

MINUTES

**Meeting: London Assembly
(Mayor's Question Time)**
Date: Monday 24 February 2020
Time: 10.00 am
**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/whole-assembly

Present:

Jennette Arnold OBE AM (Chair)

Susan Hall AM

Tony Arbour AM (Deputy Chairman)

Nicky Gavron AM

Gareth Bacon MP AM

David Kurten AM

Shaun Bailey AM

Joanne McCartney AM

Siân Berry AM

Steve O'Connell AM

Andrew Boff AM

Caroline Pidgeon MBE AM

Léonie Cooper AM

Keith Prince AM

Tom Copley AM

Caroline Russell AM

Unmesh Desai AM

Fiona Twycross AM

Tony Devenish AM

Dr Onkar Sahota AM

Len Duvall AM

Peter Whittle AM

Florence Eshalomi MP AM

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

- 1.1 Apologies for absence were received from Andrew Dismore AM and Navin Shah AM.
- 1.2 The Chair welcomed to the public gallery Politics students from King's College London and 1st Year Journalism students from London Southbank University.
- 1.3 The Chair then provided an update on some recent Assembly activity, including:
- the publication of a report by the Transport Committee on how London's transport network needed to evolve as the city grew and the living and working patterns of Londoners changed;
 - the Police and Crime Committee's questioning of the Mayor of London on his Police and Crime Plan; and
 - an open mic forum held by the Environment Committee with experts on reducing emissions from homes and the energy consumed in them.

2 Declarations of Interests (Item 2)

2.1 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 Minutes (Item 3)

3.1 Resolved:

That the minutes from the London Assembly (Plenary) meeting held on 29 January 2020 be signed by the Chair as a correct record.

4 Final Draft Consolidated Budget 2020/21 (Item 4)

Report of the Mayor (Item 4a)

- 4.1 The Assembly received the Mayor's Final Draft Consolidated Budget 2020/21 for the GLA Group.
- 4.2 The Assembly received an oral statement from the Mayor on the Budget. A transcript of the Mayor's oral statement is attached at **Appendix 1**.

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- 4.3 Following the Mayor's oral statement, both the Mayor and the Chair, on behalf of Assembly Members, acknowledged the 20 years of service of Martin Clarke, Executive Director of Resources, who would be retiring from the Greater London Authority in March 2020, thanking him for his authoritative advice and sound judgement.
- 4.4 David Bellamy, Chief of Staff, and Martin Clarke, Executive Director of Resources, were in attendance for the Mayor's oral statement and for the duration of the question and answer session.

Questions to the Mayor (Item 4b)

- 4.5 Assembly Members put questions to the Mayor on his Final Draft Consolidated Budget 2020/21.
- 4.6 The record of questions put by Members, together with the Mayor's answers, is attached at **Appendix 2**.

Consideration by the Assembly of the Mayor of London's Final Draft Consolidated Budget Proposals 2020/21 (Item 4c)

- 4.7 Following the Mayor's departure, the Assembly debated the Mayor's Final Draft Consolidated Budget 2020/21.
- 4.8 The substantive motion before the Assembly was: "To approve the Final Draft Consolidated Budget for 2020/21 with or without amendment".
- 4.9 A formal Budget Amendment, presented on behalf of the GLA Conservatives Group, was moved by Susan Hall AM and seconded by Andrew Boff AM (and is attached at **Appendix 3**).
- 4.10 A formal Budget Amendment, presented on behalf of the City Hall Greens Group, was moved by Caroline Russell AM and seconded by Siân Berry AM (and is attached at **Appendix 4**).
- 4.11 Following debate and in accordance with Standing Order 6.6E(1), a named vote was taken on each Budget Amendment, in the order in which they were moved.

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4.12 The votes in relation to the Budget Amendment in the name of Susan Hall AM were cast as follows:

For the amendment: Gareth Bacon MP AM, Shaun Bailey AM, Andrew Boff AM, Tony Devenish AM, Susan Hall AM, Steve O'Connell AM, Keith Prince AM, Peter Whittle AM, and Tony Arbour AM (Deputy Chairman).

Against the amendment: Siân Berry AM, Léonie Cooper AM, Tom Copley AM, Unmesh Desai AM, Len Duvall AM, Florence Eshalomi MP AM, Nicky Gavron AM, Joanne McCartney AM, Caroline Pidgeon MBE AM, Caroline Russell AM, Dr Onkar Sahota AM, Fiona Twycross AM, and Jennette Arnold OBE AM (Chair).

Abstentions: David Kurten AM.

4.13 With 9 votes being cast in favour, 13 votes being cast against and 1 abstention, the Budget Amendment did not receive the requisite two-thirds majority to amend the Mayor's budget proposals.

4.14 The votes in relation to the Budget Amendment in the name of Caroline Russell AM were cast as follows:

For the amendment: Siân Berry AM, Caroline Pidgeon MBE AM and Caroline Russell AM.

Against the amendment: Gareth Bacon MP AM, Shaun Bailey AM, Andrew Boff AM, Léonie Cooper AM, Tom Copley AM, Unmesh Desai AM, Tony Devenish AM, Len Duvall AM, Florence Eshalomi MP AM, Nicky Gavron AM, Susan Hall AM, David Kurten AM, Joanne McCartney AM, Steve O'Connell AM, Keith Prince AM, Dr Onkar Sahota AM, Fiona Twycross AM, Peter Whittle AM, Tony Arbour AM (Deputy Chairman) and Jennette Arnold OBE AM (Chair).

4.15 With 3 votes being cast in favour and 20 votes being cast against, the Budget Amendment did not receive the requisite two-thirds majority to amend the Mayor's budget proposals.

4.16 There being no other formal Budget Amendment requiring consideration, the Chair formally put the substantive motion, namely:

‘To approve the Final Draft Consolidated Budget 2020/21 without amendment’.

4.17 Upon being put to the vote, the substantive motion was not carried (with 10 votes being cast in favour and 13 votes being cast against).

4.18 The Chair explained that no Budget Amendments had been agreed and the substantive motion before the Assembly had not been agreed. However, as no Budget Amendments had been agreed, the Assembly was deemed by Paragraph 8(5) of Schedule 6 to the GLA Act 1999 to have approved the Final Draft Consolidated Budget without amendment.

4.19 The Chair confirmed that the Assembly had concluded its consideration of the Final Draft Consolidated Budget for 2020/21.

5 Mayor's Report (Item 5)

5.1 Resolved:

That the Mayor's Report covering the period from 3 January to 10 February 2020 be noted.

6 Questions to the Mayor (Item 6)

6.1 Resolved:

That it be noted that all questions submitted to this meeting under the Mayor's Question Time procedure would receive a written response on 27 February 2020.

6.2 The written answers are attached at **Appendix 5**.

7 Date of Next Meeting (Item 7)

7.1 The next meeting of the London Assembly would be the Plenary meeting which was scheduled to take place at 10.00am on 5 March 2020 in the Chamber, City Hall.

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

8.1 There were no items of urgent business.

9 Close of Meeting

9.1 The meeting ended at 12.11pm.

Chair

Date

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