

# Leaders' Committee

## Minutes and Summaries

Item no: 13

**Report by:** Lisa Dominic    **Job title:** Senior Governance Support Officer  
**Date:** 13 December 2022  
**Contact Officer:** Christiane Jenkins  
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### Summary

Summaries of the minutes of London Councils

**Recommendations** Leader's Committee is recommended to note the attached minutes:

- TEC AGM – 9 June 2022
- Audit Committee – 16 June 2022
- Grants Committee AGM – 13 July 2022
- TEC Executive – 14 July 2022
- GLEF – 19 July 2022
- Audit Committee 15 September 2022
- TEC – 14 October 2022
- YPES – 20 October 2022
- Executive 8 November 2022
- Grants Executive – 14 November 2022

# Leaders' Committee

## Report from the Transport & Environment Committee – 9 June 2022

Item no:

**Report by:** Alan Edwards      **Job title:** Governance Manager  
**Date:** 11 October 2022  
**Contact Officer:** Alan Edwards  
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**Summary:** Summary of the minutes of the London Councils' Transport & Environment Committee held on 9 June 2022

**Recommendations:** For information.

**Attendance:** Cllr Syed Ghani (LB Barking & Dagenham), Cllr Arun Mittra (LB Barnet, Deputy), Cllr Peter Craske (LB Bexley - Virtual), Cllr Krupa Sheth (LB Brent), Cllr Nicholas Bennett (LB Bromley), Cllr Scott Roche (LB Croydon – Virtual), Cllr Deidre Costigan (LB Ealing), Cllr Rick Jewell (LB Enfield), Cllr Averil Lekau (RB Greenwich), Mayor Philip Glanville (LB Hackney, Chair), Cllr Sharon Holder (LB Hammersmith & Fulham), Cllr Mike Hakata (LB Haringey), Cllr Anjana Patel (LB Harrow - Virtual), Cllr Katherine Dunne (LB Hounslow), Cllr Rowena Champion (LB Islington), Cllr Cem Kemahli (RB Kensington & Chelsea), Cllr Ian Manders (RB Kingston), Cllr Rezina Choudhury (LB Lambeth), Cllr Louise Krupski (LB Lewisham), Cllr Natasha Irons (LB Merton), Cllr James Asser (LB Newham), Cllr Jo Blackman (LB Redbridge), Cllr Alex Ehmann (LB Richmond), Cllr Catherine Rose (LB Southwark), Cllr Barry Lewis (LB Sutton), Cllr Clyde Loakes (LB Waltham Forest), Cllr Claire Gilbert (LB Wandsworth, Deputy), Alex Williams (Transport for London), and Julian Bell (TEC Member on TfL Board).

### Part A: AGM

#### **1. Apologies for Absence:**

Cllr Geof Cooke (LB Barnet), Cllr Adam Harrison (LB Camden), Cllr Barry Muggleston (LB Havering), Cllr Jonathan Bianco (LB Hillingdon), Cllr Judi Gasser (LB Wandsworth), Cllr Paul Dimoldenberg (City of Westminster), and Shravan Joshi (City of London Corporation)

#### **2. Declarations of Interest (in addition to those supplied on the sheet)**

##### Freedom Pass & 60+ Oyster Card

Cllr Nicholas Bennett (LB Bromley)

Cllr Rowena Champion (LB Islington)

##### East London Waste Authority

Cllr Jo Blackman (LB Redbridge)

##### North London Waste Authority

Cllr Arjun Mittra (LB Barnet)

##### Friend of London Transport Museum

Cllr Nicholas Bennett (LB Bromley)

London Underground Transport Museum

Cllr Nicholas Bennett (LB Bromley)

SERA

Cllr Jo Blackman (LB Redbridge)

Thames RFCC

**To Note:** Cllr James Asser (LB Newham) was standing down from the Thames RFCC.

*Members were asked to let Alan Edwards know, via email, of any further declarations of interests they needed recorded for the minutes.*

### **3. Election of TEC Chair for 2022/23**

Councillor Clyde Loakes nominated Mayor Philip Glanville (LB Hackney) to be the Chair of TEC. This was seconded by Councillor Cem Kemahli. Mayor Philip Glanville was elected as the Chair of TEC for 2022/23.

Mayor Glanville welcomed the new TEC members to the first “in person” TEC meeting that he had chaired. He paid tribute to the colleagues that were no longer on the Committee, including Councillor Zinkin from LB Barnet, and Councillor Holland (LB Lambeth) who had been a previous TEC Chair and a TEC Vice Chair.

### **4. Election of Vice Chairs of TEC for 2022/23**

The Committee appointed the following TEC vice chairs:

Councillor Deidre Costigan (Labour Vice Chair – LB Ealing)

Councillor Cem Kemahli (Conservative Vice Chair – RB Kensington & Chelsea), and

Councillor Alex Ehmann (Liberal Democrat Vice Chair – LB Richmond)

### **5. Revised Membership of London Councils’ TEC for 2022/23**

The Committee considered and noted a revised report that set out the latest details of the Committee’s Membership for 2022/23. It was agreed that the TEC membership would be reported at the AGM.

The Chair said that Councillor Averil Lekau had been listed as the TEC Member for RB Greenwich and LB Tower Hamlets. It was agreed that Councillor Lekau would be removed from LB Tower Hamlets as this was an error. It was also agreed to add Cllr Guy Lambert as a deputy for LB Hounslow and to delete Councillor Jon Burke as a deputy for LB Hackney, and to replace him with Councillors Guy Nicholson and Mete Coban as deputies. Post meeting note: Shravan Joshi was nominated to be the new City of London representative on TEC.

### **6. Appointment of the TEC Executive Sub Committee for 2022/23**

The Committee elected the following members to the TEC Executive Sub Committee for 2022/23:

Labour Representatives:

Mayor Phil Glanville (Chair – LB Hackney)

Cllr Deidre Costigan (LB Ealing)

Cllr Krupa Sheth (LB Brent)

Cllr Mike Hakata (LB Haringey)

Cllr James Asser (LB Newham)

Cllr Rezina Chowdhury (LB Lambeth)

Cllr Judi Gasser (LB Wandsworth)

Post meeting note: One Labour vacancy now exists as Councillor Gasser, LB Wandsworth, could not be on the TEC Executive Sub Committee.

Conservative Representatives:

Cllr Cem Kemahli (RB Kensington & Chelsea)

Cllr Peter Craske (LB Bexley)

Cllr Nicholas Bennett (LB Bromley)

Liberal Democrat Representative:

Cllr Alex Ehmann (LB Richmond)

City of London Corporation Representative:

Shravan Joshi

## **7. Nominations to Outside Bodies 2022/23**

The following nominations were made to the TEC Outside Bodies for 2022/23:

### (a) Heathrow Airport Consultative Committee

Cllr Shantanu Rajawat (LB Hounslow)

### (b) Thames RFCC

*West* – Conservative Vacancy TBC

*South West* – Cllr Julia Neden-Watts (LB Richmond, LD)

*South East* – Cllr Averil Lekau (RB Greenwich)

*North East* – Cllr Syed Ghani (LB Barking & Dagenham)

*Central North* – Cllr Sharon Holder (LB Hammersmith & Fulham)

*Central South* – Cllr Catherine Rose (LB Southwark)

*North* – Cllr Mike Hakata (LB Haringey)

### (c) London Sustainable Development Commission

Cllr Jo Blackman (RB Redbridge)

### (d) Urban Design London (UDL)

Cllr Nigel Haselden (LB Lambeth)

Cllr Johnny Thalassites (RB Kensington & Chelsea)

### (e) London City Airport Consultative Committee

The LB Redbridge TEC representative to be asked to be a member of LCACC for 2022/23 (and not LB Havering, as stated in the report).

### (f) ReLondon (formerly LWARB)

A Conservative replacement is needed for Cllr Guy Senior (LB Wandsworth), who is no longer a serving councillor)

### (g) London Fuel Poverty Partnership

Cllr Natasha Irons (LB Merton)

### (ii) TEC Funding Sub-Group (Membership)

Cllr Deidre Costigan (LB Ealing, Lab)

Cllr Catherine Rose (LB Southwark, Lab)

Cllr Rick Jewell (LB Enfield, Lab)

Cllr Clyde Loakes (LB Waltham Forest, Lab)

Cllr Cem Kemahli (RB Kensington & Chelsea, Con)

Cllr Alex Ehmann (LB Richmond, Lib Dem)

x One Conservative Vacancy – To be confirmed.

*(Post meeting note: Cllr Nicholas Bennett, LB Bromley, was nominated to fill the Conservative vacancy on the Transport Funding Sub-Group).*

## **8. TEC AGM Minutes of 10 June 2021 (already agreed – for noting)**

The Committee noted the TEC AGM minutes from 10 June 2021.

## **9. TEC Constitutional Matters**

The Committee received a report that proposed an amendment to London Councils' Standing Orders. The report also provided, for information, the most recent version of London Councils' Scheme of Delegations, which encompassed amendments to reflect the current officer structure of London Councils.

The Committee: **(i)** noted the proposed amendment to London Councils' Standing Orders, as detailed in this report and at Appendix One; and **(ii)** noted the proposed amendments to London Councils' Scheme of Delegations to officers at Appendix Two, including the relevant amendments to sections 7, 8, 12 and Part A of Appendix A.

### Part B: Items of Business

## **10. Talk by Seb Dance, Deputy Mayor for Transport**

Seb Dance made some of the following comments:

- TfL depended on fares revenue to make up most of their funding. Other countries like Singapore received most of their funding for public transport through taxation.
- TfL was heading for a surplus before the pandemic. However, the pandemic had resulted in a big fall in ridership. Trains were becoming busy again but were not anywhere near what TfL would like (70% in the middle of the week, with ridership at the weekend being higher due to leisure and tourism). More financial support was required from the Government.
- The last short-term funding deal was due to end on 24 June 2022. Capital investment was needed to keep projects on cycle access and road junctions going.
- A number of conditions had been placed on TfL in order to receive funding. The current scheduled rail strikes would also affect TfL. The Government needed to invest in London's transport system. A large number of jobs depended on this (eg trains for the Elizabeth Line were made in Derby).
- TfL had no choice but to implement the 4% cut to the bus service network (21 services would be withdrawn in total under current plans). Attempts were being made to cover the withdrawn bus services with other services, although changes to peoples' journeys might be required. TfL had no choice but to plan for a "managed decline" in services.
- It was important that bus services were protected in outer London as well as inner London, and to ensure that there were no distinctions to this.

A Q and A session took place.

Councillor Manders asked for more details regarding the situation with capital funding. He said that a number of cycle lanes in his borough of Kingston remained only half finished. Councillor Rose voiced concern that most of the withdrawals of bus routes during the day were in the borough of Southwark. Also, the removal of some bus routes was having a detrimental effect on key growth corridors. Councillor Kemahli asked whether there was any flexibility on this 4% reduction to bus services. Seb Dance said that TfL was fighting for capital funding in order to improve the network. He said that it was essential that boroughs received funding for key infrastructure projects. Seb Dance said that TfL had wanted to continue from where it had left off and support from the boroughs was very much needed when it came to requesting TfL funding from the Government.

Councillor Holder asked whether an Equalities Impact Assessment (EqIA) had been carried out when looking into the 4% cuts to bus services. She said that this needed to be shared with the boroughs (for example, the problems the mobility impaired might have in getting off and on of buses). Seb Dance said that a full EqIA had been carried out as part of the TfL consultation and this could be found on TfL's website. He said boroughs should let TfL know if there were any clear omissions. Seb Dance said that although it was not TfL's decision to cut bus services, TfL did have control over where the 4% cuts were implemented.

The Chair thanked Seb Dance for attending TEC and giving an update on the current situation with TfL funding.

## **11. Ultra Low Emission Zone (ULEZ) Expansion & Road User Charging Consultation, Discussion by Shirley Rodrigues, Deputy Mayor for Environment & Energy, and Alex William, Transport for London**

Shirley Rodrigues made some the following comments:

- Road User Charging was a long way from being introduced, but emissions had to be reduced in order to meet the target in 2030.
- Huge strides had been made by 2016 to reduce air pollution, but London was still not meeting the World Health Organisation (WHO) guidelines (poor health among the young and elderly due to air pollution were a big problem)
- Vehicles were not meeting emission standards and this was causing lung problems in high polluting areas, including around schools.

Alex Williams, Director of Borough Planning, TfL, made the following comments:

- The Mayor had two main priorities for London, (a) to clean-up London's air, and (b) introduce a Road User Charging scheme. (Alan Edwards would send a copy of the presentation to TEC Members).
- TfL had looked at a whole range of initiatives, including the London-wide ULEZ scheme and a Road User Charging scheme. TfL was well aware of the cost of living crisis people were going through and would help people to transition to any new initiatives.
- The impacts of air pollution resulted in approximately 4,000 premature deaths in 2019 through conditions like asthma. This was a big and serious problem.
- TfL was helping to reduce poor air quality by cleaning up the bus and taxi fleets and increasing the uptake of EVs and encouraging Healthy Streets (walking etc). TfL could not do all this on its own though.
- ULEZ was the most effective scheme in reducing NO<sub>x</sub> (a 9% reduction in 2019) and CO<sub>2</sub>.
- A ten-week consultation period was taking place, and TfL had met with outer London Chief Executives to discuss the proposed ULEZ extension. The removal of the £10 autopay arrangement and an increase to the PCN level were deemed to be the most effective deterrent.

A Q and A session took place.

Councillor Kemahli said that a great deal of pollution came from tyres, as well as exhausts. He asked what was being done in order to tackle other harmful particulates. Councillor Krupski felt that scrappage schemes should be more nuanced. Car club membership could also be offered to help with this. Shirley Rodrigues said that pollution from tyres was a problem, although the main problem was the source of fuel. She said that TfL was unable to help with tyre pollution. With regards to scrappage schemes, Shirley Rodrigues said that the GLA would be updating people in due course, although they were trying to help the most in need through any scrappage schemes.

Shirley Rodrigues informed Members that a Road User Charging scheme would be needed, although this was nowhere near ready to be implemented. She said that discussions were just taking place to look at what needed to be taken into account and to understand what the issues were. She said that Road User Charging was being put out with the ULEZ consultation as it was clear that it would be needed. Shirley Rodrigues said that she welcomed borough efforts to make the case to support Londoners for cleaner air. She said that she recognised the need for cars in order to visit family, for instance. With regards to the dangers of pm 2.5, Shirley Rodrigues said that a way needed to be found to get this message across better. She said that London was doing well when it came to reducing air quality but not so well when it came to pm 2.5 emissions, which were having a terrible impact on health. Alex Williams said that TfL was committed to factor in low-income Londoners into any scheme, including road user charging schemes.

The Chair thanked Shirley Rodrigues and Alex Williams for the presentation on the ULEZ expansion and a Road User Charging scheme.

