

MINUTES

Meeting: London Assembly (Plenary)
Date: Wednesday 28 January 2015
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/londonassembly/whole-assembly>

Present:

Roger Evans AM (Chairman)	Jenny Jones AM
Jennette Arnold OBE AM (Deputy Chair)	Stephen Knight AM
Tony Arbour AM	Kit Malthouse AM
Gareth Bacon AM	Joanne McCartney AM
John Biggs AM	Steve O'Connell AM
Andrew Boff AM	Caroline Pidgeon MBE AM
Victoria Borwick AM	Murad Qureshi AM
James Cleverly AM	Dr Onkar Sahota AM
Tom Copley AM	Navin Shah AM
Andrew Dismore AM	Valerie Shawcross CBE AM
Len Duvall AM	Richard Tracey AM
Nicky Gavron AM	Fiona Twycross AM
Darren Johnson AM	

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

- 1.1 There were no apologies for absence.

2 Declarations of Interests (Item 2)

- 2.1 **Resolved:**

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

3 Draft Consolidated Budget 2015-16 (Item 3)

Report of the Mayor (Item 3a)

- 3.1 The Assembly received an oral statement from the Mayor on his Draft 2015/16 Consolidated Budget for the GLA group proposals and received the Mayor's Draft 2015/16 Consolidated Budget document.
- 3.2 A copy of the Mayor's statement is attached at **Appendix 1**.

Response by the London Assembly's Budget and Performance Committee to the Mayor of London's GLA Group Budget Proposals and Precepts 2015-16 Consultation Document (Item 3b)

- 3.3 The Chairman of the Assembly's Budget and Performance Committee, John Biggs AM, presented that Committee's response to the Mayor of London's GLA Group Budget Proposals and Precepts 2015/16 Consultation Document.
- 3.4 A copy of the statement by the Chairman of the Assembly's Budget and Performance Committee is attached as **Appendix 2**.
- 3.5 **Resolved:**

That the response by the London Assembly's Budget and Performance Committee to the Mayor of London's GLA Group Budget Proposals and Precepts 2015/16 Consultation document be noted.

Questions to the Mayor on his Draft 2015-16 Consolidated Budget Proposals (Item 3c)

- 3.6 Assembly Members put questions to the Mayor on each of the six component budgets set out within his Draft Consolidated Budget proposals.
- 3.7 Sir Edward Lister, Chief of Staff and Deputy Mayor for Planning, and Martin Clarke, Executive Director of Resources, were also in attendance for the duration of the question and answer session.
- 3.8 The record of the questions put by Members, together with the Mayor's answers, is attached as **Appendix 3**.

Consideration by the London Assembly of the Mayor of London's Draft Consolidated Budget proposals 2015-16 (Item 3d)

- 3.9 At 12.23pm, the Chairman adjourned the meeting until 1.25pm. The meeting reconvened at 1.25pm, to conclude the question and answer session with the Mayor and to then proceed to debate the budget proposals
- 3.10 The substantive motion before the Assembly was: "To approve the Draft Consolidated Budget for 2015/16, together with the draft component budgets comprised within it, with or without amendment."
- 3.11 A formal budget amendment was moved by Gareth Bacon AM and seconded by Andrew Boff AM (and is attached as **Appendix 4**).
- 3.12 A formal budget amendment was moved by Stephen Knight AM and seconded by Caroline Pidgeon MBE AM (and is attached as **Appendix 5**).
- 3.13 A formal budget amendment was moved by John Biggs AM and seconded by Valerie Shawcross CBE AM (and is attached as **Appendix 6**).
- 3.14 A formal budget amendment, was moved by Darren Johnson AM and seconded by Jenny Jones AM (and is attached as **Appendix 7**).
- 3.15 The Assembly then turned to debate of the Mayor's Draft Consolidated Budget 2015/16 and the four formal budget amendments.
- 3.16 During the debate the Chairman welcomed students from St Helen's Catholic Primary School in Newham to the meeting.
- 3.17 Following the debate and upon being put to the vote:

The formal budget amendment proposed by Gareth Bacon AM was declared lost (with 9 votes being cast in favour and 16 votes being cast against).

The formal budget amendment proposed by Stephen Knight AM was declared lost (with 2 votes being cast in favour and 23 votes being cast against).

The formal budget amendment proposed by John Biggs AM was declared lost (with 12 votes being cast in favour and 13 votes being cast against).

