

LEE VALLEY REGIONAL PARK AUTHORITY

SCRUTINY COMMITTEE MINUTES 23 FEBRUARY 2023

Members Present: John Bevan (Chairman) Steven Heather
 Gordon Nicholson (Vice Chairman) Calvin Horner
 Ken Ayling Terry Wheeler
 Mike Garnett

Apologies Received From: Janet Burgess, John Wyllie

In Attendance: David Gardner

Officers Present: Shaun Dawson - Chief Executive
 Beryl Foster - Deputy Chief Executive
 Dan Buck - Corporate Director
 Jon Carney - Corporate Director
 Paul Roper - Head of Projects & Funding Delivery
 Vince Donaldson - Senior Contracts & Quality Manager
 Lorraine Roper - Research Officer
 Sandra Bertschin - Committee & Members' Services Manager

Part I

198 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

199 MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

THAT the minutes of the meeting held on 23 June 2022 be approved and signed.

200 PUBLIC SPEAKING

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

201 SCRUTINY SCOPING REVIEW – ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY

Paper S/62/23

The paper was introduced by the Head of Projects & Funding Delivery.

The Chairman commented that the feedback received via 'have your say' had led to a number of revisions to the draft policy and therefore had been a valuable exercise.

Member comments included:

- although an Environmental Policy has not been in place, previous Authority procedures and activities have supported the aims and objectives of Agenda 21;
- deletion of reference to 'fluorescent tubes' and 'flexible plastic curtains' from Appendix C;
- the need for prioritisation of potential projects detailed in Appendix C;

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- enquiry as to the costs and savings to be achieved through decarbonising of Olympic venues;
- lack of clarity regarding the Authority's ambition on achieving net zero;
- the need for targets and achievement measures for such things as tree canopy cover and modal shift in terms of staff and visitors travelling to venues and centres;
- the importance of securing and safeguarding active walkways and cyclepaths the length of the Lee Valley and resolving missing connections;
- the need for action in relation to our supply chain and procurement policy, especially for catering outlets, to avoid single use plastic and all food waste to be recycled or composted;
- whether the new twin pad Ice Centre was totally zero carbon;
- the need for reference to the climate emergency to be included within the mission statement; and
- the Authority would need to work with partners such as Canal & River Trust, Transport for London and Sustrans, to deliver some projects.

In response it was advised:

- Appendix C listed initial examples of energy saving or generation projects being investigated at venues and sites and where retrofitting was not possible these would be looked at independently;
- Appendix D highlighted the London Legacy Development Corporation's ambition around zero carbon for Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park and the shortfall in funding required to deliver this;
- the draft Environmental Strategy and Action Plan included areas such as procurement, however considerable work would be required to understand the costs and timeframe to deliver the action plan;
- the new Ice Centre was very close to zero carbon through utilisation of a variety of sustainable measures such as heat pumps, use of reed bed and Oxbow for roof water and ice melt, roof photovoltaic cells, no use of gas, PIR sensors, car park EV charging, etc. It was anticipated that a BREEAM rating of very good would be achieved; and
- the Authority was looking across its estate for future potential solar and wind energy generation, battery storage and EV charging whilst optimising its current business activities to fund future investment. This analysis would inform the way forward in either initially delivering lots of little wins or to aim for a big win.

(1) the report was noted; and

(2) the revised draft Environmental Policy be recommended to Executive subject to amendment of the mission statement and deletions to Appendix C as above was approved.

The paper was introduced by the Corporate Director highlighting that as requested at the last meeting the format of the Scorecard had been amended and inviting further comment on the format. Some Members expressed a preference for the former colour coded format. Officers agreed to develop some Scorecard format options for Member review.

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The Chairman suggested that to generate data for KPI 4, stakeholder perception, a telephone survey be undertaken with a small number of councillors from each council. In response it was advised that there were a variety of mechanisms to generate survey data and this would be reviewed.

In response to the Chairman it was advised that the Authority does not currently charge for Freedom of Information requests but this would be reviewed.

In response to the Chairman it was advised that some training courses such as first aid had reverted to in person delivery. Where virtual training was undertaken a competency test at the end of the training was included.

(1) the report was noted.

Chairman

Date

The meeting started at 2.00pm and ended at 2.45pm