

LEE VALLEY REGIONAL PARK AUTHORITY

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE 15 DECEMBER 2022

Members Present: David Andrews (Vice Chairman) Heather Johnson (remote)
Susan Barker Graham McAndrew
Ross Houston (remote) Mary Sartin (remote)

Apologies Received From: Paul Osborn, Chris Kennedy

In Attendance: John Bevan, David Gardner, Suzanne Rutland-Barsby

Officers Present: Shaun Dawson - Chief Executive
Beryl Foster - Deputy Chief Executive (remote)
Dan Buck - Corporate Director
Jon Carney - Corporate Director
Keith Kellard - Head of Finance
Michael Sterry - Senior Accountant
Sandra Bertschin - Committee & Members' Services Manager
Lindsey Johnson - Committee & Members' Services Officer

Also present: James Newman – S151 Officer (London Borough of Enfield)

Part I

In the absence of the Chairman the meeting was chaired by the Vice Chairman.

210 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

211 MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

THAT the minutes of the meeting held on 17 November 2022 be approved and signed.

212 PUBLIC SPEAKING

No requests from the public to speak or present petitions had been received for this meeting.

213 FEES & CHARGES REVIEW 2023/24

Paper E/791/22

The report was introduced by the Corporate Director.

In response to Member questions it was advised:

- enforcement of the commercial dog walker licence scheme was allocated to the open spaces team;
- car parks were unlocked in a systematic way to deter use by commuters and to enable use by visitors to the Park;
- the car park permit scheme provided a positive alternative payment process for some customers;

- the Learning & Engagement programme has been diversified to engage with a wider range of ages, more hard to reach community groups and SEN clients;
- demand remained strong for the Authority's outdoor learning and wellbeing sessions;
- a robust community programme linked to the redeveloped Lee Valley Ice Centre would be rolled out next year;
- the redeveloped Lee Valley Ice Centre would benefit outdoor learning on the marshes as it provided a covered area and toilets;
- impact of the cost of living crisis and the new fees and charges will be monitored and if required special offers could be introduced.

The Vice Chairman commended the Learning & Engagement programme in that it was key in building a visitor base for the future.

(1) the Authority's proposed 2023/24 fees and charges as summarised from paragraph 7 and set out in detail in Appendix A to Paper E/791/22 was approved.

214 PENSION CONTRIBUTION RATE 2023

Paper E/792/22

The report was introduced by the Head of Finance.

Members expressed concern about the effect current high inflation and potential recession might have on future pension fund funding levels. In response it was advised that the reduced employer contribution rate had been proposed as an outcome of the actuarial valuation on overall fund liquidity.

A Member suggested that advance paying annual pension contributions in a lump sum could enable a reduced level of contribution.

(1) the employer contribution rate of 13.8% as set out in paragraph 5 and in the valuation report at Appendix A to Paper E/792/22 was approved; and

(2) the valuation report at Appendix A to Paper E/792/22 was noted.

Chairman

Date

The meeting started at 11.07am and ended at 11.37am