The formal budget amendment proposed by Darren Johnson AM was declared lost (with 2 votes being cast in favour and 23 votes being cast against).

- 3.18 A further formal budget amendment, regarding the off-peak Pay As You Go daily cap for outer London, was moved by Caroline Pidgeon MBE AM and seconded by Stephen Knight AM (and is attached as **Appendix 8**).
- 3.19 **Following debate and being put to the vote, the formal budget amendment proposed by Caroline Pidgeon MBE AM was declared lost (with 11 votes being cast in favour and 14 votes being cast against).**
- 3.20 A further formal budget amendment was moved by Caroline Pidgeon MBE AM and, with the approval of the Chairman, seconded by Darren Johnson AM and Valerie Shawcross CBE AM (and is attached as **Appendix 9**).
- 3.21 **Following debate and being put to the vote, the formal budget amendment proposed by Caroline Pidgeon MBE AM was declared carried (with 16 votes being cast in favour and 9 votes being cast against).**
- 3.22 Jenny Jones AM moved and Darren Johnson AM seconded the following budget related motion:

“This Assembly welcomes the ambition in Government’s Solar PV Strategy to ensure that “not one inch of suitable Government roof space is wasted”, and the target to install solar panels on 24,000 schools. We note that to date London has the lowest rate of solar panel installation per home of any region in the UK, and are concerned that London’s schools may also miss out on this opportunity.

This Assembly notes that the Mayor’s draft budget for 2015-16 lacks any specific work stream to support this strategy in London, and that he has £0.5m unallocated in the Development, Enterprise & Environment Directorate budget to fund additional smaller programmes.

This Assembly therefore calls on the Mayor to strongly consider funding a solar PV delivery unit using some of this unallocated money.”

- 3.23 Upon being put to the vote, the budget related motion in the name of Jenny Jones AM, namely:

“This Assembly welcomes the ambition in Government’s Solar PV Strategy to ensure that “not one inch of suitable Government roof space is wasted”, and the target to install solar panels on 24,000 schools. We note that to date London has the lowest rate of solar panel installation per home of any region in the UK, and are concerned that London’s schools may also miss out on this opportunity.

This Assembly notes that the Mayor’s draft budget for 2015-16 lacks any specific work stream to support this strategy in London, and that he has £0.5m unallocated in the Development, Enterprise & Environment Directorate budget to fund additional smaller programmes.

This Assembly therefore calls on the Mayor to strongly consider funding a solar PV delivery unit using some of this unallocated money.”

was agreed (with 13 votes cast in favour and 12 votes cast against).

- 3.24 Darren Johnson AM moved and Jenny Jones AM seconded the following budget related motion:

“This Assembly believes it is clear that the Mayor will not deliver on the commitments to cycling made in his manifesto and his action plan for cycling in his term of office. We welcome the fact that Transport for London has increased the over-programming in its budget to address the consistent shortfalls in delivery in the last seven years. However, we are concerned that TfL still doesn’t have sufficient capacity to fully meet Londoners’ ambitions to have safer roads that everyone could use, whether they are 8 year old or 80 year old. Whilst it is important that consultation processes are done properly, the plans have not been brought forward to the starting point quickly enough.

This Assembly is especially concerned that many dangerous junctions are not going to be made safer for several years and that greater effort must be made now to bring these neglected junctions to the point where formal consultations can start. We are also concerned that the proposed changes are too focused upon central London, with many areas of inner and outer London being neglected.

Whilst welcoming the fact that many changes are finally due to be happening in the coming year, this Assembly therefore calls on Transport for London to increase the pace of these changes by committing 2% of its total budget in 2015-16 to cycling.”

- 3.25 Upon being put to the vote, the budget related motion in the name of Darren Johnson AM, namely:

“This Assembly believes it is clear that the Mayor will not deliver on the commitments to cycling made in his manifesto and his action plan for cycling in his term of office. We welcome the fact that Transport for London has increased the over-programming in its budget to address the consistent shortfalls in delivery in the last seven years. However, we are concerned that TfL still doesn’t have sufficient capacity to fully meet Londoners’ ambitions to have safer roads that everyone could use, whether they are 8 year old or 80 year old. Whilst it is important that consultation processes are done properly, the plans have not been brought forward to the starting point quickly enough.

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Whilst welcoming the fact that many changes are finally due to be happening in the coming year, this Assembly therefore calls on Transport for London to increase the pace of these changes by committing 2% of its total budget in 2015-16 to cycling.”

was agreed (with 16 votes cast in favour and 9 votes cast against).