## **12. Flooding Investment in London**

Members considered a report that presented a business case on behalf of the Thames Regional Flood and Coastal Committee (RFCC) for an increase in the locally raised levy (1.99%) to invest in flood risk management schemes across the Thames catchment.

Robert Van de Noort (Chair of the Thames RFCC) and Claire Bell (Environment Agency) made the following comments:

- The Thames RFCC was a partnership organisation that worked with local authorities, flood authorities and Thames Water.
- Thames RFCC received its funding through (a) the levy, and (b) Grants in Aid from the Government. In the current programme, every £1 that the Thames RFCC received was matched by 6% to 7% in Grants in Aid.
- The Thames RFCC was now asking for a steer from TEC for a 1.99% increase to the levy from the boroughs, which was considerably less than the cost of inflation.
- The Thames RFCC understood the major challenges that boroughs were experiencing with their finances. However, the RFCC wanted to deal with flood risk in the whole of the Thames area and wanted to help communities with critical infrastructure.
- The Thames RFCC was currently funding two major schemes, namely (i) tidal flooding (eg the Thames Barrier), which was predominantly funded by Grant in Aid, and (ii) surface water flooding (rainfall). The Thames Barrier would now continue to be functional for another 30 years, but work was starting on preparing for a new one.

The Committee: (i) noted the report; and (ii) noted that a steer was provided to the TEC members who sat on the Thames RFCC to recommend a levy increase of 1.99 per cent for 2023/24.

### **13. TEC Business Plan & Priorities for 2022/23**

The Committee considered a report that provided Members with a look back at what had been achieved in 2021/22 and look forward to the priorities for 2022/23, linking them to London Councils' shared ambitions as agreed by London Councils' Leaders.

Katharina Winbeck, Strategic Lead, Environment and Transport, made the following comments:

- There was a TEC Agreement that would be sent to TEC Members for their information, along with a copy of the TEC Business Plan presentation. This agreement sets out the powers of the Committee and they are generally quite constraint.
- As an example, when TEC wanted to take on the lead role of co-ordinating funding for and implementation of EV infrastructure, this required the TEC Agreement to be amended. This is usually a long process, as every London local authority had to agree the changes.
- TEC had two main functions: (a) Policy work, and (b) Services. The TEC Policy team was made up of seven members of staff, who worked closely with a number of relevant professional networks like the London Technical Advisers Group (LoTAG) and the London Environment Directors Network (LEDNet), but also the GLA, TfL and our own established officer groups which were always regionally and politically represented.

Stephen Boon, Transport and Mobility Director, introduced the Services role of TEC and made the following comments about the services that TEC provided:

- TEC Services employed 21 members of staff and 6 contractors.
- Key services included the Freedom Pass. This was a very important service for older and disabled Londoners
- Taxicard is a highly valued concessionary taxi service, for mobility and sight impaired Londoners. TfL provided the majority of funding for the Taxicard service.
- There were two tribunals which received a volume of parking and traffic and Road User Charging appeals. London Tribunals provided a statutory role. London Councils provided all the facilities to support the independent adjudicators (Environment and Traffic Adjudicators and Road User Charging Adjudicators – RUCA). RUCA was a separate tribunal (based at the same tribunal hearing centre in Fournival Street) and heard appeals against TfL congestion charging and low emission zone schemes.
- The London Lorry Control Scheme (LLCS) restricted the movement of heavy goods vehicles at night and the weekends, in order to limit the noise to residents. The LLCS generated £1million a year in income and TEC was looking at working more closely with TfL in order to enforce the scheme more effectively.

The Committee: (i) noted the report, (ii) agreed that Alan Edwards would send a copy of the latest TEC Agreement and the TEC Business Plan/Priorities presentation to Members for information, (iii) noted that

Members should contact Katharina Winbeck if they had any comments/suggestions regarding the TEC Business Plan and Priorities for the coming year, and **(iv)** noted that any further dialogue on the TEC priorities should take place via email after the meeting.

#### **14. Response to DEFRA's Environmental Targets Consultation**

Subject to a couple of minor variations/additions, the Committee noted the minutes of the TEC Main meeting held on 14 October 2021. The minutes of this meeting would be agreed via the TEC Urgency Procedure following the meeting.

The Committee received a report that provided an overview of London Councils' draft submission to the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs' consultation on new environmental targets. The full draft response could be found in Appendix 1 of the report. Katharina Winbeck introduced the report and said that comments and contributions were now required from TEC before the response to the consultation went to DEFRA. She explained that for London Councils to respond to consultations, the topic needed to be relevant to more than a couple of boroughs and there should be a London-specific angle.

The Committee: **(i)** noted the consultation response for submission to the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs. This would not be completely signed-off at this stage, and **(ii)** noted that the issue of biodiversity would be included and a final version signed off by TEC Chair and Vice Chairs.

#### **15. London E-Scooter Trial Update**

The Committee received a report that updated TEC on the London Councils and TfL's activities on the future mobility agenda, including the e-scooter rental trial, the provision of rental e-bikes in London and the Government's announcements regarding private e-scooters, rental e-scooters and rental e-bikes.

Agathe de Canson, Principal Policy and Projects Officer, London Councils, introduced the report which gave an update on the e-scooter trial and e-bike rental market, and also the legislation on e-scooters. She said that the trial was being coordinated with London Councils and TfL and was one of 32 authorised trials around the UK by the DfT. Agathe de Canson informed Members that it was still currently illegal to use private e-scooters on public land. She said that the trial was taking place until 20 November 2022 and 10 boroughs were currently participating.

Agathe de Canson said that the e-bike market was currently unregulated, although four operators were renting bikes out in London. She said that the network was "patchy" and not ideal for the boroughs – e-bikes were ending-up in different locations for which no agreement is in place and work with the boroughs was taking place to improve the dialogue on this. She said that the Government would create a new vehicle class for e-scooters in the Transport Bill with a view to legalise their use on public land in due course. Safety requirements and speeding limits would be set out.

Elizabeth Gaden (Transport for London) said that an EQIA had been created to look at the impact on people with disabilities, and a great deal of engagement had taken place on this. She informed Members that an audible warning system was being looked at with the operators and London Councils and TfL were working with "Pearl". This was new technology that had not been carried out by anyone else yet. Elizabeth Gaden said that more qualitative data would be required.

The Committee: **(i)** agreed that Elizabeth Gaden would contact the borough of Barking & Dagenham with regards to the borough becoming part of the e-scooter trial, **(ii)** noted that the e-scooter trial was scheduled to end on 20 November 2022, and **(iii)** noted the report.

#### **16. Items Considered under the TEC Urgency Procedure**

The Committee considered and noted a report that outlined the items that were sent to TEC Elected officers under the TEC Urgency Procedure for the meeting that took place on 24 March 2022. The Urgency Procedure was sent to TEC Elected Officers on 25 March 2022.

#### **17. Dates of the TEC & TEC Executive Sub Committee Meetings for 2022/23**

The Committee received and agreed a report that outlined the proposed dates for the TEC and TEC Executive Sub Committee meetings for 2022/23.



**18. Minutes of the TEC Main Meeting held on 24 March 2022**

The Committee agreed that the minutes of the TEC Main meeting held on 24 March 2022 were an accurate record.

**The meeting finished at 17:19pm**

## **Minutes of the Informal Meeting of the Audit Committee held on 16 June 2022 in Meeting Room 5, 59½ Southwark Street, London, SE1 0AL**

Councillor Stephen Alambritis MBE nominated Councillor Peray Ahmet (LB Haringey) to be the new Chair of the London Councils' Audit Committee. This was seconded by Councillor Robin Brown (LB Richmond). Councillor Peray Ahmet was elected to be the new Chair of the Audit Committee

### **Members Present:**

Cllr Peray Ahmet (LB Haringey)  
Cllr David Gardner (RB Greenwich)  
Cllr Stephen Alambritis MBE (LB Merton) (virtual)  
Cllr Robin Brown (LB Richmond)  
Cllr Jonathan Cook (LB Wandsworth)

### **In Attendance:**

Matt Lock, Head of Audit & Risk Management, City of London Corporation (virtual)  
Ciaran T McLaughlin, Engagement Lead, Grant Thornton UK LLP  
Ibukun Oluwasegun, Audit Manager, Grant Thornton UK LLP  
London Councils' officers were in attendance.

### **1. Apologies for Absence**

There were no apologies for absence.

### **2. Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

### **3. Minutes of the Audit Committee meeting held on 17 March 2022**

The minutes of the meeting held on 17 March 2022 were agreed to be an accurate record of the meeting.

### **4. Role of the Audit Committee**

The Audit Committee received a report that provided an overview of the role of London Councils Audit Committee. It included the Committee's Terms of Reference, the City of London Internal Audit Charter and the cycle of reports

David Sanni, Director of Corporate Resource, London Councils, introduced the report which gave an overview of the role of the Audit Committee, which is a sub-committee of London Councils' Leaders Committee and consists of five Members. The Audit Committee plays a key role in the good governance, strong financial management and effective audit arrangements at London Councils and its Terms of Reference could be found at Appendix A of the report. David Sanni said that the Terms of Reference sets out the Committee's role in governance arrangements, audit processes, review of fraud and corruption policies, approval of the accounts and external audit plan.

David Sanni said that Appendix B of the report provided details of the City of London Corporation's Internal Audit Charter, which sets out the role of internal audit. Matt Lock (Head of Audit and Risk Management) provides the internal audit service for London Councils through an SLA with the City of London Corporation. A five-year programme and audit plan that was presented at the last Audit Committee meeting in March 2022 could be found at the end of the report.

The Audit Committee noted the contents of the report on the role of London Councils' Audit Committee and the appendices.

## **5. Review of the Annual Governance Statement (AGS)**

The Audit Committee received a report that: (i) reviewed each element of the current Annual Governance Statement (AGS), (ii) highlighted any continuing and potentially new areas for development (and those from previous years that had been addressed), and (iii) made recommendations for revisions that would be contained in the AGS to be included in the audited accounts for 2021/22.

David Sanni introduced the report that presented the revised Annual Governance Statement (AGS) to be included in the 2021/22 accounts. London Councils was required to publish the AGS in accordance with the CIPFA/SOLACE Framework – Delivering Good Governance in Local Government". David Sanni said that the key changes were the reference to "shared ambitions", which had been agreed with Group Leaders, the change of date for constitutional documents and the outcome of internal audit reviews. David Sanni confirmed that there were no significant governance issues to report.

David Sanni informed Members that there were three appendices in the report, namely:

Appendix A - changes to the AGS were highlighted in red,  
Appendix B – 2021/22 Annual Internal Audit Report & Head of Internal Audit Opinion, and  
Appendix C – a "clean" version of the accounts for approval by the Audit Committee

Matt Lock said that he had nothing further to report and said that a satisfactory audit opinion had been given.

Councillor Brown asked if more background information could be given on the new Shared Ambitions and re-organisation of London Councils, that was mentioned in the AGS. David Sanni informed Members that the new Chief Executive of London Councils, Ali Griffin, had worked with colleagues to come up with a set of Shared Ambitions for London Councils that were agreed with the Group Leaders. These ambitions included political leadership, being a trusted partner and having a pan-London focus as set out in the AGS. There has been a re-organisation to London Councils' structures to help deliver the Shared Ambitions.

David Sanni said that one of the overarching aims of London Councils was to promote best practice across the boroughs and to improve the lives of Londoners. Councillor Brown asked whether this included reorganising the finance team at London Councils. David Sanni said that there were three directorates which had now been split into various "teams". Each member of the Corporate Management Team (CMT) has a team. The Corporate Resources team, along with the Corporate Governance team, was previously part of the Chief Executive's Directorate but was now a separate team. David Sanni said that the changes had no direct impact on the finance team but did have an impact on the Policy and Public Affairs Directorate which has been broken down into smaller teams.

Councillor Cook asked about the two additional areas for development in relation to the Parking and Traffic Services and cyber security that were included in the AGS following the review of the internal audit work. David Sanni informed Members that the outcome of the reviews included

“amber” or “red” rated recommendations and it was normal practice to include such reviews in the AGS.

The Audit Committee:

- Noted the opinion of the Head of Audit and Risk Management at the City of London on the overall control environment, as detailed in Appendix B; and
- Approved the recommended changes to the AGS for 2020/21, as detailed in Appendix A, to produce the AGS for 2021/22 for inclusion in London Councils’ accounts for 2021/22, as detailed in Appendix C.

## **6. Internal Audit Update**

The Audit Committee received a report that provided the Committee with an update in relation to the work of the Internal Audit since the last update report made to the March 2022 Audit Committee meeting. The report also provided an overall status update on progress against the 2022/23 Internal Audit Plan, work against which was underway with one assignment completed to draft report stage.

Matt Lock informed Members that work on declarations of interest and gifts and hospitality was now finalised and would be reported to the Audit Committee meeting on 15 September 2022. He said that the audit on “Financial Management” had been started and was planned for Quarter 1. The remainder of the plan would be picked-up as detailed in the schedule on page 47 of the report. Matt Lock said that there was nothing further to comment on at this stage.

Councillor Brown asked whether there were any matters arising from the review of gifts and hospitality and declarations of interest. Matt Lock said that the review found that there was not a consistent process to managing declarations of interests, as Members made their declarations to their home boroughs. Matt Lock said that London Councils had to consider whether it is appropriate and proportionate to request and retain Members’ declaration of interests given that they already make declarations to their home boroughs.

Councillor Brown asked about the cyber security review in light of the recent cyber hack that took place in the London Borough of Hackney. Matt Lock said that he was content with the commitment received from London Councils’ management to implement the recommendations and a follow-up exercise would be carried out in due course. He informed the Committee that there was no need for concern regarding cyber security at London Councils, although it needed to be taken seriously. David Sanni said that the review of cyber security had come up with seven recommendations, one of which had a “red” rating and had now been implemented. He confirmed that four other recommendations had been implemented before the end of the year. Out of the two outstanding recommendations, one had been partially completed and just needed London Councils’ Corporate Management Team (CMT) to sign it off. David Sanni said that cyber security was taken very seriously by London Councils.

Councillor Gardner said that boroughs had different thresholds when it came to declaring interests and accepting gifts. He said that what was applicable to London Councils may well be different to other boroughs. Matt Lock said that the internal audit did not look into what other boroughs did with regards to declarations, gifts and hospitality. He said that any declarations needed to be relevant to London Councils. Members made their declarations to their own local authorities and set limits for gifts and hospitalities that the local authority felt was appropriate.

The Audit Committee noted the internal audit update report.

## **7. London Councils' Pension Scheme**

The Committee considered a report that informed Members of the London Pension Fund Authority's (LPFA) response to concerns on its investment performance during the 2020/21 financial year.

