With 13 votes being cast in favour and four votes cast against, the motion was agreed.

6.15 In accordance with Standing Order 2.2D, which stated that "if the Chair considers it would assist the conduct of business he or she may take items of business in an order different from that set out on the agenda for the meeting" the next item of business (Pay Award 2019-20 for GLA Statutory Officers) was heard before debate of the remaining motions resumed.

[Note: Continuation at Minute 8, Motions]

7 Pay Award 2019-20 for GLA Statutory Officers (Item 8)

7.1 The Assembly received the report of the Assistant Director of Finance and Governance.

7.2 **Resolved:**

- (a) That, noting it as a joint decision with the Mayor, a pay award of 2% to the Chief Officer and the Executive Director of Resources be agreed, and that the Monitoring Officer allowance awarded to the Executive Director of Communities and Intelligence be increased by 2%.**
- (b) That, it be noted, in accordance with the Senior Salaries Review Body recommendation, that the local government pay settlement of 2% be applied to the pay of the Mayor and Assembly Members.**

[Note: See also Minute 2, Declarations of Interest.]

8 Motions (Item 6)

8.1 Unmesh Desai AM moved, and Florence Eshalomi AM seconded, the following motion:

“The Assembly notes that the Government have announced an ambition to recruit 20,000 police officers throughout England and Wales. Though we await to see details on specifics such as funding arrangements, equipment and training, we support the desire to get more police on our streets. The Assembly notes that we have long argued that London requires more police funding and resources from Westminster and we welcome the Government’s overdue acknowledgement that police cuts have gone too far.

The Assembly further notes that the Mayor has written to the Home Secretary calling for the Metropolitan Police Service to receive 5,000 of the total police officers. The Assembly backs the Mayor’s demand for these extra officers which London desperately needs.

We call on the Mayor to continue to make requests for the additional 5,000 officers for London and further suggest that he requests assurances that the Government will fully fund the total cost of hiring new officers, including costs for police equipment, training, salary costs and pension costs.”

8.2 Following debate, and upon being put to the vote, the motion was agreed unanimously.

8.3 Tom Copley AM moved, and Jennette Arnold OBE AM seconded, the following motion, with the Deputy Chairman assuming the Chair from 1.37pm to the end of the item:

“The Assembly is concerned that more than half of London’s ‘blue-light’ workers already live outside the capital, while many nurses and teachers say that they plan to move away from London due to the lack of affordable housing. As the Mayor’s 2018

London Housing Strategy says, “public services that support our city are also increasingly suffering as a result of the housing crisis.”

The Assembly therefore recognises the vital importance of retaining existing key worker accommodation, especially in Inner London, and calls on the Mayor to work with Peabody Housing Association to find alternative solutions in order to prevent the private sale of former Crown Estate Key Worker Homes on the Victoria Park Estate, and to support the retention of key worker housing across the city.”

- 8.4 Following debate, and upon being put to the vote, the motion was agreed unanimously.

9 Mayoral Commitments (Item 7)

- 9.1 The Assembly received the report of the Executive Director of the Secretariat.

9.2 **Resolved:**

That the commitments made by the Mayor of London during the London Assembly (Mayor’s Question Time) meetings between May 2016 and July 2019 be noted.

10 Future Meetings of the London Assembly (Item 9)

- 10.1 The Chair proposed that a minor amendment be made to the proposals set out in the agenda – namely that guests be invited to the upcoming meetings of the London Assembly rather than summonsed. It was explained that this would provide the greatest flexibility in the scheduling of these meetings, in case of requirement to change them – for example, within a pre-election period – to which Members agreed.

10.2 **Resolved:**

- (a) That the 28 November 2019 Plenary meeting be principally used to hold a question and answer session on fire and resilience matters in London and that Dr Fiona Twycross AM, the Deputy Mayor, Fire and Resilience and Dany Cotton QFSM, Commissioner of the London Fire Brigade, be invited to attend from 10am to answer questions.**
- (b) That the 6 February 2020 Plenary meeting be principally used to hold a question and answer session on the work and policies of Transport for London (TfL) and that the Mayor, Sadiq Khan, in his capacity as Chair of TfL, and Mike Brown MVO, Commissioner, TfL, be invited to attend from 10am to answer questions.**

11 Date of Next Meeting (Item 10)

- 11.1 The next scheduled meeting of the London Assembly was the Mayor's Question Time meeting which would take place at 10.00am on Thursday 12 September 2019 in the Chamber, City Hall.

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

- 12.1 The Chair noted that one item of business had been circulated under cover of a supplementary agenda.
- 12.2 Item 12(a) had been accepted by the Chair as urgent business, under section 100B(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, and Standing Order 1.10A(1), in order that a timely mechanism for agreeing Health Committee outputs is in place ahead of any formal pre-election period.

Proposed Delegation to the Chair of the Health Committee (Item 11a)

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

12.4 **Resolved:**

That authority be delegated to the Chair of the Health Committee, in consultation with the Deputy Chair of the Health Committee, to agree any outputs of that Committee, in accordance with the agreed work programme, for the period up until the May 2020 GLA elections.

13 Close of Meeting

- 13.1 The meeting closed at 1.53pm.

Chair

Date

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