- 3.26 Darren Johnson AM moved and Jenny Jones AM seconded the following budget related motion:

“This Assembly notes that the Mayor has spent at least £11 million developing his proposals for major road bridges and tunnels across the Thames since he came into office in 2008, following £32 million spent by his predecessor toward the same end. These proposed crossings would increase traffic levels and pollution in east London, damaging health and the climate and blighting neighbourhoods.

This Assembly notes that the combined money wasted on planning to date would have been more than sufficient to plan and build a much-needed pedestrian and cycle link such as proposals to link Battersea to Fulham, or Canary Wharf to Rotherhithe.

This Assembly notes that the Mayor plans to spend at least £12 million on the development consent order process for the proposed Silvertown tunnel which will have no provision for pedestrians and cyclists, and that this forms part of up to £28 billion of plans to increase road capacity across London in coming decades.

This Assembly therefore calls on the Mayor to cancel plans to build road crossings across the Thames in east London, and to reallocate the money to be spent in 2015-16 on public transport, cycling and walking instead.”

- 3.27 Upon being put to the vote, the budget related motion in the name of Darren Johnson AM, namely:

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This Assembly therefore calls on the Mayor to cancel plans to build road crossings across the Thames in east London, and to reallocate the money to be spent in 2015-16 on public transport, cycling and walking instead.”

was lost (with 4 votes cast in favour and 21 votes cast against).

- 3.28 John Biggs AM moved and Valerie Shawcross CBE AM seconded the following budget related motion:

“This Assembly believes that, while the Mayor has been quick to trumpet the “amazing success”¹ of his Mayoralty, he has undermined the ability of his successor to ensure London has a sufficient number of police officers, wasted considerable sums of Londoners’ money on ‘white elephants’ and vanity projects, failed to address London’s housing crisis in a meaningful way, and leaves a legacy of insecure and low paid employment in the capital.

¹ Conservative Party, *Boris Johnson: Speech to Conservative Party Conference 2014*, retrieved 14.01.15

Policing

This Assembly notes the Mayor's insistence that he protected the Metropolitan Police Service's operational capability during his Mayoralty². However, this rhetoric is contradicted by the facts:

- Police numbers have not actually been at 32,000 at any point during this Mayoralty and were, in fact, as low as 30,036 in January 2014³;
- Since May 2010, 2,550 Police Community Support Officers (PCSOs) have been lost across London⁴ – a 60% cut.
- Insufficient numbers of officers and the loss of PCSOs has led directly to an overstretched police force with low morale⁵.
- Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary⁶ (HMIC) and the Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime⁷ have been forced to conclude that there will be further 'drastic' cuts to police numbers after 2016 if further funding is not found.

As a consequence of Boris Johnson's cuts, it will be impossible for the next Mayor of London to maintain sufficient police numbers without additional funding. The Metropolitan Police Federation recently reminded Londoners that "playing Russian roulette with the safety and welfare of our communities and the brave officers of the Metropolitan Police is simply not acceptable"⁸. Cuts have consequences.

Transport

This Assembly notes that, despite using his penultimate budget to emphasise his 'determination to cut the cost of living for Londoners'⁹ by implementing a precept cut worth 7.7 pence per week to average Band D household¹⁰, the Mayor has been responsible for a 47% increase in bus fares and a 37% increase in Tube fares since 2008¹¹.

While reducing the GLA share of council by £4 in 2015-16, a couple living in Uxbridge using Zone 1-6 annual Travelcards will have seen their annual fare rise by £1,120¹² since Boris Johnson came to power.

This Assembly also notes that, despite claiming that one of his greatest priorities is "to ensure that every penny the GLA spends delivers value for money for the taxpayer", the Mayor has squandered vast sums of Londoners' money on vanity projects and 'white elephant' transport projects:

² Op. cit. Draft Consolidated Budget for 2015-16, p.1

³ London Datastore, May 2010 compared to Nov 2014 figs – latest available retrieved Jan 2015

⁴ London Datastore, May 2010 compared to Nov 2014 figs – latest available retrieved Jan 2015

⁵ Met police taking time off work with stress-related illnesses, *The Guardian*, 28th Dec 2014

⁶ HMIC Report "Responding to Austerity: MPS" July 2014

⁷ Sean O'Neill, Met chief given two more years despite calls for his resignation, *The Times*, 17.11.14