David Sanni said that a letter had been written to Councillor Ruth Dombey, who was on the Board at the LPFA, regarding London Councils' IAS19 Net Pension Liability for the 2020/21 financial year. The London Councils' pension liability had increased from £24 million to £42 million in this year. David Sanni said that Members were concerned about the investment performance of the LPFA fund. A response had been received back from the LPFA, although no real detail was given regarding the fund's investment performance. London Councils' officers would continue to monitor this situation closely. David Sanni said that an IAS19 valuation report for March 2022 had been received and pension assets had increased by £9 million.

Councillor Cook said that there was a lack of detail in the letter that had been received from the LPFA. He felt that more detailed information should be provided on the fund's investment performance as the net pension liability figure was quite high. Councillor Gardner asked what measures were being taken to address this issue. He said that this had an impact on the overall value of the pension scheme and needed to be pursued further. Councillor Brown asked what Members views were on the letter received back from Robert Branagh the CEO at the LPFA. He said that the fund includes London Councils' pension assets and agreed that the letter did not provide sufficient information on the funds investment performance.

Councillor Alambritis said that he was on the LPFA from 2010 to 2018 and that there had been pressure to pool pension funds (eg with Lancashire County Council). He said that the LPFA was a long-term investor and the pooled pension fund was in its infancy. Councillor Alambritis felt that more investment was needed in housing and more probing needed to be carried out, especially when it came to how well the Local Pensions Partnership Investments (LPPI) was performing. Councillor Alambritis said that London Councils officers should pursue this matter further with the leadership of LPPI and the LPFA. David Sanni said that he would be happy to pursue this further on behalf of the Audit Committee. He informed Members that the letter was just the start of the conversation and did not provide any detailed information. David Sanni said that he would take on board the comments from Members and go back to the LPFA on this.

The Audit Committee:

- Noted the response from the LPFA that could be found at Appendix B of the report; and
- Agreed that London Councils officers should pursue the matter of the LPFA's investment performance with the leadership of the LPPI and LPFA.

## **8. Informing the Audit Risk Assessment**

The Audit Committee received a report that presented the responses provided by London Councils' officers to the external auditor's questionnaire on "Informing the Audit Risk Assessment for London Councils" in connection with its audit of the 2021/22 financial statements.

David Sanni introduced the report, which was a response to the external auditor's questionnaire on the audit risk assessment. The questionnaire sought to gain an understanding of London Councils' oversight arrangements on specific areas like fraud, laws and regulations and accounting estimates. Ciaran McLaughlin, Engagement Lead, Grant Thornton UK, explained that was a requirement of the auditing standards. Councillor Cook asked whether any issues had arisen

regarding fraud in the past 3 to 4 years. Ciaran McLaughlin confirmed that no material fraud issues had arisen in this period.

The Audit Committee considered and noted the responses to the external auditors Informing the Audit Risk assessment to London Councils” questionnaire.

**The meeting finished at 11:29am**

**Action Points**

	Action	Progress
<b>7. London Councils’ Pension Scheme</b>	<i>London Councils officers should pursue the matter of the LPFA's investment performance with the leadership of the LPPI and LPFA.</i>	Ongoing

# Leaders' Committee

## Report from the Grants AGM – 13 July Item no: 2022

**Report by:** Ana Gradiska      **Job title:** Principle Governance and Projects Officer  
**Date:** 13 December 2022  
**Contact Officer:** Ana Gradiska  
**Telephone:** 020 7934 9781      **Email:** Ana.gradiska@londoncouncils.gov.uk

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**Summary:** Summary of the minutes of the London Councils' Grants AGM held on 13 July 2022

**Recommendations:** For information.

### London Borough & Royal Borough:

Barnet  
Bexley  
Brent  
City of London Councils  
Croydon  
Ealing  
Greenwich  
Hackney  
Hammersmith and Fulham  
Haringey  
Harrow  
Hillingdon  
Hounslow  
Islington  
Kensington and Chelsea  
Kingston upon Thames  
Lambeth  
Lewisham  
Merton  
Newham  
Redbridge  
Richmond upon Thames  
Sutton  
Tower Hamlets  
Westminster

### Representative:

Cllr Sara Conway (attending virtually)  
Cllr David Leaf  
Cllr Mili Patel  
Paul Martinelli  
Cllr Ola Kolade  
Cllr Jasbir Anand  
Cllr Adel Khairah  
Cllr Christopher Kennedy  
Cllr Rebecca Harvey (attending virtually)  
Cllr Sarah Williams (attending virtually)  
Cllr Jean Lammiman (attending virtually)  
Cllr Martin Goddard (attending virtually)  
Cllr Shivraj Grewal  
Cllr Kaya Comer-Schwartz  
Cllr Sof McVeigh (attending virtually)  
Cllr Andreas Kirsch (attending virtually)  
Cllr Donatus Anyanwu  
Mayor Damien Egan  
Cllr Eleanor Stringer  
Cllr Charlene McLean (attending virtually)  
Cllr John Howard (attending virtually)  
Cllr Nancy Baldwin  
Cllr Marian James (attending virtually)  
Cllr Saied Ahmed (attending virtually)  
Cllr Nafsika Butler-Thalassis

Nazira Mehman (IKROW) and Tai Rosenzweig (Women and Girls Network) were present for item 12.

London Councils officers were in attendance.

*Members were informed of the hybrid meetings protocols for London Councils' Grants Committee and reminded that this meeting would be live-streamed for the press and public.*

## **1. Apologies for Absence and Announcement of Deputies**

- 1.1 Apologies were received from Cllr Saima Ashraf (LB Barking and Dagenham), Nadia Shah (LB Camden), Cllr Vicky Ashworth (LB Waltham Forest) and Cllr Simon Hog (LB Wandsworth).

## **2. Declarations of Interest**

- 2.1 Cllr Martin Goddard declared his non-pecuniary interest as a retired Grant Thornton partner.



### **3. Acknowledgement of outgoing and new members**

- 3.1 Yolande Burgess, Strategy Director, London Councils, welcomed the new and returning members of the Grants Committee. She also expressed her team's appreciation to outgoing members for all their hard work on the Grants Committee.
- 3.2 Members asked for their thanks to the former members of the Grants Committee to be recorded.

### **4. Election of Chair of the Grants Committee for the 2022-23 Municipal Year**

- 4.1 Mayor Damien Egan was nominated as the Chair of the Grants Committee by Cllr David Leaf (LB Bexley) and seconded by Cllr Nancy Baldwin (LB Richmond upon Thames)
- 4.2 There being no other nominees for the Chair, the Strategy Director declared Mayor Egan Chair of the Grants Committee and stepped down to allow the elected Chair to preside over the remainder of the meeting.

### **5. Election of Vice-Chairs for the Grants Committee for the 2022-23 Municipal Year**

- 5.1 The Chair called for nominations for the three Vice Chairs for 2022-23. He nominated the following members as Vice Chairs of the Grants Committee, seconded by Cllr Shivraj Grewal (LB Hounslow):
- Cllr Kaya Comer-Schwartz (LB Islington) as the Labour Vice Chair;
  - Cllr David Leaf (LB Bexley) as the Conservative Vice Chair;
  - Cllr Marian James (LB Sutton) as the Liberal Democrat Vice Chair.
- 5.2 There being no other nominees, the Chair declared Cllr Comer-Schwartz, Cllr Leaf and Cllr James as the Vice Chairs of the Grants Committee.

### **6. Election of the Grants Executive for the 2022-23 Municipal Year**

- 6.1 The following members were appointed:
- Mayor Damien Egan (LB Lewisham) – Chair (Lab)
  - Cllr Kaya Comer-Schwartz (LB Islington)
  - Cllr Eleanor Stringer (LB Merton)
  - Cllr Stephanie Cryan (LB Southwark)
  - Cllr Vicky Ashworth (LB Waltham Forest)
  - Cllr Jean Lammiman (LB Harrow)
  - Cllr David Leaf (LB Bexley)
  - Cllr Sof McVeigh (RB Kensington and Chelsea)
  - Cllr Marian James (LB Sutton)
  - Paul Martinelli (City of London)

### **7. Minutes of the Grants Committee held on 16 March 2022**

- 7.1 The minutes of the Grants Committee held on 16 March 2022 were agreed.

### **8. Minutes of the Grants Committee AGM held on 14 July 2021 – for noting**

- 8.1 The minutes of the Grants Committee AGM held on 14 July 2021, which had been previously agreed, were noted.

## **9. Constitutional Matters:**

9.1 The Strategy Director introduced this report which proposed an amendment to London Councils' Standing Orders. The report also provided, for information, the most recent version of London Councils Scheme of Delegations, which encompasses amendments to reflect the current officer structure of London Councils.

9.2 The Grants Committee:

- Noted the proposed amendments to London Councils Standing Orders
- Noted the proposed amendments to London Councils Scheme of Delegations to officers.

## **10. Operation of Grants Committee 2022-2023**

10.1 The Strategy Director introduced this report, which informed members of the Terms of Reference for the Grants Committee and Grants Executive and set out dates for meetings in the municipal year 2022-23.

10.2 The Grants Committee:

- Noted the Terms of Reference for the Grants Committee and Grants Executive;
- Noted the programme of meetings.

## **11. London Councils Grants Committee - Pre-Audited Financial Results 2021/22**

11.1 David Sanni, Director of Corporate Resources at London Councils presented this report, which detailed the provisional pre-audited final accounts for London Councils Grants Committee for 2021/22.

11.2 Grants Committee members:

- Noted the provisional pre-audited outturn position and the indicative surplus of £56,000 for 2021/22, the final year of the extended five-year programme of commissions;
- Noted the provisional level of reserves and the financial outlook.

## **12. Partner Presentation: Women and Girls Network (ASCENT Advice and Counselling Project) and IKWRO**

12.1 Tai Rosenzweig (Women and Girls Network) gave a presentation on the organisation's ASCENT project.

12.2 Nazira Mehman gave a summary of the work of IKWRO.

## **13. Performance of Grants Programme 2017-22: April 2017 to March 2022 (end of programme)**

13.1 Feria Henry, Grants Manager, London Councils, summarised the main points in the report, which provided members with an update on the two priorities of the Grants programme, for the period April 2017 to March 2022. She said that all 13 projects have ended their cycle with a Green RAG-rating.

## **14. Grants Programme 2022-26: Implementation Update**

14.1 The Strategy Director introduced the report which provided an update on the implementation of the new Grants programme.

14.2 Grants Committee members:

- Noted the activity to-date and continuing activity to implement the 2022-2026 pan-London Grants Programme;
- Noted the final awarded grant values to partners who are delivering the programme from April 2022.

**The meeting finished at 1pm.**

# Leaders' Committee

## Report from the TEC Executive Sub Committee – 14 July 2022

Item no:

**Report by:** Alan Edwards      **Job title:** Governance Manager  
**Date:** 13 December 2022  
**Contact Officer:** Alan Edwards  
**Telephone:** 020 7934 9911      **Email:** alan.e@londoncouncils.gov.uk

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**Summary:** Summary of the minutes of the London Councils' TEC Executive Sub Committee held on 14 July 2022

**Recommendations:** For information.

**Attendance:** Mayor Phil Glanville (LB Hackney – Chair), Councillor Nicholas Bennett (LB Bromley), Councillor Deidre Costigan (LB Ealing), Councillor Mike Hakata (LB Haringey), Councillor Cem Kemahli (RB Kensington & Chelsea), Councillor Rezina Choudhury (LB Lambeth), Councillor James Asser (LB Newham), Councillor Alex Ehmann (LB Richmond), and Shravan Joshi (City of London Corporation).

### 1. Apologies for Absence & Announcement & Deputies

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Krupa Sheth (LB Brent) and Councillor Peter Craske (LB Bexley).

### 2. Declarations of Interest

Additional Declarations of Interest other than those listed at agenda item 2 were as follows:

West London Waste Authority  
Councillor Deidre Costigan (LB Ealing))

North London Waste Authority  
Councillor Mike Hakata (LB Haringey)  
Councillor Deidre Costigan (LB Ealing)

Western Riverside Waste Management  
Councillor Rezina Choudhury (LB Lambeth)

Thames Regional Flood & Coastal Committee (RFCC)  
Councillor Mike Hakata (LB Haringey)

Member of SERA

Councillor Deidre Costigan (LB Ealing)  
Councillor Rezina Choudhury (LB Lambeth)  
Councillor James Asser (LB Newham)

London Road Safety Council  
Councillor Mike Hakata (LB Haringey)

### **3. TfL Board Update**

Julian Bell (TfL Board Member) introduced the item. He said that he was no longer a councillor and that this should be amended on the agenda (item 3) of the TEC Executive held on 14 July 2022. Julian Bell informed Members that his tenure on the TfL Board would be ending in September 2022 and he hoped that TEC Executive Members had found the presentations and updates on the TfL Board helpful and informative.

Julian Bell made some of the following comments:

- There had been a dip in fares revenue recently due to the impact of the recent rail strikes.
- Total journeys had increased to 76% compared to 40% at the start of the pandemic, and ridership on buses was up to its highest level of 79% and tubes to 68%.
- The Elizabeth Line had caused a big spike in journeys taken on 24 May 2022, with an additional 4.2 million journeys taken.
- Weekend demand was becoming consistently stronger than demand during the week. Ridership from Tuesdays to Thursdays was far higher than on Mondays and Fridays, where more people were choosing to work from home. This was having implications on TfL budgets and budget planning.
- The next funding deal was due on 28 July 2022 – no funds were given to TfL for the additional 2 weeks. £40k was allocated to each borough, but TfL was unable to provide any additional funding during this period. A long-term funding deal urgently needed to be secured. Any borough funding that remained unused previously could still be used.
- The Government has said that TfL had not shown sufficient progress to meet the conditions to ensure further funding, even though TfL had met the conditions that the Government had set out (the Appendix lists what TfL had done to meet those conditions).
- 33k consultation responses had been received regarding the ULEZ extension and 15k responses (so far) on the bus consultation and good engagement with boroughs was taking place (details on this became very granular in terms of specific roles and bus frequencies).
- 10 million journeys made on new Elizabeth Line

A Q and A session took place. Julian Bell informed Members that TfL had planned for five different ridership scenarios, including the new WFH and shift patterns. The loss of commuting pattern was looking like a permanent change. Julian Bell said that more bus services needed to be moved into outer London. He said that the key was to ensure that the services that were operated were safe.

The Chair said that the TfL fares revenue was volatile. He said that although the ridership on buses was improving, a managed decline from 4% to 18% would have a major impact on the recovery of buses. Julian Bell said that great efforts were being made to avoid that managed decline scenario. However, he informed Members that the pandemic “top-up” system received from the Government had been underperforming.

The Chair thanked Julian Bell for the presentations and updates that he had given to the TEC Executive, as the TEC representative on the TfL Board. It was noted that Julian Bell would be staying for item 6 (*“Response to the TfL Bus Consultation”*) which was taken next in the agenda.

