

Leaders' Committee

Minutes and Summaries

Item no: 11

Report by: Lisa Dominic **Job title:** Senior Governance Support Officer
Date: 19th March 2019
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 – 6 December 2018
- Grants Executive – 7 February 2019
- CAB – 13 February 2019
- Executive – 26 February 2019

Leaders' Committee

Report from the Transport & Environment Committee – 6 December 2018

Item no:

Report by: Alan Edwards **Job title:** Governance Manager
Date: 19 March 2019
Contact Officer: Alan Edwards
Telephone: 020 7934 9911 **Email:** Alan.e@londoncouncils.gov.uk

Summary: Summary of the minutes of the London Councils' Transport & Environment Committee held on 6 December 2018

Recommendations: For information.

1. Attendance: Cllr Syed Ghani (LB Barking & Dagenham), Cllr Dean Cohen (LB Barnet), Cllr William Huntington-Thresher (LB Bromley), Cllr Stuart King (LB Croydon), Cllr Julian Bell (LB Ealing - Chair), Cllr Daniel Anderson (LB Enfield), Cllr Denise Scott-McDonald (LB Greenwich), Cllr Feryal Demirci (LB Hackney), Cllr Wesley Harcourt (LB Hammersmith & Fulham), Cllr Kirsten Hearn (LB Haringey), Cllr Jerry Miles (LB Harrow - Deputy), Cllr Osman Dervish (LB Havering), Cllr Hanif Khan (LB Hounslow), Cllr Claudia Webbe (LB Islington), Cllr Hilary Gander (RB Kingston-upon-Thames), Cllr Claire Holland (LB Lambeth), Cllr Nick Draper (LB Merton - Deputy), Cllr Alexander Ehmann (LB Richmond-upon-Thames), Cllr Richard Livingstone (LB Southwark), Cllr Manuel Abellan (LB Sutton), Cllr Clyde Loakes (LB Waltham Forest), Cllr Richard Field (LB Wandsworth), Cllr Tim Mitchell (City of Westminster), and Alex Williams (Transport for London).

2. Apologies for Absence: Cllr Peter Craske (LB Bexley), Cllr Shama Tatler (LB Brent), Cllr Varsha Parmar (LB Harrow), Cllr Brenda Dacres (LB Lewisham), Cllr Martin Whelton (LB Merton), Cllr John Howard (LB Redbridge), Cllr Alex Ehmann, and Christopher Hayward (City of London).

3. Vision Zero Presentation by Transport for London

The presentation started by a video footage from the emergency services attending a serious collision between a skip lorry and a cyclist. Afterwards, Victoria Le-Brec from Road Peace, gave a presentation about her near-death experience shown in the video when a skip lorry collided with her when she was cycling to work. This accident crushed her pelvis, resulted in the loss of one leg and required her to undergo 13 operations. Victoria Le-Brec went on to say that 127 people had been killed on the roads in the same year that her accident occurred.

The Committee: **(i)** agreed that a joint letter be drafted by TfL and the Chair of TEC and sent to every borough leader, giving them information about what accidents were occurring in their boroughs. This letter would be sent out week commencing 10 December 2018, and **(ii)** noted that there was a need to enforce 20mph speed limits and to pursue the "Vision Zero" agenda vigorously.

4. London Waste & Recycling Board (LWARB) – Presentation by Dr Liz Goodwin (Chair of LWARB), Wayne Hubbard (CEO, LWARB) and Anthony Buchan (LWARB)

Dr Liz Goodwin OBE, Chair of LWARB, gave a brief overview of LWARB. She said that there were currently two TEC members on actively involved in LWARB, namely Councillor Clyde Loakes as the chair of Resource London and Councillor Feryal Demirci as a board member. She informed TEC that she had been the Chair of LWARB for the past 18 months.