⁸ Metropolitan Police Federation, [How #CutsHaveConsequences to your police service in London](#), 21.01.15

⁹ Mayor of London (2014), Draft Consolidated Budget for 2015-16, p.1

¹⁰ Ibid

¹¹ Figures supplied by [Transport for London](#), retrieved 23.01.2015

¹² Figures supplied by [Transport for London](#), 'Travelcard seasons', retrieved 23.01.2015

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- The Cable Car that Boris claimed ‘wouldn’t cost taxpayers a penny’¹³, which subsequently cost taxpayers £61m¹⁴ to build and was later found to have just four regular users¹⁵;
- The Cycle Hire scheme that Boris pledged to introduce at ‘no cost to the taxpayer’¹⁶, which will have cost taxpayers £225m by 2016¹⁷, making it the most costly to the taxpayer in the world¹⁸.
- The ‘new Routemaster Bus’ fleet, which will cost £40m more to purchase than an equivalent number of hybrid double-deckers¹⁹; and, due to the need for an second crew member, will cost a further £37.2million per year to operate than the hybrid alternative²⁰.
- The ‘Garden Bridge’ is already costing taxpayers £60m²¹, but the taxpayer share of this project – described in the *Daily Telegraph* as “a costly nightmare, a gargantuan vanity project and a marketing tool”²², and which Boris Johnson himself admitted he ‘doesn’t quite know the point of’²³ – risks ballooning to almost £100m if an outstanding £65m can’t be found.
- The ‘fantasy island airport’ feasibility study, which the Mayor spent £5.2m²⁴ of taxpayers’ money on, despite Conservative-run Medway Council stating that it was a proposal “without any known financial backing, poor connectivity, a disastrous environmental impact, and...little support from airlines.”²⁵

Housing

This Assembly believes that, with 379,990 London households living in overcrowded houses,²⁶ average house prices now topping £500,000 for the first time²⁷, and with average private rents due to reach £1,600 a month by the end of Boris Johnson’s term in 2016²⁸, there can be no doubt that one of Boris Johnson’s main legacies as Mayor will be London’s severe housing shortage.

¹³ Rob Williams, Boris under fire after it is revealed that Thames cable car will cost £6m to run in first year, *The Independent*, 10.01.13

¹⁴ London Assembly Budget and Performance Committee, Jon Fox (Director, London Rail, TfL) in response to questioning by Stephen Knight AM, 25.06.14

Transcript of Item 10: Viability of London’s Sponsored Transport Schemes

¹⁵ Matthew Beard, Boris Johnson’s ‘pitiful’ £60m cable car used by just four regular commuters, *Evening Standard*, 21.11.13

¹⁶ Keith Gladdis, London’s 4,000 Boris bikes cost taxpayers £1,400 for each bicycle every year despite sponsorship from Barclays, *Daily Mail*, 11.07.14

¹⁷ Andrew Neather, Have the wheels begun to come off the Boris bikes?, *Evening Standard*, 06.08.13

¹⁸ Op.cit, London’s 4,000 Boris bikes cost taxpayers £1,400 for each bicycle...

¹⁹ Taxi Leaks (3 May 2013), [TfL reveals cost of New Bus for London fleet](#), Date retrieved: 09.09.2014

²⁰ Transport for London ‘[New Routemasters](#)’, retrieved 26.01.2015

²¹ Tom Edwards, Opposition to River Thames garden bridge plan grows, BBC News Online, 16.10.14

²² Tim Richardson, Garden Bridge: a blot on the landscape? *Daily Telegraph*, 20.12.14

²³ Asa Bennett, Boris Johnson Doesn’t Know ‘The Point’ Of The Garden Bridge (That He’s Paying £30m For), *Huffington Post*, 12.03.14

²⁴ [MD1334](#) on 9 April 2014 provided an extra £2m. [MD1080](#) provided an extra £3m. [MD1037](#) extended [MD806](#) which provided £200,000

²⁵ House of Commons (2014), Written evidence from Medway Council (AS 60), Transport Select Committee: Aviation Strategy (HC 78)

²⁶ Office for National Statistics

²⁷ London Assembly Housing and Planning Committee (2011), *Crowded houses: Overcrowding in London’s social rented housing*, p.8

²⁸ Copley, T., [Average London rents to top £1,600 by end of Mayor’s term](#), 07.03.14