#### **4. Presentation on London Councils’ Climate Programme**

Hannah Jameson, the new Programme Director of Climate Change, London Councils, gave a presentation on London Councils’ climate change programme and made some the following comments:

- There were seven climate change programmes being worked on. Work was continuing with external partners and action plans for each programme were on the London Councils’ website.
- Retrofit programme had recently won the MJ Award. Estimated £49 billion cost to deliver. Looking at making homes energy efficient in local areas. Boroughs were contributing to the retrofit programme. Looking at developing next stage of the programme and how to deal with the funding issue and developing skills.
- Looking at how Low Carbon Development and how to reduce the carbon impact. Had a policy framework and to attract sustainable development in London. This was being led by the London borough of Hackney.
- Low Carbon Transport – very clear targets and looking at what happens with the TfL efficiency programme. Looking at what the levers were in each borough (eg parking and road management), especially around EV charging points etc (lots of varieties across London). This was being led by the City of Westminster and the Royal Borough of Kingston.
- A Renewable Power programme was taking place and was focussing on energy procurement and advice and decentralised energy. This was being connected to the cost-of-living crisis with a view to reducing energy needs etc. Programme was also looking at the current approach to energy procurement and power purchasing agreements (PPAs). The programme was being led by the London Borough of Islington.
- Key achievements included the award-winning retrofit programme and the various events that had been held (One World Living, LOTI/LEDNET design sprint etc).

The Chair thanked Hannah Jameson for the update on London Councils’ Climate Change programme.

## **5. Surface Water Flooding Governance Arrangements**

The TEC Executive Sub Committee received a report that gave a short update on the activities of the Surface Water Flooding Transition Group since March 2022 and presented a paper on the proposed governance structure of the Surface Water Flooding Strategic Group.

Stephen Boon introduced the report and said that sign-off was needed for the governance proposals. He said that TEC had already signed-off the previous proposals in 2021, which was then the Transition group that was chaired by Mayor Glanville. Stephen Boon said that the aim was now to get the work started again (an officer group had met on 4 July 2022), and for the TEC Executive to approve the proposed governance structure as outlined in Appendix 1 of the report. The Chair confirmed that he was at the last Transition Group meeting and had already agreed these recommendations. He said that it was hoped that the recommendations were now ready to be signed-off.

The Chair said that constant buy-in was required from the Thames Regional Flood and Coastal Committee (RFCC) and Thames Water. He said that it was hoped that funding would be released and that good communications regarding these issues would continue. The Chair said that he was happy to agree the governance structure and thanked Katharina Winbeck and Simon Gilby for their work, and also Councillor Peter Zinkin for his valuable contribution to this flooding work.

The TEC Executive Sub Committee: **(i)** noted the report, and **(ii)** agreed the governance structure as outlined in the Appendix of the report.

## **6. Emissions Accounting Working Group**

The TEC Executive Sub Committee received a report that provided Members with a summary of the progress by the Emissions Accounting Working Group, following the set of recommendations from the Emissions Accounting Task and Finish Group that were agreed by members at the full London Councils TEC meeting on 14<sup>th</sup> October 2021.

Simon Gilby introduced the report and informed Members that the recommendations had been signed off in October 2021. He said that the first meeting of the working group had taken place and there were three strands of work to take forward. Each of the areas would be dealt with in a linear fashion, and waste would also be looked at. Simon Gilby said that a workshop had also taken place on 9 February, where comments from borough officers were taken into account. He said that it was envisaged that work on emissions accounting would be commissioned during the spring 2022, with the results available sometime in June/July 2022.

The TEC Executive Sub Committee noted the Emissions Accounting Working Group Progress report.

## **7. Transport & Mobility Performance Information**

The TEC Executive Sub Committee received a report that detailed the London Councils' Transport and Mobility Services performance information for Q3 2021/22 and full year 2020/21.

Andy Rollock, Mobility Services Manager, London Councils, introduced the report, which would be a brief update to Members on any areas of concern. He said that the continued poor performance of the Freedom Pass call answering was due to a control centre staffing resource issue (high than usual levels of staff sickness due to Covid, along with staff self-isolating). As mentioned in the previous performance information report, the contractor has been issued with an Improvement Notice which would remain in place until improvements were made.

The TEC Executive Sub Committee noted the Transport and Mobility Services Performance information report, and the explanation for the areas of poor performance.

## **8. TEC Pre-Audited Financial Accounts 2021/22**

The TEC Executive Sub Committee received a report that detailed the provisional pre-audited final accounts for Transport and Environment Committee for 2021/22

David Sanni, Director of Corporate Resources, London Councils, introduced the report. He said that there was a provisional surplus of over £1million, with key variances, including an underspend on independent bus operators, an overall surplus for the London Lorry Control Scheme (LLCS) and an underspend in Taxicard of approximately £2.4million (this is offset by borough and TfL contributions of the same amount and has no impact on the bottom line). The report includes a request to carry forward an underspend of £141,000 on the review of the Lorry Control Scheme and a transfer of £139,000 to the Freedom Pass Renewal Reserve in accordance with normal Committee practice. Grant Thornton, the external auditor, will carry out the audit in October and the outcome reported to the Audit Committee and circulated to TEC.

The TEC Executive Sub Committee: **(i)** noted the provisional pre-audited financial results for 2021/22, which show an indicative surplus of £1.028 million for the year; Agreed the transfer of £139,000 out of the provisional surplus to the specific reserve, in accordance with usual Committee practice, **(ii)** noted the carry forward of the underspend on the London Lorry Control Scheme review budget of £141,000 into 2022/23, **(iii)** noted the provisional level of reserves, as detailed in paragraph 38 and the financial outlook, as detailed in paragraphs 39-40 of this report, and **(iv)** agreed that Stephen Boon would look into how many people that took-up the Freedom Pass scheme were actually using it.

## **9. London Tribunals Update**

The TEC Executive Sub Committee received a report that asked Members to approve officers exploring a closer working relationship between the Environment and Traffic Adjudicators (ETA) and the Traffic Penalty Tribunal (TPT) and noted the important staffing changes at the ETA tribunal.

Stephen Boon, Director of Transport & Mobility, London Councils, introduced the report. He informed Members that Anthony Chan was now the new Interim Chief Adjudicator who replaced Caroline Hamilton. Stephen Boon thanked Caroline Hamilton for all her work at London Tribunals and the joint working with the ETAs.

The TEC Executive Sub Committee: **(i)** approved London Councils officers exploring joint working between the Environment and Traffic Adjudicators (ETA) and the Traffic Penalty Tribunal (TPT), **(ii)** recognised and thanked Caroline Hamilton for her service as Chief Adjudicator, and in particular, improving the efficiency and cost effectiveness of the ETA tribunal (a letter would be sent by TEC to Caroline Hamilton thanking her personally), and **(iii)** welcomed Anthony Chan in his new role of Interim Chief Adjudicator.



## **10. Transport Bill Planning**

The TEC Executive Sub Committee considered a report that updated Members on the Government's plan to introduce a Transport Bill in this parliamentary session, and London Councils' proposed activity on this piece of legislation.

Agathe de Canson introduced the report which updated Members on the Government's Transport Bill that came out of the Queen's Speech on 10 May 2022. She said that there was no date set for when the Bill would be introduced. The Transport Bill mainly centred on railways, but also included e-scooters, bike rental schemes and pedicabs, which did affect the boroughs. Agathe de Canson said that the Bill had been drafted but would not cover the decriminalisation of speeding offences. She said that TEC and the boroughs were well placed to have an influence on the Bill, particularly regarding issues in the Bill which affect London boroughs such as e-scooters, pedicabs and micro-mobility rental schemes.

The TEC Executive Sub Committee noted the report.

## **11. Minutes of the TEC Main Meeting held on 9 June 2022**

The TEC Executive Sub Committee noted the minutes of the TEC Main meeting held on 9 June 2022.

## **12. Minutes of the TEC Executive Sub Committee held on 10 February 2022**

The minutes of the TEC Executive Sub Committee held on 10 February 2022 were agreed to be an accurate record of the meeting. It was noted that an additional Labour Member on the TEC Executive Sub Committee was still required.

**The meeting finished at 16:27pm**

# Leaders' Committee

## Report from the Greater London Employment Forum Meeting (Virtual)

Item no:

**Report by:** Steve Davies      **Job title:** Head of London Regional Employers Organisation  
**Date:** 19 July 2022  
**Contact Officer:** Steve Davies  
**Telephone:** 020 7934 9963      **Email:** [steve.davies@londoncouncils.gov.uk](mailto:steve.davies@londoncouncils.gov.uk)

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**Summary:** Summary of the minutes of the virtual Greater London Employment Forum meeting held on 19 July 2022

**Recommendations:** For information.

**Attendance: Employers' Side** - Cllr Sade Bright (Barking & Dagenham), Cllr Barry Rawlings (Barnet), Cllr Pauline Tunnicliffe (Bromley), Cllr Richard Olszewsk (Camden), Cllr Jeet Bains (Croydon), Cllr Bassam Mahfouz (Ealing), Cllr Ivis Williams (Greenwich), Cllr Carole Williams (Hackney), Cllr Zarar Qayyum (Hammersmith & Fulham), Cllr Sarah Williams (Haringey), Cllr David Ashton (Harrow), Cllr Shantanu Rajawat (Hounslow), Cllr Alison Holt (Kingston), Cllr David Amos (Lambeth), Cllr Amanda de Ryk (Lewisham), Cllr Sally Kenny (Merton), Cllr Zulfikar Ali (Newham), Cllr Kuldev Sehra (Richmond), Cllr Stephanie Cryan (Southwark), Cllr Richard Clifton (Sutton), Cllr Paul Douglas (Waltham Forest), Cllr Kemi Akinola (Wandsworth), Cllr Adam Hug (Westminster) and Florence Keelson-Anfu (City of London).  
**Trade Union Side** - Helen Reynolds (UNISON), Gloria Hanson (UNISON), Gabby Lawlor (UNISON), Christine Lander (UNISON), Simon Steptoe (UNISON), Sean Fox (UNISON), Andrea Holden (UNISON), Sonya Howard (UNISON), Jackie Lewis (UNISON), Adejare Oyewole (UNISON), Kerie Ann (UNISON), Janet Walker (UNISON), Vaughan West (GMB), Christine Golding (GMB), Kehinde Akintude (GMB), George Sharkey (GMB), Sonya Davies (GMB), Donna Spicer (GMB) and Danny Hoggan (Unite).

**1. Apologies for Absence:** Apologies were received from Cllr Muhammed Butt (Brent), Cllr Nesil Caliskan (Enfield), Cllr Ray Morgan (Havering), Cllr Douglas Mills (Hillingdon), Diarmaid Ward (Islington), Cllr Josh Rendall (Kensington & Chelsea), Cllr Helen Coomb (Redbridge), Cllr Abu Chowdhury (Tower Hamlets), Deputy Alastair Moss (City of London), Donna Spicer (GMB), Ella Watson (Political Advisor to the Labour Group, London Councils),

**2 Election of Chair and Vice-Chair:** The constitution provides that the positions of Chair and Vice-Chair should alternate between the two sides on an annual basis. This year it is the turn of the Trade Union Side to Chair.

Cllr Richard Clifton, Vice-Chair (Sutton) informed that on behalf of Cllr Mohammed Butt (Brent) Chair of the Employers Side Vice-Chair who is not in attendance today that he nominates Sean Fox (UNISON) Chair of the Greater London Employment Forum for 2022-23, seconded by Sonya Howard (UNISON).

The Chair nominated Cllr Mohammed Butt (Brent) as Vice-Chair of the Greater London Employment Forum for 2022-23, seconded by Danny Hoggan (Unite).

3. **Confirmation of the Greater London Employment (GLEF) Membership 2022-23:** The membership of GLEF was noted and agreed as follows.

<b>Borough</b>	<b>Rep</b>	<b>Party</b>	<b>Deputy</b>
Barking & Dagenham	Sade Bright	Lab	Irma Freeborn
Barnet	Barry Rawlings	Lab	Ross Houston
Bexley	Andy Dourmouh	Con	Stephen Hall
Brent	Muhammed Butt	Lab	Mili Patel
Bromley	Pauline Tunnicliffe	Con	Stephen Wells
Camden	Richard Olszewski	Lab	
Croydon	Jeet Bains	Con	
Ealing	Steven Donnelly	Lab	
Enfield	Nesil Caliskan	Lab	Ayten Guzel
Greenwich	Mariam Lolavar	Lab	
Hackney	Carole Williams	Lab	Philip Glanville
Hammersmith & Fulham	Zarar Qayyum	Lab	
Haringey	Sarah Williams	Lab	Julie Davies
Harrow	David Ashton	Lab	Steven Greek
Havering	Ray Morgon	Con	
Hillingdon	Douglas Mills	Con	Eddie Lavery
Hounslow	Shantanu Rajawat	Lab	
Islington	Diarmaid Ward	Lab	Santiago Bell-Bradford
Kensington & Chelsea	Josh Rendall	Con	Catherine Faulks
Kingston upon Thames	Alison Holt	LD	Andreas Kirsh
Lambeth	David Amos	Lab	Nanda Manley Browne
Lewisham	Amanda de Ryk	Lab	Kim Powell
Merton	Sally Kenny	Lab	Billy Christie
Newham	Zulfiqar Ali	Lab	
Redbridge	Helen Coomb	Lab	Vaniska Solanki
Richmond upon Thames	Kuldev Sehra	LD	Phil Giesler
Southwark	Stephanie Cryan	Lab	
Sutton	Richard Clifton	LD	
Tower Hamlets	Abu Chowdhury	Ind	Amin Rahman
Waltham Forest	Paul Douglas	Lab	Vicky Ashworth
Wandsworth	Kemi Akinola	Lab	
Westminster	Adam Hug	Lab	Aicha Less
City of London	Alistair Moss	Ind	

**UNISON**

Helen Reynolds  
Sean Fox  
Mary Lancaster  
Simon Steptoe  
Clara Mason  
Gabby Lawler  
Gloria Hanson  
Andrea Holden  
Maggie Griffin  
Jackie Lewis  
Simon Hannah  
Sonya Howard  
Glenn Marshall  
Valerie Bossman Quarshie  
April Ashley  
Janet Walker  
Kerie Anne  
Christine Lander  
Adejare Oyewole

Julie Woods (in attendance)

### **UNITE**

Gary Cummins  
Danny Hoggan  
Susan Matthews  
Kath Smith  
Jane Gosnell  
Pam McGuffie  
Mick Callanan  
Clare Keogh

### **GMB**

Penny Robinson  
Keith Williams  
George Sharkey  
Gary Harris  
Kehinde Akintude  
Donna Spicer  
Sonya Davis  
Christine Golding

If members are aware of any changes that need to be made to the GLEF list of Representatives and Deputies, please contact [Debbie Williams](#).

