

MINUTES

Meeting: Economy Committee
Date: Tuesday 4 November 2014
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/economy

Present:

Jenny Jones AM (Chair)
Fiona Twycross AM (Deputy Chair)
Gareth Bacon AM
Andrew Dismore AM
Stephen Knight AM
Dr Onkar Sahota AM
James Cleverly AM

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

- 1.1 Apologies for absence were received from Tony Arbour AM for whom James Cleverly AM substituted.

2 Declarations of Interest (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 completed and outstanding action arising from previous meetings of the Committee be noted.

4 Investigation into Personal Debt (Item 4)

4.1 The Committee received the report of the Executive Director of Secretariat as background to putting questions on problem personal debt to the following guests:

- John Gathergood, Associate Professor in Economics, University of Nottingham;
- Dr Pippa Lane, Senior Policy Researcher, Citizens Advice Bureau;
- Ally Paget, Researcher, Demos;
- Robbie de Santos, Senior Public Policy Advocate, StepChange; and
- Caroline Siarkiewicz, Head of Debt Advice, Money Advice Service.

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

4.3 During the course of the question and answer session, Caroline Siarkiewicz committed to provide detailed numbers of people in Council Tax arrears in London by borough and by demographic; and Robbie de Santos committed to provide the monetary impact of problem debt on public and social services in London.

4.4 **Resolved:**

That the report and discussion on problem personal debt be noted.

5 Apprenticeships (Item 5)

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

5.2 **Resolved:**

That the Committee's report *Trained in London: Creating More Apprenticeships to Support the London Economy* be agreed.

6 Environment Committee Work Programme (Item 6)

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

6.2 **Resolved:**

That the Committee's work programme and priorities for 2014/15 be noted.

7 Date of Next Meeting (Item 7)

7.1 The date of the next meeting of the Committee was scheduled for Tuesday 9 December 2014 at 10.00 am in Committee Room 5, City Hall.

8 Any Other Business the Chair Considers Urgent (Item 8)

8.1 There were no urgent items of business.

9 Close of Meeting

9.1 The meeting ended at 12.17 pm.

Chair

Date

Contact Officer: David Pealing, Committee Officer
Telephone: 020 7983 5525; Email: david.pealing@london.gov.uk