On every level – supply, affordable housing, and property standards – the housing picture has dramatically deteriorated since Boris Johnson’s election in 2008:

- The Mayor will leave office having failed to deliver both of his affordable housing programmes to deadline.²⁹³⁰
- The Mayor’s reforms to affordable housing have meant that in some parts of inner-London, households could now require an income above £100,000 per year to afford the rent on a family-sized ‘affordable’ home.³¹
- On property standards, one-third of London’s privately rented homes – more than 250,000 – still fall below the Decent Homes standard used in the social rented sector, the largest proportion of any tenure in London.³²

Economy

Despite claiming that his “Budget is central to the promotion of jobs”³³, Boris Johnson’s record is questionable. Of the 200,000 jobs the Mayor has pledged to create, at least 131,000 are in the construction industry³⁴. However, forecasts by GLA Economics show that just 1,000 extra jobs are expected to have been created in this sector by 2016, highlighting the degree to which the Mayor’s jobs pledge has entirely misled Londoners.³⁵ In fact, jobs growth in this sector is expected to decline in each year from 2014 up until 2016.³⁶ Furthermore, the Mayor has abandoned his manifesto commitment to specifically “lead a campaign for 20,000 part-time jobs to help parents return to work”³⁷.

While this Assembly recognises that the Mayor has built on the work of his predecessor in promoting the London Living Wage, it notes that Boris Johnson’s efforts to promote a voluntary Living Wage have clearly been insufficient – the number of jobs paying less than the London Living Wage has increased sharply since 2007 from 13% to 17% of all jobs in the capital – that’s an extra 180,000 people earning less than they need for a basic existence in the capital³⁸.

Given his failings in these areas of strategic importance to London, this Assembly calls on the Mayor of London to revisit his 2015-16 Budget proposals with renewed emphasis on keeping

²⁹ ‘Mayor admits homes goal will be missed’, Inside Housing, 2 December 2009

³⁰ ‘Boris Johnson forced to admit affordable housing target faces delay’, Evening Standard, 23 October 2014

³¹ ‘Joint Response to the London Plan Revised Early Minor Alterations’, London Borough of Brent, London Borough of Camden, London Borough of Enfield, London Borough of Hackney, London Borough of Islington, London Borough of Southwark, London Borough of Tower Hamlets, Royal Borough of Kensington & Chelsea and Westminster City Council, 31 July 2012, p.10

³² ‘Stressed: A review of London’s private rented sector’, Centre for London, August 2013, p.50

³³ Op.cit, Draft Consolidated Budget for 2015-16, p.1

³⁴ ‘Measuring Jobs – Progress Report’, Greater London Authority Investment & Performance Board, 6 August 2013, p.2

³⁵ GLA Employment Projections, 2013 Projections Data. Found here: <http://data.london.gov.uk/dataset/gla-employment-projections>

³⁶ ‘London’s Economic Outlook: Autumn 2014, The GLA’s medium-term planning projections’, Greater London Authority, November 2014, p.34

³⁷ ‘Taking Greater London Forward’, Boris Johnson, 2012, p.17

³⁸ London Poverty Profile 2013, Trust for London & New Policy Institute, 2013, p.63

Londoners safe, helping them travel around the city at reasonable cost, enabling them to find suitable homes, and creating a labour market that rewards hard work with fair pay.”

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“This Assembly believes that, while the Mayor has been quick to trumpet the “amazing success”³⁹ of his Mayoralty, he has undermined the ability of his successor to ensure London has a sufficient number of police officers, wasted considerable sums of Londoners’ money on ‘white elephants’ and vanity projects, failed to address London’s housing crisis in a meaningful way, and leaves a legacy of insecure and low paid employment in the capital.

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- **Since May 2010, 2,550 Police Community Support Officers (PCSOs) have been lost across London⁴² – a 60% cut.**
- **Insufficient numbers of officers and the loss of PCSOs has led directly to an overstretched police force with low morale⁴³.**
- **Her Majesty’s Inspectorate of Constabulary⁴⁴ (HMIC) and the Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime⁴⁵ have been forced to conclude that there will be further ‘drastic’ cuts to police numbers after 2016 if further funding is not found.**

As a consequence of Boris Johnson’s cuts, it will be impossible for the next Mayor of London to maintain sufficient police numbers without additional funding. The Metropolitan Police Federation recently reminded Londoners that “playing Russian roulette with the safety and welfare of our communities and the brave officers of the Metropolitan Police is simply not acceptable”⁴⁶. Cuts have consequences.