4. **Notes of the Last Meeting including any Matters Arising:** The notes of the meeting held on 22 February 2022 were agreed as an accurate record.

### **Matters Arising**

#### **Apprenticeship Report – Item 4**

Gabby Lawlor (UNISON) stated that the union side believed and have raised before that a breakdown of apprenticeships and what they look like explicitly would be provided in the next annual report so we can look at how we can make any developments.

Steve Davies, Employers Side Secretary responded that this was the case and would take back and remind colleagues at London Councils who collect annual information on apprenticeships.

#### **Occupational Health & Safety – Item 3**

Jackie Lewis (UNISON) stated that she understood, and it is mentioned in the minutes, that a further meeting was to be arranged between the Health and Safety Network and the unions to have further discussions. This has not happened and asked that a meeting be arranged.

Steve Davies, Employers Side Secretary responded that he does believe that there has been a breakdown with communications with the Health & Safety group but will pick up and sort out a meeting.

5. **London Pensions Collective Investment Vehicle (CIV) Update - Cameron McMullen, Client Relations Director:** Cameron McMullen provided an update on the London Pensions Collective Investment Vehicle (CIV) and informed colleagues that his presentation would be shared following this meeting (also attached).



GLEF presentation  
19 July 2022.pptx

Simon Steptoe (UNISON) stated that he understood the wish to go down the engagement route, which has not been successful and asked if the 2040 target will be regularly reviewed?

Cameron responded yes, absolutely the common thought in CIV is that is the best route and with the 2040 target now set we need to work out how we achieve this.

Sonya Howard (UNISON) stated that having sustainable investments up to 2040, which is eighteen years, seems quite a long time so are there any reasons why this is so long?

Cameron responded that we are battling with ourselves, central government set a net zero target in 2050, so we are being a bit ambitious with 2040. If we are looking at more ambitious targets it gives a greater restriction on investments on the market which has a bearing on the fiduciary pension fund for the members themselves, so as much as we would like a more ambitious target, we have to align the companies we are taking forward.

Cllr Adam Hug (Westminster) stressed that a lot of boroughs have 2030 targets will need to ensure this is fully compliant by then. It is changing constantly but we need to be clear that we need to hit the 2030 targets we have.

Cameron responded that he realises there are conversations between councillors and pension funds at local level, but London CIV are not involved in local discussions.

Cllr Zufikar Ali (Newham) stated that he wondered there was an action plan to see how many will be moving from red/amber to green and whether there were any sanctions and pressure we can use to move them to green? Also is there a defined timeline/outcome?

Cameron responded that there is a defined timeline and outcome. When colleagues receive the presentation, you will see the roadmap with the ambitions to the 2040 net zero target. The easy part is setting the target the hardest is working out how we get to the target. In terms of pressuring there are two other parties we consult with, one of which we have procured with. The other part of the staring is the guidance we have received from the LAPFF, it is the connection through this where we think we can get better outcomes.

Cllr Richard Olszewsk (Camden) asked if Cameron was able to illustrate how London CIV compare with other co-funds regionally?

Cameron responded that they are currently pulling together the reports on how we are performing but have difficulty with the eight pools around the country as we all do things slightly differently. We are currently pulling together the information and data which will be made available in due course. Previous reports are on our website - <https://londonciv.org.uk/>

Danny Hoggan (Unite) stated that when London CIV first started, we had a presentation from Lord Kerslake and we were given assurances that they would increase representation for the unions on the CIV Board. Unions have an invested interest as it is also our money. We do have a greater say but would suggest one person from each trade union sits on the CIV Board.

Cameron responded that the information provided is that the number of trade union representatives on the shareholder committee is proportionate so this may be something that Kristina Ingate, Director for Governance & Company Secretary, London CIV can provide more information on post this meeting.

Vaughan West (GMB) stated that having managed to get representation for the trade union side it was still very late in the day in comparison to private sector funds. The public sector fund was well behind the legislation, but London CIV had to be brought to the table and forced by the unions kicking and screaming to give us representation. We were finally allowed one representative on the Board, but our view still remains that we have one representative per union. It is incumbent that we continue to raise the injustice when we have the opportunity to do so. Would be interested to know the makeup of regional CIV's compared to London.

Cameron responded that he completely understands where the unions are coming from and will take this back to London CIV and get Kristina to come back with a response. In terms of other CIVs this information should be available at local pool level but will find out and come back on this issue.

Jackie Lewis (UNISON) stated that concern had been raised in the chat facility about people not being able to see the presentation clearly so wanted to take the opportunity to highlight for future presentations that they need to be accessible to anyone using screen reader software. Would ask that the Joint Secretaries have a discussion on trying to make sure that documents going forward are accessible as we should allow for the fact that people may need to use screen reading software.

The Chair agreed we can take this away and discuss at Joint Secretaries.

Steve Davies, Employers Side Secretary stated that quite rightly we need to be mindful of accessibility arrangements and appreciates that a majority of our reports are straight forward text but that presentations are mainly graphics.

**6. Local Government and NHS Employment Service Passport Update - Steve Davies, Regional Employers Side Secretary:** Steve Davies, Employers Side Secretary stated that reports had previously been provided to this forum along with the premise behind it and that it was a concept discussed with NHS Employers groups, NHS unions, London borough Heads of HR as well as the Joint Secretaries.

We originally talked about this pre-Covid, and everyone was on board with the principles within the report but for good reasons the take up has stalled during Covid so I am now looking to reenergise so I suggest that we look to try and integrate this as part of our London Agreement so it would it therefore be incorporated for all London boroughs.

I have just started to re-engage with the National Health Employers who have been tied up with CCS arrangements, so want to pick up with them on how they will pick up on this again. It has not died of death; we want to make the Passport a positive for London.

The Chair stated that he agreed that incorporating this into the London Agreement was a good idea.

Cllr Carole Williams (Hackney) informed colleagues that she had enquired at the Employers Side meeting whether there was anyway of us influencing on what the NHS does around equalities? They have a much higher ethnicity gap than local authorities in their lower graded positions so if there was anyway of influencing them as part of the process that would be great.

Steve Davies, Employers Side Secretary stated that the Employers Side had agreed it would be good to engage with NHS employers in terms of how we can share best practice in addressing equalities and diversity issues. In the NHS they seem to have a bigger pay gap from an ethnicity perspective compared to London boroughs. Have discussed previously with HR colleagues how we can share best practice with the NHS so this is something I will be pick up with respective bodies going forward.

The Chair asked whether the reason for having the Passport as part of the London Agreement was due to boroughs not being engaged or said that they were not going to sign-up to it?

Steve Davies, Employers Side Secretary responded that no boroughs had indicated that they were not going to sign-up to it but only a few boroughs have signed-up so far so definitely stalled. No strong dissenting voices which is why I suggest we make it part of the London Agreement.

The Chair stated that boroughs who have not signed-up so far might be thinking that redundancies might impact them, which they will not, so we need to make it clear going forward that the financial side will not impact them.

**7. Local Government Pay Claim 2022 - Steve Davies, Regional Employers Side Secretary:** Steve Davies, Employers Side Secretary stated that the report provided was straightforward and highlighted the key elements from the unions claim and outlined a summary of the main groupings as well as highlighting the chief officer claim, which is for a substantial increase. The Chief Executives claim is similar, but they want to peg their claim more directly to the Local Government Services (LGS) pay claim.

Have also added the contextual information that the trade union side helpfully put into their claim, the key bullet points the unions wanted to make along with the practical issues for the National Employers in terms of the National Living Wage (NLW).

The National Employers are due to meet on Monday 25 July to discuss the specifics of the unions claim.

Sonya Howard (UNISON) raised and stated that she did not expect a response that one of the concerns raised at the unions side meeting was about retention and with the fact that supermarkets are now paying £11.50 per hour so I think we need to bear in mind that we will haemorrhage staff who can work down the road in our local supermarkets. Also, when you speak to an employer about meeting the pay claim they respond yes but we may need to lose staff, which is not going to be helpful and that we appreciate the cost-of-living crisis we are all facing.

Donna Spicer (GMB) stated that people in the public sector have seen their pay decrease over the years and the retention is not just in schools but across local government and Sonya is correct in saying that supermarkets are paying more per hour than schools are paying our support staff so unless we increase this year's offer there will be a lot of people willing to walk out of schools. These people are in what are classed as decent jobs but are now visiting food banks and this is not ok. The next generation of children will suffer as teachers are struggling to cope specially in terms of what they are earning.

Simon Steptoe (UNISON) stated that in the past we have asked the employers to make common course to pay the right amount for staff, which they have not always done, so please do this. We need resources to pay staff to actually deliver the services we need.

Steve Davies, Employers Side Secretary responded that colleagues had made brilliant points, I know that from meetings with different employer groups that they are really mindful of all the points raised and making representations to government in terms of pressures on local government and the need for good settlements to help support a good pay settlement. Also because of the cost-of-living pressures it is incumbent on all of us all to make sure the offer and agreement is sorted out in good time this year, obviously depends on the nature of the employer's response but the sooner the better an agreement is made the better it will be for our staff.

Donna Spicer (GMB) stated that we all want the claim to go through quickly, but you are right it depends on the pay offer so if we want it to go quickly it needs to be a decent offer.

Cllr Adam Hug (Westminster) stated that it was a clear response from discussions in the Employers Side meeting earlier that there needs to be as much pressure possible put on the government to try and get money for the local government pot.

Mary Lancaster (UNISON) stated that she hoped we were all saying the same thing, it is important we address this. There are going to be announcements today about teachers likely getting offered 5% and support staff might get lower than this, which will be an added insult to everything. Members have to start to understand that our members are not going to just roll over. We hear what Steve has said about the need to move quickly but the employers have not yet come back to the unions with an offer.

Harry Honnor (LGA) responded that National Employers received the unions claim on 8 June, which was two months beyond the pay implementation date. The Employers then held regional consultations that concluded on 27 June. The National Employers are meeting on 25 July, and we hope that a formal response to the unions claim will emerge from this meeting. We are expecting pay review body announcements this afternoon which will inform National Employers discussions on Monday.

In terms of funding, it is not in the remit of the National Employers to lobby the government, it is for the LGA to do this so suggest that members feed their views through their political groups of the LGA. In terms of timescale, we got the claim late, but we have moved very quickly to consult and hopefully the Employers will agree a formal response next Monday then we are in unions hands to what they decide to do with the offer but none of us want a delay to the process.

Danny Hoggan (Unite) stated that 1.75% offer is the reason why it has taken so long. We have taken industrial action in Northern Ireland where we have not got the Tory laws on the threshold there and we

will be trying our best to put up a bit of a fight. Also are we replicating claims in our outsourced services? No. the number of our members say they want more than a certificate after risking lives on the frontline during Covid-19 when managers were sitting safely at home.

Sonya Howard (UNISON) stated that she thinks the points have been made but it is important that we speak to our members, we just do not decide on what an offer should be. We have heard that people have had enough firstly with Covid and now with cost-of-living crisis, so it is for the Employers to come back with a decent offer, so appealing to them to come up with something decent and striking is always the last resort.

The Chair stated that he agrees with what colleague have said agreed with what colleagues have said and informed that the NJC Staff Side are meeting on Wednesday 27 July. Clearly, we will consult our members as we see appropriate depending on what the offer is. Hopefully the Employers will receive a quick and short response on Wednesday.

**8. Menopause Policies Update - Steve Davies, Regional Employers Side Secretary:** Steve Davies, Employers Side Secretary stated that this item was a request for an update from the union side on what boroughs are doing. We received a good and positive response from boroughs, not one borough is not proactively doing something in supporting people going through the menopause in terms of guidance, support groups, menopause advocates, intranet comms, some boroughs have specific policies and others have support in place, which is really positive.

Donna Spicer (GMB) stated that it was good to hear that finally this issue is being addressed and listened to as every person going through the menopause will need support within the workplace, still sad to see the small list of usual symptoms mentioned as we need to be aware that there are almost 66 symptoms. Disappointed some councils only offering guidance as this can be misinterpreted by managers. If there is good practice out there it would be good to share and as well as UNISON, GMB has a really good menopause toolkit 'Smash the Stigma' which includes an all-staff survey which boroughs can use as well as a good model policy which was produced by an Ambulance Trust on the South Coast. Link – <https://www.gmb.org.uk/menopause>

Cllr Alison Holt (Kingston) informed that Kingston is becoming a Bloody Good Accredited Employer and the borough is embracing, would encourage other London boroughs to go down this route. We are also committed to be a Menopause Friendly Employer, but the whole ethos behind the accreditation is not just the menopause it is about periods all throughout adult life.

Cllr Ali Zulfikar (Newham) stated that from his perspective we have a number of initiatives in place, and we are also looking at e-learning, chat groups and drop-in sessions as the key issue is making people to come forward and talk to their line manager.

Sonya Howard (UNISON) stated that obviously through there is a plethora and wealth of information out there, but it is about what information we use, we set up a policy two years ago in Kensington & Chelsea as well as running cafes, drop-ins and supplying fans and ran joint events with HR so there is a lot of work we can do to raise awareness. A lot of organisations have model policies so no excuse for not having a policy but would encourage councils to talk to their trade unions. Would be good to know what councils have implemented a policy. It is also about the quality and understanding, policies keep moving they are not dead objects, things change so they need to be revisited, they are organic, but we still need to remind managers, so training is also quite key.

Carole Williams (Hackney) stated that was important to have this update, feels like a long time ago we discussed this and also gave thanks to all who have used inclusive language today as we need to lead on this. More than happy to share what we Hackney is doing, we held extensive consultations with our equalities groups across the council and we bought a menopause motion which adds to the council. Huge amount of work going on since then and working through the commitment of the motion which I am happy to share with this with colleagues.

The Chair stated that we can all share good practice.



Jackie Lewis (UNISON) flagged up that some people going through the menopause are of a young age and that there is a tendency to think this only happens to older people. Some used the word 'end of the stigma' which is a key aspect to this, the menopause needs to be normalised as a workplace issue and staff need to understand that it is normal for people to have some difficulties. Would also ask for an update at the point to which boroughs have actually adopted a formal policy because it is one of those issues where an employer will say we do it but do nothing at all. Staff need to know where they can get help. So would be good to know if boroughs have adopted a formal policy at a future update. If something is working well elsewhere then we can pinch ideas. We are not in competition with each other, but good employer practice helps with recruitment and retention.

Cllr Stephanie Cryan (Southwark) informed that they have adopted a formal policy in agreement with the unions. We do have to break the stigma and not sweep under the carpet, and it is important that we understand that everyone's experience of the menopause is different and can hit when you least expect it, so we need to adapt policies to be flexible. If any council has not adopted one, why have you not so please adopted one.