Wayne Hubbard, CEO of LWARB, thanked members for the invite to TEC and made the following remarks:

- LWARB had three main programmes: (i) Resource London, (ii) Circular London and (iii) Advance London.
- London's circular economy represented £7 billion a year in London.
- LWARB provided free business support to SMEs, as well as investment programmes like venture capital and growth equity.
- The aim was to reduce waste in London by 60% by 2030.

Anthony Buchan introduced himself and informed members that he headed up the partnership of LWARB's and the Waste and Resources Action Programme's (WRAP) Resource London Programme. He made the following comments:

- There were four key focus areas: (i) minimizing the amount of waste produced, (ii) increasing and improving the capture of food waste, (iii) improving the yield and quality of dry recycling, and (iv) restricting residual waste.
- Direct service support to pursue behavioural change.
- Current support areas included reduction and recycling plans, contamination and flats recycling. LWARB were there to help facilitate all of this and to pull the plan together.
- Flats recycling needs to improve for London to reach its recycling targets, especially in inner London authorities. It is estimated that people living in flats will grow to about £1.9 million by 2030.

A Q and A session then took place.

The Committee: **(i)** agreed that the "Flats Recycling Project" briefing would be emailed to TEC members, and **(ii)** agreed that LWARB would attend TEC on a more regular basis to update members on progress with regards to waste and recycling projects.

5. Chair's Report

The Committee considered a report that updated members on transport and environment policy since the last TEC meeting on 11 October 2018, and provided a forward look until the next TEC meeting on 21 March 2019.

The Chair informed TEC that the LEDNet conference that was scheduled for 7 December 2018 had now been postponed. He said that London Councils had also submitted a response to TfL's Central London Bus Review. TfL would meet with individual boroughs to discuss any concerns to changes to buses/bus routes. The Chair said that discussions had taken place with Heidi Alexander, the Deputy Mayor for Transport, and the Draft TfL Business Plan was due to be published on 7 December 2018. Alex Williams said that the TfL Business Plan may be delayed until Monday 10 December 2018.

The Committee noted the Chair's report.

6. Flood Partnerships Update

The Committee received a report that updated members on the work of the seven London sub-regional flood partnerships, the Thames Regional Flood and Coastal Committee (Thames RFCC), and the Environment Agency.

Katharina Winbeck, Head of Transport, Environment and Infrastructure, London Councils, updated members on the work of the Thames Regional Flood and Coastal Committee (Thames RFCC) and the seven sub-regional partnerships. She said that surface water flooding was a key issue for London, and all boroughs were experiencing challenges when it came to resources, capacity and capabilities

The Committee: **(i)** noted that only the borough of Merton was working with Wimbledon Park Lake reservoir flooding scheme (paragraph 46, page 7), and **(ii)** noted that Councillor Peter Zinkin (LB Barnet)

would now be the “West” region member on the Thames RFCC. Agreed that Alan Edwards would send a letter to the TRFCC confirming this appointment.

7. Developing Guidance for Local Zero Emission Zones (ZEZs)

The Committee received a report on the Mayor’s Transport Strategy (MTS) that set out the proposal to introduce Zero Emission Zones (ZEZs) in local areas in London from 2020.

The Committee: **(i)** noted that the timing of the draft guidance note was too late for some boroughs to put in bids, **(ii)** noted a draft ZEZ guidance note would be published in early 2019 for further consultation with boroughs; and **(iii)** noted that the guidance note would form the basis of decisions by TfL for funding requests by boroughs to support local ZEZs, through existing programmes such as the Mayor’s Air Quality Fund and Low Emission Neighbourhoods.

8. Traffic Signals Budget 2019/20

The Committee received a report that set out the cost to boroughs of maintaining traffic signals in London in 2019/20, based on a proposed “actual cost” model and recommended an interim approach for the apportionment of the costs to each authority based on 2018/19 calculations.

The Chair said that members had voiced concern in 2017 on the traffic signal services that were provided by TfL, especially with regards to the delays in installing the traffic signals. Although the traffic signals funding was agreed by TEC in 2017, members felt that there needed to be improvements to the service. Spencer Palmer, Director of Transport and Mobility, London Councils, said that officers had liaised with TfL and the boroughs with regards to their traffic signal concerns.