Transport

³⁹ Conservative Party, *Boris Johnson: Speech to Conservative Party Conference 2014*, retrieved 14.01.15

⁴⁰ Op. cit. Draft Consolidated Budget for 2015-16, p.1

⁴¹ London Datastore, May 2010 compared to Nov 2014 figs – latest available retrieved Jan 2015

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⁴³ Met police taking time off work with stress-related illnesses, *The Guardian*, 28th Dec 2014

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This Assembly notes that, despite using his penultimate budget to emphasise his ‘determination to cut the cost of living for Londoners’⁴⁷ by implementing a precept cut worth 7.7 pence per week to average Band D household⁴⁸, the Mayor has been responsible for a 47% increase in bus fares and a 37% increase in Tube fares since 2008⁴⁹.

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This Assembly also notes that, despite claiming that one of his greatest priorities is “to ensure that every penny the GLA spends delivers value for money for the taxpayer”, the Mayor has squandered vast sums of Londoners’ money on vanity projects and ‘white elephant’ transport projects:

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- **The Cycle Hire scheme that Boris pledged to introduce at ‘no cost to the taxpayer’⁵⁴, which will have cost taxpayers £225m by 2016⁵⁵, making it the most costly to the taxpayer in the world⁵⁶.**
- **The ‘new Routemaster Bus’ fleet, which will cost £40m more to purchase than an equivalent number of hybrid double-deckers⁵⁷; and, due to the need for an second crew member, will cost a further £37.2million per year to operate than the hybrid alternative⁵⁸.**
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⁴⁷ Mayor of London (2014), Draft Consolidated Budget for 2015-16, p.1

⁴⁸ Ibid

⁴⁹ Figures supplied by [Transport for London](#), retrieved 23.01.2015

⁵⁰ Figures supplied by [Transport for London](#), ‘Travelcard seasons’, retrieved 23.01.2015

⁵¹ Rob Williams, Boris under fire after it is revealed that Thames cable car will cost £6m to run in first year, *The Independent*, 10.01.13

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⁵⁹ Tom Edwards, Opposition to River Thames garden bridge plan grows, BBC News Online, 16.10.14

⁶⁰ Tim Richardson, Garden Bridge: a blot on the landscape? *Daily Telegraph*, 20.12.14

⁶¹ Asa Bennett, Boris Johnson Doesn’t Know ‘The Point’ Of The Garden Bridge (That He’s Paying £30m For), *Huffington Post*, 12.03.14

- The ‘fantasy island airport’ feasibility study, which the Mayor spent **£5.2m**⁶² of taxpayers’ money on, despite Conservative-run Medway Council stating that it was a proposal “without any known financial backing, poor connectivity, a disastrous environmental impact, and...little support from airlines.”⁶³

Housing

This Assembly believes that, with 379,990 London households living in overcrowded houses,⁶⁴ average house prices now topping £500,000 for the first time⁶⁵, and with average private rents due to reach £1,600 a month by the end of Boris Johnson’s term in 2016⁶⁶, there can be no doubt that one of Boris Johnson’s main legacies as Mayor will be London’s severe housing shortage.

On every level – supply, affordable housing, and property standards – the housing picture has dramatically deteriorated since Boris Johnson’s election in 2008:

- **The Mayor will leave office having failed to deliver both of his affordable housing programmes to deadline.**⁶⁷⁶⁸
- **The Mayor’s reforms to affordable housing have meant that in some parts of inner-London, households could now require an income above £100,000 per year to afford the rent on a family-sized ‘affordable’ home.**⁶⁹
- **On property standards, one-third of London’s privately rented homes – more than 250,000 – still fall below the Decent Homes standard used in the social rented sector, the largest proportion of any tenure in London.**⁷⁰

Economy

Despite claiming that his “Budget is central to the promotion of jobs”⁷¹, Boris Johnson’s record is questionable. Of the 200,000 jobs the Mayor has pledged to create, at least 131,000 are in the construction industry⁷². However, forecasts by GLA Economics show that just 1,000 extra jobs are expected to have been created in this sector by 2016, highlighting the degree to which the Mayor’s jobs pledge has

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⁶⁶ Copley, T., *Average London rents to top £1,600 by end of Mayor's term*, 07.03.14

⁶⁷ ‘Mayor admits homes goal will be missed’, Inside Housing, 2 December 2009

⁶⁸ ‘Boris Johnson forced to admit affordable housing target faces delay’, Evening Standard, 23 October 2014