Steve Davies, Employers Side Secretary stated that colleagues had made some good points. Donna Spicer is right about the other union's charters on this, and we need to share in terms of sharing best practice with our London borough networks. Fully take on board the point made about sharing policies and understanding what policies boroughs have in place, but one thing I would say is that a policy is not as active as it should be so was encouraged that some boroughs did not have a policy but were actively promoting engagement with people with setting support groups, training, meetings which is far more important to me in sharing best practice. We can ask which boroughs have a formal policy, but I thought it was good to see what positive action boroughs were taking to support their staff no matter what their age.

Janet Walker (UNISON) stated that Waltham Forest adopted a guidance some time back but that it is still an issue where females work in a dense work environment run by men where there is a still a struggle, so it does need to be policy for managers. With the symptoms of the menopause and young people it plays alongside the Disability Act which is why it needs to be a policy and embedded especially for male workers.

#### **9. London Councils Constitutional Matters – To receive a cover report and attachments for noting.**

- 1: Amendments to London Councils Standing Orders
- 2: Protocol for London Councils Virtual Meetings
- 3: Scheme of Delegations

Steve Davies, Employers Side Secretary informed that these do not really affect the Greater London Employment Forum or the Greater London Provincial Council, so just for noting.

#### **10. Any Other Business**

##### Extreme Heat Policy - Andrea Holden (UNISON)

Andrea stated that Haringey have had a policy in place since the mid-80s around trigger temperatures and that it with the increasing extreme heat we are experiencing every year and the government seemingly not interested in doing anything I think it is about time we need to stop sitting on our hands and do something about it in terms of agreeing a legal heat working minimum.

Sonya Howard (UNISON) reinforced what Andrea has said and informed that they are looking at pan-policy as the extreme heat will be happening more and more in the future. Councils are being supportive, but it is something we need to look at in a more serious way, over 35 degrees can be extremely dangerous for people with underlying health issues. So going forward we need a more agreed approach to working in extreme heat.

Danny Hoggan (Unite) stated that most councils had done really well supporting staff but that there does need to be a common policy in place. We all need educating on this and perhaps between us can produce a piece of work.

Steve Davies, Employers Side Secretary thanked colleagues for their comments/suggestions, good points well-made and suggested that this is something to flag up for next year and promote as good practice for employers in terms of the maximum heat issue and support. Information this week from councils is that there have been different Gold meetings over the last few days, so leadership has been meeting on how they support staff and their communities.

**The meeting concluded at 1.02pm**

**Date of Next Meeting: Thursday 23 February 2022**

Group meetings: 10am    Joint Meeting: 11.30am

## **Minutes of the Informal Virtual Meeting of the Audit Committee held on 15 September 2022.**

Minutes of the informal, virtual meeting of London Councils' Audit Committee held on 15 September 2022.

### **Members Present:**

Cllr Peray Ahmet (LB Haringey)  
Cllr David Gardner (RB Greenwich)  
Cllr Stephen Alambritis MBE (LB Merton)  
Cllr Robin Brown (LB Richmond)  
Cllr Jonathan Cook (LB Wandsworth)

### **In Attendance:**

Matt Lock, Head of Audit & Risk Management, City of London Corporation  
Ciaran T McLaughlin, Engagement Lead, Grant Thornton UK LLP  
Ibukun Oluwasegun, Audit Manager, Grant Thornton UK LLP  
London Councils' officers were in attendance.

Introductions were made. The Chair said that the meeting was originally going to take place "in-person" but was rescheduled to take place virtually owing to a planned rail strike. The rail strike had since been called-off but it was agreed that it was too late to change the Audit Committee back to an in-person meeting.

A thirty second silence/pause took place in order to reflect on and pay respects to Queen Elizabeth II who had sadly passed away.

### **1. Apologies for Absence**

There were no apologies for absence.

### **2. Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

### **3. Minutes of the Audit Committee meeting held on 16 June 2022**

It was noted that the Audit Committee held on 16 June 2022 was referred to as an "informal" committee meeting and this needed to be changed. It was also noted that the Chair was listed as being from the London Borough of Havering on the "Present" section at the front of the minutes and this needed to be changed to the London Borough of Haringey.

Subject to the above amendments, the minutes of the meeting held on 16 June 2022 were noted to be an accurate record of the meeting and would be formally agreed via the London Councils' Urgency Procedure following the meeting.

### **4. Financial Accounts 2021/22**

The Audit Committee received a report that presented the pre-audited London Councils Consolidated Statement of Accounts for 2021/22, London Councils Transport and Environment Committee (TEC) Statement of Accounts for 2021/22 and London Councils Grants Committee Statement of Accounts for 2021/22.

David Sanni, Director of Corporate Resources, London Councils, introduced the report of the Statement of Accounts, that would normally be scheduled for member approval before the end of September 2022 in accordance with London Councils financial regulations. Grant Thornton had indicated in its audit plan that the 2021/22 final audit would commence in October. It is hoped that future audits of the accounts will be completed in sufficient time for the Committee to consider and approve them before the September deadline. The accounts would be shared with the London Councils' Audit Committee and included in the reports going to the March 2023 meeting of the Audit Committee.

David Sanni said that the accounts show a combined surplus of £1.4 million across the three funding streams after including net transfer from reserves. Table 3 (page 8) of the report show how the results are disclosed in the accounts with the transfer from reserves excluded and the actuarial gain on pension assets/liabilities included to comply with the local authority accounting standards. Table 5 (page 9) showed the net reduction of usable reserves as at 31 March 2022, resulting in a closing figure of £12.431 million. The Chair said that the work on the accounts had been put back and asked whether it would be completed by November 2022. David Sanni said that the audit was due to start in October 2022, with a view to complete it in November 2022. Ciaran McLaughlin, Engagement Lead, Grant Thornton, said that the audit was scheduled to start in October 2022, although due to a wider sector issue with national infrastructure assets, there had been a build-up/backlog of work which may affect the timescale for completing London Councils' audit. He said that there is a risk that the audit may not be signed-off until early December 2022 but they would aim to complete the work as quickly as possible.

Councillor Gardner said that he would feel more comfortable if a full Audit Committee meeting convened, rather than by correspondence, in order for Members to examine the Financial Accounts in more detail. Councillor Gardner also voiced concern that the deficit reduction that had taken place over the last few years had eaten into the reserves. He felt that this was not sustainable and asked whether this was a long-term deliberate plan or was just a result of the pandemic. The Chair said that she would be happy for a full Audit Committee meeting to convene in December 2022. David Sanni said that an additional Audit Committee meeting could take place in December 2022, once the accounts had been completed. Alan Edwards, Governance Manager, London Councils, would canvass for a suitable date in December.

David Sanni said that London Councils utilised the reserves in order to balance the budget. However, as part of this year's budget setting process, London Councils was looking to reduce the reliance of reserves, by reviewing its operating model and resetting budgets that have clear patterns of recurring underspends/surpluses which will help create a more sustainable position going forward. Councillor Cook asked, as a new Member to the committee, how long the trend of relying on the reserves had been going on. David Sanni said that a reliance on reserves had taken place over the last decade. He said that there were specific reserves that were used to fund the Freedom Pass renewal exercise that took place every 5-years and important environmental initiatives, such as the work on Climate Change.

David Sanni said reserves were also used to keep some charges to boroughs at their current levels to avoid passing on cost increases. They had also been used to set up the Digital Enablement Fund and support IT system developments. Therefore, there is always likely to be some reserves used in setting the budget but there are firm plans to reduce reliance on the use of reserves in the future. David Sanni said that the reserves could not be continually relied upon because a minimum level of reserves had to be maintained for cashflow purposes and as a contingency against unexpected circumstances. Councillor Gardner asked what the minimal level of reserves were. David Sanni said that the minimum level of reserves for the Grants Committee was £250,000 but a higher amount was held by the committee. TEC was in a similar position where the value of reserves held exceeded the agreed minimum levels. He said that there was no set level of reserves for the core Joint Committee. Councillor Brown felt that London Councils should not hold a high level of excess reserves.

Councillor Brown asked for an explanation as to why the service costs for pensions had increased so much. David Sanni informed Members that the significant increase had been identified by officers. It was due to an increase in the rate of inflation and the discount rate used to calculate the pension liability. David Sanni said that the increase will be raised with the LPFA. Councillor Alambritis said that he fully supported London Councils policy on reserves which was consistent with the boroughs and gave the organisation a degree of flexibility.

The Audit Committee:

- Noted that Alan Edwards would canvass for a date in December 2022 on which to hold an additional “in-person” Audit Committee meeting; and
- Noted that the audited Statement of Accounts for 2021/22 would be considered at Audit Committee meeting in December 2022.

## **5. Internal Audit Update**

The Audit Committee received a report that provided an overall status update on progress against the 2022/23 Internal Audit Plan and a summary of the findings from the completed review of Declarations of Interests, Gifts and Hospitality (Amber Assurance Opinion). The report was an update in relation to the work of Internal Audit since the last update report provided at the June 2022 meeting.

Matt Lock, Head of Audit & Risk Management, City of London Corporation, introduced the report. There has been progress against the plan with work on the Financial Management audit soon to be completed. Matt Lock said that one of the key messages to be taken from the declarations of interest work was to consider whether London Councils’ procedures were proportionate in comparison to other local authorities and boroughs. He said that there was a low level of responses to requests for annual declaration of interests. The process should be reviewed and changed if it is found to be disproportionate. There were recommendations made to enhance existing processes in order to improve compliance. Matt Lock informed Members that most councillors made their declarations to their own boroughs. He said that it was important to recognise that London Councils was a separate organisation.

Councillor Brown asked if the declarations only apply to Members that sit on a statutory committee or whether they relate to Members that sit on any London Councils’ committee. Matt Lock said that it applies to Members that sit on decision-making committees.

The Audit Committee noted the latest progress on the Internal audit.

## **6. External Auditor Appointment**

The Audit Committee received a report that provided an update on the appointment of an external auditor for London Councils.

David Sanni informed Members that a tender had gone out in the summer with a view to attracting a wider number of firms to apply. However, the tender had failed to attract any bids and a new tender process was already underway. David Sanni said that this would be completed by the end of October 2022. He said that the outcome would be reported to Members by correspondence and the new auditors would hopefully be confirmed at London Councils’ Leaders Committee in December. The Chair suggested that this item could be added to the agenda of the additional Audit Committee meeting being planned in December 2022. Reuben Segal, Head of Governance, London Councils, confirmed that the Leaders’ Committee would be taking place on 13 December 2022. Councillor Brown agreed and said that the Audit Committee could meet to approve the new auditors at the Audit Committee meeting being scheduled in December.

Councillor Brown said that the current market was a difficult one. He asked whether one of the requirements of the tender to have experience of auditing local government accounts, had been

relaxed in order to attract more applicants. David Sanni said that the procurement process includes an assessment of the bidders ability to adapt its approach to audit accounts prepared in accordance with the Local Authority Accounting Code of Practice. He said that while London Councils followed the local authority accounting framework, the nature of its activities differed from that of local authority. Councillor Gardner agreed and said that it was a difficult market at the moment. He asked how many firms London Councils had approached and whether a suggested audit fee had been provided. David Sanni confirmed that it had been an open tender exercise. He said the tender advert had received a decent number of “hits” but this had not translated into any bids. David Sanni informed Members that a decision was taken to run an open tender exercise in order to attract a wider number of accountancy firms. He said that a copy of the accounts were included in the tender documents and these contained the previous year’s audit fees.

The Audit Committee:

- Noted the contents of the report; and
- Noted that the outcome of the subsequent procurement exercise will be reported to the Committee for consideration at the proposed December meeting.

## **7. London Councils’ Pension Scheme**

The Committee considered a report that provided an update on discussions with the London Pension Fund Authority (LPFA) on its investment performance since the last Committee meeting on 16 June 2022.

David Sanni said that LPFA officers acknowledge Members concerns and are happy to meet to discuss the matter. They had proposed a private meeting as they were unable to attend this meeting or the next one in March. The LPFA had provided results of a benchmarking exercise which showed that the fund outperformed its LGPS peers during 2021/22 with a return of 13.5%. However, they had not provided a comparison to other sectors. David Sanni said that he would make enquiries to see if LPFA could join the proposed Audit Committee meeting in December 2022. The Chair said that she would be happy to meet the LPFA and to bring all these issues together at the meeting planned for December.

Councillor Brown asked whether it would be possible to have the papers for the new Audit Committee meeting well in advance, as it would be beneficial for Members to have the opportunity to go through these reports. He said that that it would be helpful to see a set of documents that provides details of the LPFA’s investment strategy, governance structures and information on the performance of the different pension funds. David Sanni thanked Councillor Brown for his comments which would be brought to the attention of LPFA officers. He said that he would ensure that papers were sent to Audit Committee Members within good time.

David Sanni said that the funds for different pension schemes were pooled and managed as one single “pot” of assets. Councillor Brown asked how the LPFA balanced the needs of different pension schemes if there was one big pool of assets. He said that it was important understand how the LPFA meets the different needs of its various employers, in terms of investment strategies. For example, does an employer with a fully funded scheme have the option to select a balanced investment strategy while one with a funding deficit, can opt for a high growth strategy. David Sanni felt that all employers’ scheme assets are managed under the same investment strategy with individual employers funding levels managed through employer contributions following the triennial valuations.

David Sanni said that these issues could be raised at the meeting with the LPFA. The Chair agreed that these documents should be shared with Members within good time.

The Audit Committee:

- Noted the LPFA would be invited to the new Audit Committee meeting planned for December 2022 in order to answer Members' questions on pension fund investments and performance; and
- Noted that the papers and relevant documents for the December Audit Committee meeting would be sent to Members within good time.

#### **8. Dates of the Audit Committee Meetings for 2023/24**

The Audit Committee received a report that notified members of the proposed Audit Committee meeting dates for 2023/24.

The Chair said that the report would now need to be updated to include the additional Audit Committee meeting scheduled for December 2022.

The Audit Committee noted the Audit Committee meeting dates for 2023/24 and noted that an additional meeting would be added to the report for December 2023.