The Committee: **(i)** agreed the proposed “actual cost” based model for calculating the annual cost of maintaining traffic signals in London for 2019/20 and beyond, **(ii)** agreed the total cost to boroughs for maintaining traffic signals in London for 2019/20, which was £12,104,102.28 as shown in Appendix 1, **(iii)** agreed that this cost was apportioned between boroughs in the same proportions as agreed for 2018/19, as shown in the table at Appendix 2, **(iv)** agreed to continue the work on reviewing the current apportionment model to be concluded prior to the charges for 2020/21 being agreed in December 2019; and **(v)** noted that further improvements were required with regards to delivery times and speed of traffic signal installations.

9. Taxicard Update

The Committee received a report that provided members with an update of progress towards the implementation of the new Taxicard supply contract and set out developments related to TfL funding of the scheme in 2019/20 in light of the new contract.

The Committee: **(i)** approved the removal of the 10% buffer for borough budget setting purposes (para 17), and **(ii)** approved the removal of the 10% cap to allow the in-year flexible re-allocation of unspent TfL funding based on borough-by-borough changes in demand (para 19).

10. Concessionary Fares 2019/20 Settlement & Apportionment

The Committee received a report that informed members of the outcome of negotiations with transport operators (Transport for London, the Rail Delivery Group and independent bus operators) regarding compensation for carrying concessionary passengers in 2019/20. The report also sought members’ approval to the proposed settlement and apportionment.

The Committee: **(i)** Agreed the TfL settlement of £320.913 million for 2019/20, **(ii)** agreed to the RDG settlement of £19.953¹ million for 2019/20, **(iii)** agreed a budget for non-TfL bus services of £1.3 million, **(iv)** agreed the reissue budget for 2019/20 of £1.518 million, **(v)** agreed the borough payments for 2019/20 of £343.684 million, **(vi)** agreed the payment profile and dates on which boroughs’ contributions are paid as 6 June 2019, 5 September 2019, 5 December 2019 and 6 March 2020, and **(vii)** agreed the 2018-2019 London Service Permit (LSP) bus operators (non-TfL buses) Concessionary Scheme.

11. Proposed Revenue Budget & Borough Charges 2019/20

¹ Subject to negotiation.

The Committee considered a report that detailed the outlined revenue budget proposals and the proposed indicative borough subscription and charges for 2019/20.

The Committee approved the proposed individual levies and charges for 2019/20 as follows: **(a)** the Parking Core Administration Charge of £1,500 per borough and for TfL (2018/19 - £1,500; paragraph 38), **(b)** The Parking Enforcement Service Charge of £0.3760 per PCN which would be distributed to boroughs and TfL in accordance with PCNs issued in 2017/18 (2018/19 - £0.4226 per PCN; paragraphs 36-37), **(c)** no charge to boroughs in respect of the Freedom Pass Administration Charge, which was covered by replacement Freedom Pass income (2018/19 – nil charge; paragraph 15), **(d)** the Taxicard Administration Charge to boroughs of £338,182 in total (2018/19 - £338,182; paragraphs 17-18), **(e)** No charge to boroughs in respect of the Lorry Control Administration Charge, which was fully covered by estimated PCN income (2018/19 – nil charge; paragraphs 19-20), **(f)** Environment and Traffic Adjudicators (ETA) - charge of £28.75 per appeal or £25.08 per appeal where electronic evidence was provided by the enforcing authority (2018/19 - £30.63/£27.02 per appeal). For hearing Statutory Declarations, a charge of £23.23 for hard copy submissions and £22.50 for electronic submissions (2018/19 - £25.21/£24.49 per SD) (paragraphs 26-27), **(g)** Road User Charging Adjudicators (RUCA) – to be recovered on a full cost recovery basis under the new contract arrangements with the GLA (paragraph 28), **(h)** A unit charge of £12 for the replacement of a lost or damaged Freedom Pass (2018/19 - £12; paragraph 10), **(i)** the TRACE (Electronic) Charge of £7.53 per transaction (2018/19 - £7.53; paragraphs 29-35), **(j)** the TRACE (Fax/Email) Charge of £7.70 per transaction, which was levied in addition to the electronic charge of £7.53 per transaction, making a total of £15.23 (2018/19 - £15.23; paragraphs 29-35), **(k)** the TEC Charge of £0.175 per transaction (2018/19 - £0.175; paragraphs 29-35), **(l)** the provisional gross revenue expenditure of £366.42 million for 2019/20, as detailed in Appendix A, **(m)** on the basis of the agreement of all the above proposed charges as outlined in this report, the provisional gross revenue income budget of £366.233 million for 2019/20, with a recommended transfer of £187,000 from uncommitted Committee general reserves to produce a balanced budget, as shown in Appendix B, **(n)** endorsed the current position on reserves, as set out in paragraphs 52-58 and Table 8 of this report; and **(o)** approved a transfer of £410,000 from the general reserve to the specific reserves to be used for future project work to be determined by the Committee.

