

MINUTES

Meeting: Housing Committee
Date: Thursday 16 October 2014
Time: 2.00 pm
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/housing

Present:

Darren Johnson AM (Chair)
Tom Copley AM (Deputy Chair)
Tony Arbour AM
John Biggs AM
Nicky Gavron AM
Stephen Knight AM
Steve O'Connell AM

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

1.1 Apologies for absence were received from Andrew Boff AM, for whom Tony Arbour AM substituted; and Murad Qureshi AM, for whom John Biggs AM substituted.

2 Declarations of Interest (Item 2)

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

2.2 As it had not at the time been included in the Authority's Register of Gifts and Hospitality, Tom Copley AM declared that he had attended by invitation the British Film Institute's Centrepiece Gala on 14 October 2014.

2.3 **Resolved:**

(a) That the list of offices held by Assembly Members, as set out in the table at Item 2, be noted as disclosable pecuniary interests; and

(b) That the declaration made by Tom Copley AM of the receipt of hospitality at the British Film Institute's Centrepiece Gala be noted.

3 Changes to the Committee's Membership (Item 3)

3.1 **Resolved:**

That the changes to the Committee's membership, as agreed by the London Assembly at its Plenary meeting on the 16 July 2014, be noted as follows:

That Murad Qureshi AM replaces Fiona Twycross AM as a Member of the Committee; and

That Fiona Twycross AM replaces Murad Qureshi AM as a substitute Member of the Committee.

4 Minutes (Item 4)

4.1 **Resolved:**

That the minutes of the meeting held on 10 July 2014 be signed by the Chair as a correct record.

5 Summary List of Actions (Item 5)

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

5.2 **Resolved:**

That the completed actions arising from a previous meeting of the Committee be noted.

5.3 In accordance with Standing Order 2.2(D), the Chair announced he was to take the remaining business in a different order than that set out on the agenda.

6 Clapham Park Estate Site Visit (Item 7)

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

6.2 **Resolved:**

That the record of the site visit to the Clapham Park estate on 2 July 2014 be noted.

7 Encouraging Diversity in London's House Building Industry (Item 8)

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

7.2 **Resolved:**

That both the letter sent by the Chair of the Committee to the Mayor about encouraging diversity in London's house building industry, and the Mayor's response, be noted.

8 Rough Sleeping and Single Homelessness (Item 9)

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

8.2 The Committee Officer informed Members that since the report had been agreed originally by the Chair under delegated authority, an alteration had been made to the case study on page 21 following consultation with the Chair. This change was deemed not be substantive.

8.3 **Resolved:**

(a) That the Committee's report *No Going Back: Breaking the Cycle of Rough Sleeping and Homelessness*, as agreed by the Chair under delegated authority, be noted; and

(b) That the responses from the Lord Freud, Minister for Welfare Reform, and Kris Hopkins MP, Minister for Homelessness, to the relevant recommendations in *No Going Back* be noted.

9 Response to Assessing the Consequences of Welfare Reform Report (Item 10)

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

9.2 **Resolved:**

That the response from the Mayor to the Committee's report, *Assessing the Consequences of Welfare Reform*, be noted.

10 Housing Committee Work Programme (Item 11)

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

10.2 **Resolved:**

That the adjustment to the Committee's Work Programme, as set out at paragraphs 4.1 to 4.3 of the report at Agenda Item 11, be agreed.

11 Date of Next Meeting (Item 12)

11.1 The next meeting was scheduled for 11 November 2014 in Committee Room 5, City Hall.

12 Any Other Business the Chair Considers Urgent (Item 13)

12.1 There was no urgent business.

13 Gypsy and Traveller Site Provision in London (Item 6)

13.1 The Committee received the report of the Executive Director of Secretariat as background to receiving comments from members of the public.

13.2 A transcript of the exchange between the Committee and members of the public is attached at **Appendix 1**.

13.3 At the conclusion of the discussion from the floor, the Committee put questions to the following invited panel guests:

- Rob McCartney, Head of Housing Support, Leeds City Council;
- Bill Forrester, Head of Service, Kent County Council;
- Ilinca Diaconescu, Planning Policy, London Gypsy and Traveller Unit;
- John Lett, Strategic Planning Manager, Greater London Authority (GLA);
- Gill Slater, Policy Planner, London Borough of Bromley; and

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- Jamie Ratcliff, Assistant Director – Programme, Policy and Services, GLA.

13.4 A transcript of the discussion between the Committee and panellists is attached at **Appendix 2**.

13.5 During the session, Gill Slater committed to provide Members with the criteria used by the London Borough of Bromley to determine waiting list priority order for traveller pitches.

13.6 **Resolved:**

That the report and discussion be noted.

14 Close of Meeting

14.1 The meeting ended at 4.28 pm.

Chair

Date

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