**The meeting finished at 11:14am**

# Leaders' Committee

## Report from the Transport & Environment Committee – 14 October 2022

Item no:

**Report by:** Alan Edwards      **Job title:** Governance Manager  
**Date:** 13 December 2022  
**Contact Officer:** Alan Edwards  
**Telephone:** 020 7934 9911      **Email:** Alan.e@londoncouncils.gov.uk

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**Summary:** Summary of the minutes of the London Councils' Transport & Environment Committee held on 14 October 2022

**Recommendations:** For information.

**Attendance:** Cllr Syed Ghani (LB Barking & Dagenham), Cllr Geof Cooke (LB Barnet), Cllr Peter Craske (LB Bexley - Virtual), Cllr Krupa Sheth (LB Brent), Cllr Nicholas Bennett (LB Bromley), Cllr Adam Harrison (LB Camden), Cllr Scott Roche (LB Croydon – Virtual), Cllr Deidre Costigan (LB Ealing), Cllr Rick Jewell (LB Enfield), Cllr Averil Lekau (RB Greenwich), Mayor Philip Glanville (LB Hackney, Chair), Cllr Mike Hakata (LB Haringey), Cllr Anjana Patel (LB Harrow), Cllr Katherine Dunne (LB Hounslow), Cllr Rowena Champion (LB Islington), Cllr Cem Kemahli (RB Kensington & Chelsea), Cllr Ian Manders (RB Kingston), Cllr Rezina Choudhury (LB Lambeth), Cllr Louise Krupski (LB Lewisham), Cllr Natasha Irons (LB Merton), Cllr James Asser (LB Newham), Cllr Jo Blackman (LB Redbridge), Cllr Alex Ehmann (LB Richmond - Virtual), Cllr Catherine Rose (LB Southwark), Cllr Barry Lewis (LB Sutton), Cllr Clyde Loakes (LB Waltham Forest), Cllr Judi Gasser (LB Wandsworth), Cllr Paul Dimoldenberg (City of Westminster), Shravan Joshi (City of London Corporation), and Alex Williams (Transport for London).

### 1. Apologies for Absence:

Cllr Sharon Holder (LB Hammersmith & Fulham), Cllr Barry Mugglestone (LB Havering), Cllr Jonathan Bianco (LB Hillingdon), and Cllr Abdul Wahid (LB Tower Hamlets). No deputies were announced.

### 2. Declarations of Interest (in addition to those supplied on the sheet)

#### Freedom Pas, 60+ Oyster Card & Blue Badge

Cllr Geof Cooke (LB Barnet)  
Cllr Anjana Patel (LB Harrow)  
Cllr Ian Manders (LB Kingston)  
Cllr Barry Lewis (LB Sutton)

#### Wes London Waste Authority

Cllr Deidre Costigan (LB Ealing)

#### Western Riverside Waste Authority

Cllr Judi Gasser (LB Wandsworth)

#### London Cycling Campaign

Cllr Katherine Dunne (LB Hounslow)



Cllr Ian Manders (RB Kingston)  
Cllr Barry Lewis (LB Sutton)

London Road Safety Council

Cllr Nicholas Bennett (LB Bromley)  
Cllr Katherine Dunne (LB Hounslow)

London Sustainable Development Commission

Cllr Jo Blackman (LB Redbridge)

**3. TfL Funding Update – Presentation from Alex Williams & David Rowe (TfL)**

**4. Election of Vice Chairs of TEC for 2022/23**

The Committee appointed the following TEC vice chairs:

Councillor Deidre Costigan (Labour Vice Chair – LB Ealing)

Councillor Cem Kemahli (Conservative Vice Chair – RB Kensington & Chelsea), and

Councillor Alex Ehmann (Liberal Democrat Vice Chair – LB Richmond)

**5. Revised Membership of London Councils' TEC for 2022/23**

The Committee considered and noted a revised report that set out the latest details of the Committee's Membership for 2022/23. It was agreed that the TEC membership would be reported at the AGM.

The Chair said that Councillor Averil Lekau had been listed as the TEC Member for RB Greenwich and LB Tower Hamlets. It was agreed that Councillor Lekau would be removed from LB Tower Hamlets as this was an error. It was also agreed to add Cllr Guy Lambert as a deputy for LB Hounslow and to delete Councillor Jon Burke as a deputy for LB Hackney, and to replace him with Councillors Guy Nicholson and Mete Coban as deputies. Post meeting note: Shravan Joshi was nominated to be the new City of London representative on TEC.

**6. Appointment of the TEC Executive Sub Committee for 2022/23**

The Committee elected the following members to the TEC Executive Sub Committee for 2022/23:

Labour Representatives:

Mayor Phil Glanville (Chair – LB Hackney)

Cllr Deidre Costigan (LB Ealing)

Cllr Krupa Sheth (LB Brent)

Cllr Mike Hakata (LB Haringey)

Cllr James Asser (LB Newham)

Cllr Rezina Chowdhury (LB Lambeth)

Cllr Judi Gasser (LB Wandsworth)

Post meeting note: One Labour vacancy now exists as Councillor Gasser, LB Wandsworth, could not be on the TEC Executive Sub Committee.

Conservative Representatives:

Cllr Cem Kemahli (RB Kensington & Chelsea)

Cllr Peter Craske (LB Bexley)

Cllr Nicholas Bennett (LB Bromley)

Liberal Democrat Representative:

Cllr Alex Ehmann (LB Richmond)

City of London Corporation Representative:

Shravan Joshi

**7. Nominations to Outside Bodies 2022/23**

The following nominations were made to the TEC Outside Bodies for 2022/23:

(a) Heathrow Airport Consultative Committee

Cllr Shantanu Rajawat (LB Hounslow)

(b) Thames RFCC

West – Conservative Vacancy TBC

South West – Cllr Julia Neden-Watts (LB Richmond, LD)

South East – Cllr Averil Lekau (RB Greenwich)

North East – Cllr Syed Ghani (LB Barking & Dagenham)

Central North – Cllr Sharon Holder (LB Hammersmith & Fulham)

Central South – Cllr Catherine Rose (LB Southwark)

North – Cllr Mike Hakata (LB Haringey)

(c) London Sustainable Development Commission

Cllr Jo Blackman (RB Redbridge)

(d) Urban Design London (UDL)

Cllr Nigel Haselden (LB Lambeth)

Cllr Johnny Thalassites (RB Kensington & Chelsea)

(e) London City Airport Consultative Committee

The LB Redbridge TEC representative to be asked to be a member of LCACC for 2022/23 (and not LB Havering, as stated in the report).

(f) ReLondon (formerly LWARB)

A Conservative replacement is needed for Cllr Guy Senior (LB Wandsworth), who is no longer a serving councillor)

(g) London Fuel Poverty Partnership

Cllr Natasha Irons (LB Merton)

(ii) TEC Funding Sub-Group (Membership)

Cllr Deidre Costigan (LB Ealing, Lab)

Cllr Catherine Rose (LB Southwark, Lab)

Cllr Rick Jewell (LB Enfield, Lab)

Cllr Clyde Loakes (LB Waltham Forest, Lab)

Cllr Cem Kemahli (RB Kensington & Chelsea, Con)

Cllr Alex Ehmann (LB Richmond, Lib Dem)

x One Conservative Vacancy – To be confirmed.

*(Post meeting note: Cllr Nicholas Bennett, LB Bromley, was nominated to fill the Conservative vacancy on the Transport Funding Sub-Group).*

**8. TEC AGM Minutes of 10 June 2021 (already agreed – for noting)**

The Committee noted the TEC AGM minutes from 10 June 2021.

**9. TEC Constitutional Matters**

The Committee received a report that proposed an amendment to London Councils' Standing Orders. The report also provided, for information, the most recent version of London Councils' Scheme of Delegations, which encompassed amendments to reflect the current officer structure of London Councils.

The Committee: **(i)** noted the proposed amendment to London Councils' Standing Orders, as detailed in this report and at Appendix One; and **(ii)** noted the proposed amendments to London Councils'

Scheme of Delegations to officers at Appendix Two, including the relevant amendments to sections 7, 8, 12 and Part A of Appendix A.

## Part B: Items of Business

### **10. Talk by Seb Dance, Deputy Mayor for Transport**

Seb Dance made some of the following comments:

- TfL depended on fares revenue to make up most of their funding. Other countries like Singapore received most of their funding for public transport through taxation.
- TfL was heading for a surplus before the pandemic. However, the pandemic had resulted in a big fall in ridership. Trains were becoming busy again but were not anywhere near what TfL would like (70% in the middle of the week, with ridership at the weekend being higher due to leisure and tourism). More financial support was required from the Government.
- The last short-term funding deal was due to end on 24 June 2022. Capital investment was needed to keep projects on cycle access and road junctions going.
- A number of conditions had been placed on TfL in order to receive funding. The current scheduled rail strikes would also affect TfL. The Government needed to invest in London's transport system. A large number of jobs depended on this (eg trains for the Elizabeth Line were made in Derby).
- TfL had no choice but to implement the 4% cut to the bus service network (21 services would be withdrawn in total under current plans). Attempts were being made to cover the withdrawn bus services with other services, although changes to peoples' journeys might be required. TfL had no choice but to plan for a "managed decline" in services.
- It was important that bus services were protected in outer London as well as inner London, and to ensure that there were no distinctions to this.

A Q and A session took place.

Councillor Manders asked for more details regarding the situation with capital funding. He said that a number of cycle lanes in his borough of Kingston remained only half finished. Councillor Rose voiced concern that most of the withdrawals of bus routes during the day were in the borough of Southwark. Also, the removal of some bus routes was having a detrimental effect on key growth corridors. Councillor Kemahli asked whether there was any flexibility on this 4% reduction to bus services. Seb Dance said that TfL was fighting for capital funding in order to improve the network. He said that it was essential that boroughs received funding for key infrastructure projects. Seb Dance said that TfL had wanted to continue from where it had left off and support from the boroughs was very much needed when it came to requesting TfL funding from the Government.

Councillor Holder asked whether an Equalities Impact Assessment (EqIA) had been carried out when looking into the 4% cuts to bus services. She said that this needed to be shared with the boroughs (for example, the problems the mobility impaired might have in getting off and on of buses). Seb Dance said that a full EqIA had been carried out as part of the TfL consultation and this could be found on TfL's website. He said boroughs should let TfL know if there were any clear omissions. Seb Dance said that although it was not TfL's decision to cut bus services, TfL did have control over where the 4% cuts were implemented.

The Chair thanked Seb Dance for attending TEC and giving an update on the current situation with TfL funding.

### **11. Ultra Low Emission Zone (ULEZ) Expansion & Road User Charging Consultation, Discussion by Shirley Rodrigues, Deputy Mayor for Environment & Energy, and Alex William, Transport for London**

Shirley Rodrigues made some the following comments:

- Road User Charging was a long way from being introduced, but emissions had to be reduced in order to meet the target in 2030.
- Huge strides had been made by 2016 to reduce air pollution, but London was still not meeting the World Health Organisation (WHO) guidelines (poor health among the young and elderly due

- to air pollution were a big problem)
- Vehicles were not meeting emission standards and this was causing lung problems in high polluting areas, including around schools.

Alex Williams, Director of Borough Planning, TfL, made the following comments:

- The Mayor had two main priorities for London, (a) to clean-up London's air, and (b) introduce a Road User Charging scheme. (Alan Edwards would send a copy of the presentation to TEC Members).
- TfL had looked at a whole range of initiatives, including the London-wide ULEZ scheme and a Road User Charging scheme. TfL was well aware of the cost of living crisis people were going through and would help people to transition to any new initiatives.
- The impacts of air pollution resulted in approximately 4,000 premature deaths in 2019 through conditions like asthma. This was a big and serious problem.
- TfL was helping to reduce poor air quality by cleaning up the bus and taxi fleets and increasing the uptake of EVs and encouraging Healthy Streets (walking etc). TfL could not do all this on its own though.
- ULEZ was the most effective scheme in reducing NO<sub>x</sub> (a 9% reduction in 2019) and CO<sub>2</sub>.
- A ten-week consultation period was taking place, and TfL had met with outer London Chief Executives to discuss the proposed ULEZ extension. The removal of the £10 autopay arrangement and an increase to the PCN level were deemed to be the most effective deterrent.

A Q and A session took place.

Councillor Kemahli said that a great deal of pollution came from tyres, as well as exhausts. He asked what was being done in order to tackle other harmful particulates. Councillor Krupski felt that scrappage schemes should be more nuanced. Car club membership could also be offered to help with this. Shirley Rodrigues said that pollution from tyres was a problem, although the main problem was the source of fuel. She said that TfL was unable to help with tyre pollution. With regards to scrappage schemes, Shirley Rodrigues said that the GLA would be updating people in due course, although they were trying to help the most in need through any scrappage schemes.

Shirley Rodrigues informed Members that a Road User Charging scheme would be needed, although this was nowhere near ready to be implemented. She said that discussions were just taking place to look at what needed to be taken into account and to understand what the issues were. She said that Road User Charging was being put out with the ULEZ consultation as it was clear that it would be needed. Shirley Rodrigues said that she welcomed borough efforts to make the case to support Londoners for cleaner air. She said that she recognised the need for cars in order to visit family, for instance. With regards to the dangers of pm 2.5, Shirley Rodrigues said that a way needed to be found to get this message across better. She said that London was doing well when it came to reducing air quality but not so well when it came to pm 2.5 emissions, which were having a terrible impact on health. Alex Williams said that TfL was committed to factor in low-income Londoners into any scheme, including road user charging schemes.

The Chair thanked Shirley Rodrigues and Alex Williams for the presentation on the ULEZ expansion and a Road User Charging scheme.

## **12. Flooding Investment in London**

Members considered a report that presented a business case on behalf of the Thames Regional Flood and Coastal Committee (RFCC) for an increase in the locally raised levy (1.99%) to invest in flood risk management schemes across the Thames catchment.

Robert Van de Noort (Chair of the Thames RFCC) and Claire Bell (Environment Agency) made the following comments:

- The Thames RFCC was a partnership organisation that worked with local authorities, flood authorities and Thames Water.
- Thames RFCC received its funding through (a) the levy, and (b) Grants in Aid from the Government. In the current programme, every £1 that the Thames RFCC received was matched by 6% to 7% in Grants in Aid.
- The Thames RFCC was now asking for a steer from TEC for a 1.99% increase to the levy from

the boroughs, which was considerably less than the cost of inflation.

- The Thames RFCC understood the major challenges that boroughs were experiencing with their finances. However, the RFCC wanted to deal with flood risk in the whole of the Thames area and wanted to help communities with critical infrastructure.
- The Thames RFCC was currently funding two major schemes, namely (i) tidal flooding (eg the Thames Barrier), which was predominantly funded by Grant in Aid, and (ii) surface water flooding (rainfall). The Thames Barrier would now continue to be functional for another 30 years, but work was starting on preparing for a new one.

The Committee: **(i)** noted the report; and **(ii)** noted that a steer was provided to the TEC members who sat on the Thames RFCC to recommend a levy increase of 1.99 per cent for 2023/24.

### **13. TEC Business Plan & Priorities for 2022/23**

The Committee considered a report that provided Members with a look back at what had been achieved in 2021/22 and look forward to the priorities for 2022/23, linking them to London Councils' shared ambitions as agreed by London Councils' Leaders.

Katharina Winbeck, Strategic Lead, Environment and Transport, made the following comments:

- There was a TEC Agreement that would be sent to TEC Members for their information, along with a copy of the TEC Business Plan presentation. This agreement sets out the powers of the Committee and they are generally quite constraint.
- As an example, when TEC wanted to take on the lead role of co-ordinating funding for and implementation of EV infrastructure, this required the TEC Agreement to be amended. This is usually a long process, as every London local authority had to agree the changes.
- TEC had two main functions: (a) Policy work, and (b) Services. The TEC Policy team was made up of seven members of staff, who worked closely with a number of relevant professional networks like the London Technical Advisers Group (LoTAG) and the London Environment Directors Network (LEDNet), but also the GLA, TfL and our own established officer groups which were always regionally and politically represented.