The Committee was also asked to note the indicative total charges to individual boroughs for 2019/20, dependent upon volumes generated through the various parking systems, as set out in Appendix C.1.

12. Direct Vision Standard for Heavy Goods Vehicles

The Committee received a report that updated members on the development of a Direct Vision Standard (DVS) and proposed London Heavy Goods Vehicles (HGVs) Safety Permit (HSP) Scheme to reduce road danger in London.

The Committee: **(i)** noted the decision of the European Commission regarding the notification of HSP Scheme and its implications, **(ii)** noted that TfL would undertake a public consultation (Phase 2b) in January 2019 on the final HSP Scheme proposals, **(iii)** noted that, subject to the European Commission notification outcome, a report will be brought to TEC's meeting in March 2019, setting out detailed arrangements and seeking approvals to proceed to a statutory consultation traffic order amending the 1985 Order to incorporate the HSP Scheme, and **(iv)** noted the position regarding Barnet LBC participating in the HSP Scheme and the LLCS.

13. Enforcing London Speed Limits

The Committee received a report that detailed the outline plan for London Councils to undertake preparatory work to explore the feasibility of boroughs enforcing speed limits on London roads. Spencer Palmer introduced the report and said that more powers were required for boroughs to enforce speed limits. Some further work on this was needed. This report sought endorsement for boroughs to play a direct role in enforcing this.

The Committee recommended that London Councils undertook initial preparatory work and explore the feasibility of boroughs and TfL undertaking speed limit enforcement.

14. London European Partnership for Transport (LRPT) Update

The Committee considered a report that contained an overview of a review of the London European Partnership for Transport (LEPT) and set out a proposal for the strategic direction of LEPT beyond March 2019.

The Committee: **(i)** 1. Noted ongoing and planned LEPT activity, and **(ii)** endorsed the recommendation addressed to the LEPT management committee and agreed that London Councils continued to host the partnership and provide the services described to boroughs, subject to a new S159 agreement for continued funding in 2019/20.

15. Additional Parking Charges

The Committee received a report that detailed the proposal by the London Borough of Havering to amend the penalty charge banding from Band B to Band A across the borough.

The Committee: **(i)** agreed the proposal to change the penalty banding in the borough of Havering; and **(ii)** noted the proposed implementation date for the change of 1 April 2019.

16. Minutes of the TEC Executive Sub Committee held on 15 November 2018 (for noting)

The minutes of the TEC Executive Sub Committee held on 15 November 2018 were agreed as being an accurate record.

17. Minutes of the TEC Main Meeting held on 11 October 2018 (for agreeing)

Subject to a minor amendment, the minutes of the TEC Main meeting held on 11 October 2018 were agreed as an accurate record.