⁶⁹ ‘Joint Response to the London Plan Revised Early Minor Alterations’, London Borough of Brent, London Borough of Camden, London Borough of Enfield, London Borough of Hackney, London Borough of Islington, London Borough of Southwark, London Borough of Tower Hamlets, Royal Borough of Kensington & Chelsea and Westminster City Council, 31 July 2012, p.10

⁷⁰ ‘Stressed: A review of London’s private rented sector’, Centre for London, August 2013, p.50

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⁷² ‘Measuring Jobs – Progress Report’, Greater London Authority Investment & Performance Board, 6 August 2013, p.2

entirely misled Londoners.⁷³ In fact, jobs growth in this sector is expected to decline in each year from 2014 up until 2016.⁷⁴ Furthermore, the Mayor has abandoned his manifesto commitment to specifically “lead a campaign for 20,000 part-time jobs to help parents return to work”⁷⁵.

While this Assembly recognises that the Mayor has built on the work of his predecessor in promoting the London Living Wage, it notes that Boris Johnson’s efforts to promote a voluntary Living Wage have clearly been insufficient – the number of jobs paying less than the London Living Wage has increased sharply since 2007 from 13% to 17% of all jobs in the capital – that’s an extra 180,000 people earning less than they need for a basic existence in the capital⁷⁶.

Given his failings in these areas of strategic importance to London, this Assembly calls on the Mayor of London to revisit his 2015-16 Budget proposals with renewed emphasis on keeping Londoners safe, helping them travel around the city at reasonable cost, enabling them to find suitable homes, and creating a labour market that rewards hard work with fair pay.”

was agreed (with 12 votes cast in favour and 9 votes cast against).

- 3.30 The Chairman confirmed that there were no other formal budget amendments for the Assembly’s consideration and that, as one formal budget amendment had attracted a simple majority of votes cast in its favour and in accordance with Standing Order 6.7E, the substantive motion before the Assembly had fallen and, in accordance with Paragraph 5(5) of Schedule 6 to the GLA Act 1999 (as amended), the Assembly had approved the Draft Consolidated Budget for 2015/16 as amended.

4 Statutory Officers' Protocol (Item 4)

- 4.1 The Assembly received the report of the Head of Paid Service.

4.2 Resolved:

⁷³ GLA Employment Projections, 2013 Projections Data. Found here: <http://data.london.gov.uk/dataset/gla-employment-projections>

⁷⁴ ‘London’s Economic Outlook: Autumn 2014, The GLA’s medium-term planning projections’, Greater London Authority, November 2014, p.34

⁷⁵ ‘Taking Greater London Forward’, Boris Johnson, 2012, p.17

⁷⁶ London Poverty Profile 2013, Trust for London & New Policy Institute, 2013, p.63

- (a) That (noting that it is a joint decision with Mayor) the pay award made to GLA staff be made to the Statutory Officers and that the pay of one of the Statutory Officers be corrected, as set out in paragraph 4.7 of the report;
- (b) That, in accordance with the Senior Salaries Review Body recommendation (agreed in 2009) to apply future local government awards to the pay of the Mayor and Assembly, the local government pay settlement of 2.2% (from 1 January 2015) be applied to the pay of Assembly Members and the Mayor; and
- (c) That (noting it is a joint decision with the Mayor) the minor changes to the Statutory Officers' protocol be agreed.

5 Date of Next Meeting (Item 5)

- 5.1 The next meeting of London Assembly had been scheduled to be the Plenary meeting due to take place at 10.00 am on Wednesday 11 February 2015. However, as the Chairman had, during the course of the meeting, formally received the Draft Further Alterations to the London Plan for the Assembly's consideration and, using the authority previously delegated to him by the Assembly which had involved prior consultation with the party groups, it was agreed to reschedule the next London Assembly (Plenary) to take place at 9.30 am on 6 February 2015 in the Chamber, City Hall.

6 Any Other Business the Chairman Considers Urgent (Item 6)

- 6.1 There were no items of urgent business.

7 Close of Meeting

- 7.1 The meeting ended at 4:30pm.

Chairman

Date

Contact Officers: John Barry
Principal Committee Manager
GLA Secretariat, City Hall
The Queen's Walk, London SE1 2AA

Telephone: 020 7983 4425

Email: john.barry@london.gov.uk

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