Stephen Boon, Transport and Mobility Director, introduced the Services role of TEC and made the following comments about the services that TEC provided:

- TEC Services employed 21 members of staff and 6 contractors.
- Key services included the Freedom Pass. This was a very important service for older and disabled Londoners
- Taxicard is a highly valued concessionary taxi service, for mobility and sight impaired Londoners. TfL provided the majority of funding for the Taxicard service.
- There were two tribunals which received a volume of parking and traffic and Road User Charging appeals. London Tribunals provided a statutory role. London Councils provided all the facilities to support the independent adjudicators (Environment and Traffic Adjudicators and Road User Charging Adjudicators – RUCA). RUCA was a separate tribunal (based at the same tribunal hearing centre in Fournival Street) and heard appeals against TfL congestion charging and low emission zone schemes.
- The London Lorry Control Scheme (LLCS) restricted the movement of heavy goods vehicles at night and the weekends, in order to limit the noise to residents. The LLCS generated £1million a year in income and TEC was looking at working more closely with TfL in order to enforce the scheme more effectively.

The Committee: **(i)** noted the report, **(ii)** agreed that Alan Edwards would send a copy of the latest TEC Agreement and the TEC Business Plan/Priorities presentation to Members for information, **(iii)** noted that Members should contact Katharina Winbeck if they had any comments/suggestions regarding the TEC Business Plan and Priorities for the coming year, and **(iv)** noted that any further dialogue on the TEC priorities should take place via email after the meeting.

### **14. Response to DEFRA's Environmental Targets Consultation**

Subject to a couple of minor variations/additions, the Committee noted the minutes of the TEC Main meeting held on 14 October 2021. The minutes of this meeting would be agreed via the TEC Urgency Procedure following the meeting.

The Committee received a report that provided an overview of London Councils' draft submission to the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs' consultation on new environmental targets. The full draft response could be found in Appendix 1 of the report. Katharina Winbeck introduced the report and said that comments and contributions were now required from TEC before the response to the consultation went to DEFRA. She explained that for London Councils to respond to consultations, the topic needed to be relevant to more than a couple of boroughs and there should be a London-specific angle.

The Committee: **(i)** noted the consultation response for submission to the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs. This would not be completely signed-off at this stage, and **(ii)** noted that the issue of biodiversity would be included and a final version signed off by TEC Chair and Vice Chairs.

#### **15. London E-Scooter Trial Update**

The Committee received a report that updated TEC on the London Councils and TfL's activities on the future mobility agenda, including the e-scooter rental trial, the provision of rental e-bikes in London and the Government's announcements regarding private e-scooters, rental e-scooters and rental e-bikes.

Agathe de Canson, Principal Policy and Projects Officer, London Councils, introduced the report which gave an update on the e-scooter trial and e-bike rental market, and also the legislation on e-scooters. She said that the trial was being coordinated with London Councils and TfL and was one of 32 authorised trials around the UK by the DfT. Agathe de Canson informed Members that it was still currently illegal to use private e-scooters on public land. She said that the trial was taking place until 20 November 2022 and 10 boroughs were currently participating.

Agathe de Canson said that the e-bike market was currently unregulated, although four operators were renting bikes out in London. She said that the network was "patchy" and not ideal for the boroughs – e-bikes were ending-up in different locations for which no agreement is in place and work with the boroughs was taking place to improve the dialogue on this. She said that the Government would create a new vehicle class for e-scooters in the Transport Bill with a view to legalise their use on public land in due course. Safety requirements and speeding limits would be set out.

Elizabeth Gaden (Transport for London) said that an EQIA had been created to look at the impact on people with disabilities, and a great deal of engagement had taken place on this. She informed Members that an audible warning system was being looked at with the operators and London Councils and TfL were working with "Pearl". This was new technology that had not been carried out by anyone else yet. Elizabeth Gaden said that more qualitative data would be required.

The Committee: **(i)** agreed that Elizabeth Gaden would contact the borough of Barking & Dagenham with regards to the borough becoming part of the e-scooter trial, **(ii)** noted that the e-scooter trial was scheduled to end on 20 November 2022, and **(iii)** noted the report.

#### **16. Items Considered under the TEC Urgency Procedure**

The Committee considered and noted a report that outlined the items that were sent to TEC Elected officers under the TEC Urgency Procedure for the meeting that took place on 24 March 2022. The Urgency Procedure was sent to TEC Elected Officers on 25 March 2022.

#### **17. Dates of the TEC & TEC Executive Sub Committee Meetings for 2022/23**

The Committee received and agreed a report that outlined the proposed dates for the TEC and TEC Executive Sub Committee meetings for 2022/23.

#### **18. Minutes of the TEC Main Meeting held on 24 March 2022**

The Committee agreed that the minutes of the TEC Main meeting held on 24 March 2022 were an accurate record.

**The meeting finished at 17:19pm**



# Minutes

## Young People's Education and Skills Board meeting

**Date** 20 October 2022 **Venue** Online (Microsoft Teams)

**Meeting Chair** Yolande Burgess, Strategy Director – Communities, London Councils (to item 5)

Mayor Rokshana Fiaz, Mayor of Newham and London Councils  
Executive Member for Skills and Employment (from item 6)

**Contact Officer:** Peter O'Brien

**Telephone:** 020 7934 9742 **Email:** [peter.obrien@londoncouncils.gov](mailto:peter.obrien@londoncouncils.gov)

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### Attendance:

#### *Members:*

Mayor Rokshana Fiaz	CHAIR, Mayor of Newham and London Councils Executive Member for Skills and Employment (Labour)
Councillor Alison Holt	Deputy Leader, Royal Borough of Kingston upon Thames (Liberal Democrat)
Ben Anderson	Community Manager, Landsec, London Economic Action Partnership (LEAP) – Board Member
Anthony Haines	Senior Manager, Department for Education (DfE)
Caroline Dawes	Head of Children, Education and Young People, London Councils
Graeme Atherton, Professor	Head, Centre for Levelling Up and Director of National Education Opportunities Network, University of West London
John Prior	Principal, Orchard Hill College, representing NATSPEC
Leethen Bartholomew	Head of Children and Young Londoners Team Greater



	London Authority (GLA), representing the Deputy Mayor of London
Mandeep Gill	Principal and Chief Executive, Newham Sixth Form College (Representing Sixth Form Colleges)
Mary Vine Morris MBE	Director, London Region, Association of Colleges (AoC)
Michael Heanue	Principal Policy Officer, Greater London Authority (GLA), London Economic Action Partnership (LEAP) – Officer
Rebecca Durber	Regional Engagement Manager, Association of Employment and Learning Providers (AELP)
Sam Parrett CBE, Dr	Group Principal and CEO, London and South East College Group, representing the Association of Colleges (AoC) – General Further Education
Liz Maifredi	Group Partnership Manager – London and Essex, Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) (representing Sarah Hernandez)
Tanya Douglas	Deputy Headteacher, Chace Community School, representing the Association of School and College Leaders (ASCL)
Yolande Burgess	Strategy Director: Communities, London Councils
<i>Officersh:</i>	
Peter O'Brien	16 to 18 Manager Children, Education and Young People, London Councils
<i>Guests and Observers:</i>	
Daniel Houghton	Political Adviser to the London Councils Liberal Democrat Group
<i>Presenter</i>	
Matthew Raleigh	London Innovation and Improvement Alliance (LIIA)
<i>Apologies:</i>	
Councillor Ian Edwards	Leader, London Borough of Hillingdon, London Councils Executive Member for Schools and Children's Services (Conservative) for absence
Jane McSherry	Director of Children, Schools and Families, London Borough of Merton representing the Association of London Directors of Children's Services (ALDCS) for absence

**1. Welcome and introductions**

- 1.1 In the absence of the Chair and Vice-Chair at the start of the meeting, Yolande Burgess presided over the meeting until item 5 when Mayor Fiaz took the chair.
- 1.2 Apologies are noted above.

**2. Declarations of Interest**

- 2.1 Cllr Holt's governorship of South Thames College Group was placed on record. No other conflicts of interest were declared.

**3. Notes of the last meeting**

- 3.1 The minutes of the meeting held on 23 June 2022 were agreed.

**4. The London Youth Offer and Care Leavers Compact**

- 4.1 Caroline Dawes from London Councils presented on the London Youth Offer and answered Board members questions by demonstrating how this work linked with the London Recovery Board's New Deal for Young People Mission before handing over to Matthew Raleigh from the London Innovation and Improvement Alliance (LIIA), who spoke about the Care Leavers Compact (the presentations were sent to Board members in a post-meeting note and are available on the meeting webpage). The meeting welcomed the initiatives and agreed to support them. It was hoped they would incorporate a skills guarantee and careers guidance. Board members wishing to become more involved were asked to contact Peter O'Brien, who was also asked to arrange a follow-up on the Care leavers Compact.

**5. Places Planning**

- 5.1 Caroline Dawes introduced the discussion, speaking to a paper about declining enrolments in early years and primary education settings that was circulated to Board members ahead of the meeting, with Peter O'Brien adding comments specific to 16 to 18 year-olds' education and training. Caroline confirmed the intention to publish a report in November, when the data collection and analysis would be complete, and that the DfE (ministers and senior officers) would be sent a copy of the conclusions.
- 5.2 Board members discussed the paper, pointing out:
- Places planning should be more explicitly linked to the interests of young Londoners rather than educational settings, though equipping London's

education leaders, local authorities and funders with data would assist discussions about how the issue affected different areas and institutions.

- Inevitably, there were significant differences in the scale of the issue in different parts of London; though there was no clear correlation of factors across the boroughs that would be least affected.
- The issue highlighted by the paper needs to be considered as part of a wider critique of the curriculum and progression pathways for 16 to 18 year-olds, with particular emphasis on the transition points into, within and out of this phase of London's learning system.

## **6. Policy Update, Performance Report and Priorities for the Academic Year**

6.1 Peter O'Brien spoke to a paper that combined three subjects.

6.2 The Board discussed the paper and agreed that the priorities and proposal to review the Board constitution should clarify how it was intended to work with the adult skills sector. Peter O'Brien was asked to speak with Mary Vine-Morris and Michael Heanue about these areas.

6.3 The Chair asked that the next meeting be given more a more detailed overview of the youth labour market in London to contextualize the performance statistics.

## **7. Date of the Next Meeting**

The next meeting will be held on 23 February at 1400

# Leaders' Committee

## Report from the Grants Committee Executive 2022 held on 14 November 2022 - informal meeting, held on-line

Item no:

**Report by:** Ana Gradiska **Job title:** Principle Governance and Projects Officer

**Date:** 13 December 2022

**Contact Officer:** Ana Gradiska

**Telephone:** 020 7934 9781 **Email:** Ana.gradiska@londoncouncils.gov.uk

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**Summary:** Summary of the minutes of the London Councils' Grants Executive held on 14 November 2022

**Recommendations:** For information.

### Members:

Mayor Damien Egan (LB Lewisham) - Chair  
Cllr David Leaf (LB Bexley)  
Cllr Marian James (LB Sutton)  
Cllr Stephanie Cryan (LB Southwark)  
Cllr Eleanor Stringer (LB Merton)  
Cllr Sof McVeigh (RB Kensington & Chelsea)  
Cllr Jean Lammiman (LB Harrow)  
Paul Martinelli (City of London)

### London Councils officers were in attendance.

The Chair welcomed Grants Executive members and London Councils officers to the meeting.

### 1 Apologies for Absence and Announcement of Deputies

1.1 Apologies were received from Cllr Kaya Comer-Schwartz (LB Islington) and Cllr Vicky Ashworth (LB Waltham Forest)

### 2 Declarations of Interests\*

2.1 No interests were declared.

### 3 Minutes of Grants Executive held on 2 March 2022 (for noting – to be agreed by Urgency)

3.1 The minutes were noted with the following amendment: Cllr James to be added to the list of attendees.

#### **4 Minutes of Grants Committee AGM held on 13 July 2022 (for noting)**

4.1 The minutes were noted.

#### **5 Review of Agenda for Grants Committee 30 November 2022**

5.1 Strategy Director – London's Communities introduced this item and said that:

- Items 1-5 – these were the standard items, including a report on the performance of the new Grants Programme from April 2022 to September 2022.
- Item 6 - James Banks, Chief Executive of London Funders, has been invited to speak at the next Grants Committee meeting on London Funders' support to boroughs (London Councils pay £60,000 per annum on behalf of the boroughs for their services) and the Grants Programme. His presentation would also cover the cost of living crisis. One of the roles of London Funders was to consider issues such as how to fund projects in a more strategic way and how to ensure the reach of projects across London (for example through its project *Propel*). The Strategy Director was a Trustee of London Funders on London Councils' behalf and it would be helpful for the Grants Committee to consider what else could be done to maximise the benefits of this role.
- Item 7 - *Deferred Commissioning of Refuge Provision for the 2022-2026 Programme* – the Grants Committee Executive would discuss this report at the present meeting, and then the Grants Committee would be asked to endorse the proposals at the meeting on 30 November.
- Item 8 - *London Councils Grants Scheme - Budget Proposals 2023-24*
- Item 9 - *Month 6 Revenue Forecast 2022-23*

5.2 Grants Committee Executive members agreed the proposed agenda for the Grants Committee meeting on 30 November 2022.

#### **6 Deferred Commissioning of Refuge Provision for the 2022-2026 Programme – Next Steps**

6.1 The Strategy Director introduced this item and said that in March 2021, Grants Committee agreed to delay this commission due to the introduction of the Domestic Abuse Act 2021, which placed new duties on the Greater London Authority (GLA) and the Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime (MOPAC) with regards to commissioning provision for domestic abuse. The intention was to see what work the GLA and MOPAC would commission, in order to ensure there were synergies with the work of the Grants Programme. The existing grant agreement with Ashiana Network for provision of refuge services was extended to the end of March 2023. This delay to commissioning meant that the timescales would be quite tight; however, they were still achievable.

6.2 The Strategy Director introduced Rachel Buttrick, the London Councils lead on Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) policy at London Councils, who has been liaising with the GLA and MOPAC as part of this work.

6.3 The Strategy Director added that there would be a 'market warming' event the following week, where London Councils officers will give a presentation to the sector which would

contain the key things that the Grants Committee was looking for in the specification and the key things that needed to be included in the application.

Action: Strategy Director to email members after the market warming event

Action: Strategy Director to email members information on VAWG statistics, broken down by borough, and email the draft specification

6.4 Members agreed Grants Committee Executive takes the decision to award the grant for refuge provision in late January 2023