The meeting finished at 16:46pm

Leaders' Committee

Report from the Grants Committee Executive – 7 February 2019

Item no:

Report by: Ana Gradiska **Job title:** Principal Governance and Projects Officer
Date: 21 March 2019
Contact Officer: Ana Gradiska
Telephone: 020 7934 9781 **Email:** Ana.gradiska@londoncouncils.gov.uk

Summary: Summary of the minutes of the London Councils' Grants Committee Executive held on 7 February 2019.

Recommendations: For information.

Members: Mayor Philip Glanville (Chair - LB Hackney), Cllr. Saima Ashraf (Vice Chair - LB Barking and Dagenham, Cllr. Paul Ellis (Vice Chair - LB Wandsworth), Cllr. Gareth Roberts (Vice Chair - LB Richmond), Cllr. Kaya Comer-Schwartz (LB Islington), Cllr. Gerard Hargreaves (LB Kensington and Chelsea), Cllr. David Leaf (LB Bexley), Alderman Alison Gowman (City of London)

London Councils officers were in attendance.

Members of the Grants Executive and London Councils officers introduced themselves.

1 Apologies for Absence

- 1.1 Apologies were received from Cllr Miranda Williams (RB Greenwich), and Cllr Charlene McLean (LB Newham).

2 Deputies and Declarations of Interest

- 2.1 There were no deputies or declarations of interest.

3 Minutes of the Grants Executive held on 18 September 2018

- 3.1 Members agreed the minutes of the meeting which took place on 18 September 2018.

4 ESF Match Funded Priority 3 – Tackling Poverty Through Employment

- 4.1 Yolande Burgess, Strategy Director, introduced this report and said that the Priority 3 strand of the 2017-2021 London Councils Grants Programme - *Tackling poverty through employment* - will complete at the end of June 2019. This strand of the programme is due to under-deliver against the original targets set and is estimated to outturn on completion at £3,019,000. This figure includes both the borough money and the ESF match funding. It is projected that £1,135,000 will be returned to the Grants Programme once Priority 3 has completed. These figures are estimates, based on delivery to the end of December 2018.
- 4.2 Ms Burgess then presented the three potential options outlined in the paper for deploying the underspend:
 - 4.2.1 Commissioning additional activity with existing commissions delivering across Priority 1 and Priority 2, based on intelligence gathered from the mid-programme review;
 - 4.2.2 Tendering a new commission through an open bid procedure, to meet a London-wide priority;
 - 4.2.3 Repatriating funds to the boroughs.
- 4.3 The Chair invited members to give their initial thoughts on the three options and said that the options recommended by the Executive would then be presented to the full Grants Committee in March 2019. He clarified that Option 1 would not attract matched ESF funding.
- 4.4 The discussion was summarized by the Chair:
 - 4.4.1 Members were interested in going forward with either Option 1 or Option 3.
 - 4.4.2 With regards to Option 1, evidence-based ranking should be used to determine which activities would represent good value with additional funding, with priority given to activities with a wide geographic impact. The extra funding would be time limited.
 - 4.4.3 Option 3 needed to be broadened to include additional options in addition to the pure repatriation of funds to boroughs, as proposed in the report. The additional options would comprise a rollover to the next financial year, which could either reduce future contributions or provide more time for the Grants Committee to consider redeploying funds.
 - 4.4.4 Option 2.2.3 - raising deposits for private rented sector accommodation - was discounted as many boroughs have their own deposit schemes; however, there was significant interest in option 2.2.7, relating to providing additional resources for family support workers in refuges.
- 4.5 The Chair asked that a draft of the options paper capturing the points from the discussion, should be sent to all members of the Executive for comment, ahead of the full Grants Committee in March.

5 Month 9 Revenue Forecast 2018/19

- 5.1 David Sanni, Chief Accountant, introduced this report which outlined actual income and expenditure against the approved income and expenditure in the budget to the end of December 2018. The report also provides a forecast of the outturn position for 2018/19 for both actual and committed expenditure on commissions including ESF match funded commissions (excluding borough-specific ESF projects) and London Councils' administration of these commissions.

