

**Minutes of the Business, Infrastructure and Growth Committee
6 June 2024**

Present:

Councillor H.R.D. Williams (Chair)

Councillors:

N. Islam	C. Bateson	M. Beecher
A. Mathur	M. Gibson	S.N. Beatty
D.C. Clarke	S. Gyawali	T. Burrell

Substitutions: Councillors D. Saliagopoulos

Apologies: Councillors J.R. Boughtflower

In Attendance: Councillors L. E. Nichols

1 Apologies and Substitutes

Apologies were received from Councillor Boughtflower. Councillor Saliagopoulos attended as his substitute.

2 Disclosures of interest

Councillors Bateson, Beatty, Beecher, Burrell, Clarke, Gibson, and Nichols advised the Committee that they were members of the Planning Committee and therefore would not be making comment on any applications due to come before the Planning Committee.

3 Questions from members of the Public

There were none

4 Terms of Reference

The Committee considered the Terms of Reference for the Business, Infrastructure and Growth Committee. The Committee requested clarification on what the statutory and non-statutory functions were that fell within the Committee's remit.

The Committee asked whether feedback would be available from the Heathrow Liaison and were advised that this was something that could be requested if they wished.

The Committee asked for an update on the International Business Engagement report that had been on the Forward Plan for the former Economic Development Committee and were advised that it was now on the Forward Plan for Business, Infrastructure and Growth Committee for September.

The Committee asked for clarification as to whether recommendations on disposal of assets would go to Corporate Policy and Resources Committee and were informed that, as per the terms of reference, this would go directly to Council.

The Committee asked for clarification on the regeneration portfolio assets being used as income producing. The Group Head Assets advised that there were three assets within the strategic regeneration portfolio that were currently income producing but once they were ready to be developed, would be transferred to the development portfolio.

5 Strategic Priorities for 2024/2025

The Committee considered the Strategic Priorities for 2024/2025.

The Chair highlighted the following areas as potential focuses for the Committee; prioritisation of the Development/Regeneration properties, the Heathrow Rail Link, infrastructure in Town Centres to target antisocial behaviour, and partnership working to deliver infrastructure in support of new homes such as GP surgeries and roads.

The Committee requested an update on the Heathrow Rail link and were advised that the Group Head Place, Protection & Prosperity would be attending a meeting next week with the Heathrow Area Transport Forum on a draft report from HSPG (Arups) on a comparison between Southern Light Rail (SLR) and Heathrow Southern Rail (HSR) This draft report from the HSPG was expected by end of June 2024 and an item would be added to the Forward Plan for the Committee's meeting in September. The Committee requested that as part of that item a summary of the history of the project could be included. There is a separate meeting between key councillors and HSR next week.

The Committee requested one priority should be to focus on the riverfront and making it more attractive and easily accessible to residents.

6 Forward Plan

The Committee **noted** the Forward Plan with the addition of the items agreed during the meeting.

7 Exclusion of Public and Press (Exempt Business)

It was proposed by Councillor Beecher, seconded by Councillor Bateson and resolved to exclude the public and press be excluded for the following agenda items, in accordance with paragraph 3 of part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended) because it was likely to disclose information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information) and in all the circumstances of the case, the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information because, disclosure to the public would prejudice the financial position of the authority in being able to undertake even-handed negotiations and finalizing acceptable contract terms.

8 Thameside House - Options

The Committee considered a report on options for Thameside House.

The Committee **resolved** to approve the recommendation as set out in the report.

Meeting ended at 20:06