

# MINUTES

**Meeting: Housing Committee**  
**Date: Tuesday 17 March 2015**  
**Time: 10.00 am**  
**Place: Committee Room 5, 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/housing](http://www.london.gov.uk/mayor-assembly/london-assembly/housing)

**Present:**

Darren Johnson AM (Chair)  
Tom Copley AM (Deputy Chair)  
Andrew Boff AM  
Stephen Knight AM  
Murad Qureshi AM

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

1.1 Apologies for absence were received from Nicky Gavron AM and Steve O'Connell 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 Summary List of Actions (Item 3)**

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

3.2 **Resolved:**

**That the outstanding actions arising from previous meetings of the Committee be noted.**

### **4 Questions to the Deputy Mayor for Housing, Land and Property (Item 4)**

4.1 The Committee received the report of the Executive Director of Secretariat as background to putting questions on rough sleeping, the impacts of welfare reform and affordable housing numbers in London to the following invited guests:

- Richard Blakeway, Deputy Mayor for Housing, Land and Property;
- Jamie Ratcliff, Assistant Director – Programme, Policy and Services, Housing & Land Directorate, GLA;
- Matt Downie, Director of Policy and External Affairs, Crisis;
- Sue Ramsden, Policy Lead (Welfare Reform), National Housing Federation; and
- Kate Webb, Head of Policy, Shelter.

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

4.3 The Assistant Director – Policy, Programme and Services informed the Committee that it would shortly be consulted on a proposed Mayor's Rough Sleeping Commissioning Framework for 2016 onwards.

4.4 During the course of the discussion the following commitments were noted:

- The Assistant Director – Policy, Programme and Services committed to provide Members with a copy of the international comparison of rough sleeper numbers he had referred to during the discussion;
- The Deputy Mayor for Housing, Land and Property committed to provide Members with the data from the Family Mosaic Direct Payment Demonstration Project he had referred to; and
- The Deputy Mayor for Housing, Land and Property agreed to raise Members' concerns around the calculation of the Shared Accommodation Rate during his regular discussions with the Department for Work and Pensions.

4.5 **Resolved:**

**(a) That the report and discussion be noted; and**

**(b) That authority be delegated to the Chair, in consultation with party Group Lead Members, to respond to any Rough Sleeping Commissioning Framework document the Committee is consulted on ahead of its next scheduled meeting.**

## **5 Overview of the Housing Committee's Work 2013-15 (Item 5)**

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

5.2 The Chair placed on record, on the occasion of his last meeting as Chair of the Committee, his thanks and appreciation for the hard work of Members and officers during his term, including work done by officers in helping prepare the Committee's reports and briefings.

5.3 **Resolved:**

**That the report be noted.**

## **6 Purpose-Built Student Accommodation in London (Item 6)**

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

6.2 Andrew Boff AM suggested that the proposed investigation into student accommodation also consider any planning issues surrounding such housing.

6.3 **Resolved:**

**That, subject to the comments made by an Assembly Member above, the scope for an investigation into the issues surrounding the provision of student accommodation in London be agreed.**

## **7 Gypsy and Traveller Site Provision in London (Item 7)**

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

7.2 **Resolved:**

**That the letter from the Mayor in response to the Committee's investigation into Gypsy and Traveller site provision in London be noted.**

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

8.1 Subject to confirmation at the London Assembly's Annual Meeting on 13 May 2015, the next meeting of the Committee was scheduled for Tuesday 23 June 2015 at 10.00 am in Committee Room 5, City Hall.

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

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

## **10 Close of Meeting**

10.1 The meeting ended at 11.59 am.

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Chair

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Date

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