6 AOB

- 6.1 Cllr Kaya Comer-Schwartz said that this was her last Grants meeting as she has taken on a different portfolio at LB Islington.
- 6.2 Members and London Councils officers thanked Cllr Comer-Schwartz for all the work she has done on the Grants Committee and wished her the best for her new role.

The meeting ended at 15:35

Leaders' Committee

Report from the Capital Ambition Board -Item no: 13 February 2019

Report by: Ana Gradiska **Job title:** Principal Governance and Projects Officer
Date: 21 March 2019
Contact Officer: Ana Gradiska
Telephone: 020 7934 9781 **Email:** Ana.gradiska@londoncouncils.gov.uk

Summary: Summary of the minutes of the London Councils' Capital Ambition Board held on 13 February 2019.

Recommendations: For information.

Members: Cllr Steve Curran (Chair - LB Hounslow), Cllr Stephen Alambritis (LB Merton), Cllr Kevin Davis (RB Kingston upon Thames), Cllr Victoria Mills (LB Southwark), Cllr David Simmonds OBE (LB Hillingdon). Advisors: John Hooton (Chief Executive, LB Barnet), Sarah Ireland (Director, Corporate and Commercial, RB Kingston upon Thames). EY: Victoria Evans (Senior Manager, Local Public Services), Chess Dennis (Manager, Local Public Services)

London Councils officers were in attendance.

1. Declarations of Interest

1.1 There were no declarations of interest.

2. Apologies for absence

2.1. Apologies were received from Andrew Blake-Herbert (Chief Executive, LB Havering) and Paul Najsarek (Chief Executive, LB Ealing).

3. Minutes of the meeting held on 12 December 2018

3.1 The minutes were agreed as an accurate record of the meeting held on 12 December 2018.

4. Capital Ambition – Director’s Report and London Ventures Progress Report

- 4.1 Thomas Man, Head of Capital Ambition, introduced this report, which provided a summary of Capital Ambition funded activities since December 2018. He stated that there had been an increase in the unallocated balance as a result of an underspend on the operational budget for 2018/19, the current London Ventures income was approximately £90,000 and that recent invoicing meant that additional income was expected prior to the next Board meeting
- 4.2 Mr Man then gave an update on the three Capital Ambition Board funded Behavioural Insights projects which were improving decision making in children’s social care, improving communications in the area of prevention and early help, and increasing MMR immunisation rates.
- 4.3 Mr Man said that the terms of the addendum to vary the data protection clause set out in the main consultancy contract with EY for London Ventures to take into account GDPR, and the new Data Protection Act 2018, were due to be imminently agreed between London Councils and EY in consultation with London Councils’ Legal Advisors.
- 4.4 Mr Man also updated members on the Homelessness, Temporary accommodation and Housing cycle of targeted ventures. The Chair requested that an update on the sites be provided at the next meeting in May 2019.

5. London Ventures commercial deals approval using the delegation of functions procedure

- 5.1 Mr Man introduced this report, which asks members to approve the delegation of the approval of commercial deals which are currently being negotiated to the Director of Local Government Performance and Finance, in consultation with the Chair and Vice Chair of the Capital Ambition Board. This was because the next commercial deal cycle is due to start in April 2019, which was in between CAB meeting dates, and the delegation of powers would allow potential new commercial deal arrangements to be in place for the start of the 2019/20 financial year.
- 5.2 Members asked that the process be slightly amended so that all CAB members were consulted as part of the process who could set out any concerns or challenges regarding the commercial deals.

6. Any Other Business

- 6.1 The Chair announced that Chess Dennis (Manager, Local Public Services, EY) would shortly be going on maternity leave. Members thanked Ms Dennis for all her work on London Ventures.

Members resolved to exclude the press and public from the meeting for the exempt part of the meeting.

The meeting finished at 11.00

Minutes of the Meeting of the Executive
Tuesday 26th February 2019 9:30 am

Cllr Peter John OBE was in the chair

Present

Member	Position
Cllr Peter John OBE	Chair
Cllr Georgia Gould	Deputy Chair
Cllr Teresa O'Neill OBE	Vice chair
Cllr Ruth Dombey OBE	Vice chair
Ms Catherine McGuinness	Vice chair
Cllr Nickie Aiken	
Cllr Julian Bell	
Cllr Darren Rodwell	
Cllr Muhammed Butt	
Cllr Ravi Govindia	Substituting for Cllr Ray Puddifoot
Cllr Jas Athwal	

London Councils officers were in attendance.

The Chair welcomed Cllr Jas Athwal to his first Executive meeting and Cllr Georgia Gould as the new Deputy Chair. He also thanked Catherine McGuinness for arranging the breakfast briefing which did not occur because of the non availability of the Rt Hon Nick Hurd MP, Minister of State for Policing and the Fire Service.

1. Apologies for absence and announcement of deputies

Apologies were received from Cllr Ray Puddifoot for whom Cllr Ravi Govindia was deputising.

2. Declaration of interest

There were no declarations of interest.

3. Minutes of the Executive Meeting held on 15th January 2019

The minutes of the Executive meeting held on 15 January 2019 were agreed, subject to:

- Amending "Cllr Nicki Aiken could make a useful contribution in conversations with ministers on this topic" to:

“Cllr Nicki Aiken as Leader of Westminster City Council, could make a useful contribution in conversations with ministers on this topic given the geographical focus of certain activity around Brexit” (page 5);

- Amending the minute on Page 7 to read *“Cllr Teresa O’Neill argued that more should be done on the ‘cliff-edge’ cost pressures to local authorities, in particular, surrounding the 18-25 cohort, and establishing clearly the fact that London did more than its fair share” (page 7).*

The Chair confirmed that responses to the Business Rates and Fair Funding consultations had now been submitted, and that at the 14 February 2019 meeting of the Metro Mayors, it had been agreed to send a cross party letter regarding Fair Funding. The Chief Executive agreed to check about timing for the letter.

4. Children’s Services Finance Pressures

It was reported that item 4 on the Agenda, ‘Children’s Service finance pressures,’ had been withdrawn because of insufficient time for Cllr Nickie Aiken to comment on the paper. Cllr Aiken asked that she be sent papers within agreed timelines for comment in future.

5. Governance in London

The Chief Executive introduced the report saying that:

- In June 2018 Leaders’ Committee had made a commitment to revise its priorities through to 2022
- A cohort of Leaders had raised the issue of governance specifically around Mayor/borough relationships
- Executive members had discussed this in November 2018, in the context of combined authority models in other parts of the country and had asked for a proposition that potentially stimulated a piece of research into comparative governance models in urban England. This report responded to the requests made by Leaders in June 2018 and to the Executive in November 2018

In response to a question from the Chair, the Chief Executive confirmed that the proposed work could either be commissioned directly, or a third party or ‘think tank’ could be encouraged to commission such a piece of research.

In response to Cllr Ravi Govindia’s question about the outcome of the proposal, the Chair felt that if members had firm ideas of what was wanted, these could be considered further.

Members made the following points:

- Members should examine present Congress arrangements and concentrate on improving the present engagement structures
- The choice of commissioned organisation was crucial to the work
- The appointment of an independent ‘think tank’ organisation could be advantageous when considering some of the relationship issues at play
- Governance to help boost economic prosperity and business relationships in London was an angle worthy of consideration
- Any approach taken should not be oppositional to London partners

The Chief Executive confirmed that the paper was an attempt to respond to Leaders’ original discussions and prompt debate rather than directly move to specific change. To credibly stimulate a debate of the type leaders had been keen to encourage, such a project would need to be genuinely independent.

In the short term, the Chair undertook to reflect on how Congress type discussions could be enhanced – potentially via an informal Executive discussion with the Mayor at a political level.

It was agreed that a further version of the report be brought back to a future meeting of the Executive.

6. Local Digital Declaration

London Councils Director of Local Government Finance and Performance introduced the report, noting that:

- The Local Digital Declaration had been launched in July 2018
- Any boroughs joining the London Office of Technology and Innovation (LOTI) would be expected to become a signatory
- The City of London, who manage London Councils IT infrastructure, are already a signatory of the Declaration

Members agreed that London Councils becomes a signatory to the Local Digital Declaration.

7. Month 9 Revenue Forecast 2018/19

London Councils Director of Corporate Resources introduced the report, commenting that this was the last forecast report to be presented to members in the present financial year and that the budget had been adjusted to reflect TEC underspends of £130,000, principally around lorry control. The forecast position for the Joint Committee core functions was for a surplus of £998,000.

In response to a question from Cllr Teresa O'Neill in respect of the Grants S.48 ESF programme, the Director of Corporate Resources confirmed that all payments to providers would need to have been made by the end of June 2019, at which point the final grant claims process would commence. There was no update on any new funding scheme or process that might replace ESF in the future.

Members noted the overall forecast surplus as at 31 December 2018 of £2,563 million and noted the position on reserves.

8. Debtors Update Report

The Director of Corporate Resources reported to the Committee that there was now no outstanding debt from boroughs to London Councils. Boroughs were thanked for their work in achieving this. The report was noted and the requested write off was approved.

9. London Councils Priorities and Draft Business Plan 2019/20

The Chief Executive introduced the report, explaining that:

- Following conversations last year with Leaders on priorities, Leaders' Committee in December 2018 received a version of those priorities and had broadly endorsed them
- Leaders' Committee in March would formally sign off the pledges in the report, which contained a combination of work for London Councils and workstreams for boroughs
- It also set out the outline business plan for 2019/20 which reflected the content of the meeting between the Chair and Portfolio/Shadow Portfolio holders in early 2019

Members received copies of the artwork presenting the priorities and made some initial comments to London Councils Director of Communications.

Cllr Teresa O'Neill was concerned that individual boroughs may not be able to agree to all the pledges or identify different priorities for their boroughs. Cllr. Ravi Govindia recognised the resource constraints in different boroughs. Cllr Muhammed Butt felt that the plan set a vision and it was hoped that while boroughs may have different priorities, there should be no active opposition to the pledges. The Chair saw the document

reflecting coalitions of the willing. It provided a clear statement of commitment, and any issues of delivery by individual boroughs should be dealt with as they arose.

Cllr Georgia Gould felt that it may help to publicise 'quick wins,' for example refuges for young people, rather than trying to achieve and report on too much.

Cllr Georgia Gould also said it was important to confirm adequate relevance to young people in the document.

As a way forward for reporting, Executive members agreed that each Leaders' Committee after June 2019 should receive a progress report on a different 'cluster' of pledges.

The Chair concluded by stating that it desirable that a joint letter, signed by the Chair and Vice Chairs, should accompany the roll out of the pledges.

The Executive endorsed the draft business plan and the process for taking it forward.

It was additionally agreed that any final comments on the plans should be given to the Corporate Director of Policy and Public Affairs as soon as possible.

10. Review of Scale of Election Fees for 2019/20

The Chief Executive informed the Executive that London Councils and its predecessor bodies had, since 1974, commended a London - wide scale of election fees for adoption by individual boroughs.

The Executive noted and commended the proposed scale of fees and expenses as outlined in the report, with effect from 1 April 2019.

The meeting ended at 10:30am.

Action points			
	Item	Action	Progress
3.	Minutes of meeting held on 15/01/2019 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chief Executive to check about timing for the cross party letter on Fair Funding being sent by Metro Mayors 	Chief Executive	In progress
5.	Governance in London <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A report to come to a future meeting of the Executive 	Chief Executive	To be brought forward
	Local Digital Declaration		
6.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> London Councils becomes a signatory to the Local Digital Declaration. 	Director of Local Government Performance and Finance	In progress
	London Councils Priorities and Draft Business Plan 2019/20		
9.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Any final comments on the plans should be given to the Corporate Director of Policy and Public Affairs as soon as possible. 	All Members of the Executive	Completed