

BIRMINGHAM CITY COUNCIL

CABINET COMMITTEE – GROUP COMPANY GOVERNANCE

Wednesday 12 July 2023 at 1500 hours
Committee Room 2, Council House

Attendance:

Councillors Sharon Thompson (Chair) and Brigid Jones

Observers: Councillors Morriam Jan and Gareth Moore

Also in Attendance:

Guy Olivant	Major Development Lead, Group and Capital Finance
Connie Price	Head of Law, Commercial, Procurement, Privacy & Information
Georgina Dean	Solicitor, Legal Services
Mandeep Marwaha	Committee Services

1 NOTICE OF RECORDING/WEBCAST

The Chair advised that this meeting will be webcast for live or subsequent broadcast via the Council's Public-I microsite ([please click this link](#)) and that members of the press/public may record and take photographs except where there are confidential or exempt items.

APOLOGIES

2 Apologies were submitted by Councillor Liz Clements for her inability to attend the meeting.

Councillor Roger Harmer (observer) submitted his apologies and Councillor Morriam Jan was in attendance as his substitute.

DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

3 Councillor Jones declared she was a Board Director for Birmingham Airport.

MEMBERSHIP OF THE COMMITTEE

4 **RESOLVED:-**

That the membership of the committee was noted.

Labour Group (3):-

Councillor Sharon Thompson (Deputy Leader) (Chair),
Councillor Brigid Jones (Cabinet Member),
Councillor Liz Clements (Cabinet Member)

Observers (no voting rights)

Conservative Group (1):-

Councillor Gareth Moore

Liberal Democrat Group (1):-

Councillor Roger Harmer

TERMS OF REFERENCE

The following schedule was submitted:-

(See document No. 1 of the agenda pack)

5 **RESOLVED:-**

That the terms of reference for the Committee was noted.

PUBLIC NOTES OF THE LAST MEETING – 21 MARCH 2023 & 18 MAY 2023

6 The public notes of the 21 March and 18 May 2023 were agreed at this meeting and there were no matters arising.

COMPANY UPDATE

The following report of the Major Development Lead, Group and Capital Finance was submitted:-

(See document No. 2 of the agenda pack)

The Major Development Lead, Group and Capital Finance gave an overview of the latest changes made across the Council's portfolio of companies since the last meeting. There were no major changes to appointments relating to companies that have been notified to Companies House since the previous

Cabinet Committee GCG – 12 July 2023

Committee meeting. The private agenda contains the details of confidential updates.

No further questions were raised by members.

7

RESOLVED: -

- (i) Cabinet Committee Group Company Governance Committee noted the information provided within the report and at private appendix 1 which contained commercially confidential details concerning associated companies.

TRAINING UPDATE

The Head of Law, Commercial, Procurement, Privacy & Information provided a verbal update on training.

Key points made:

- Full Training for current Directors and aspiring Directors – This would be scheduled later this year. The Directors would receive training on their statutory roles and responsibilities, practical advice, tools to carry out their duties safely i.e., conflicts of interests etc. This training will be available for all members and officers who are serving as Directors or want to become Directors. A law firm would be delivering the training free of charge.
- Board Effectiveness Training – Taking place immediately after this Committee meeting (12th July 2023). This training is available for Committee Members as well as Directors of trading companies as well as some non-Birmingham City Council (BCC) Directors (i.e., where the company had 50/50 joint venture with BCC).

John Hanley would be providing the training as he has vast experience in Executive and Non-Executive Board Director roles. John has provided lectures on Board Performance for a variety of institutions. In addition, John was a Director for Finance Birmingham which is one of BCC's Companies.

Councillor Moore suggested the dates for the full training to be shared in advance as this would require several hours commitment from Board Directors. In addition, this would ensure there was high attendance. Officers to share agreed dates as soon as possible.

The Chair queried the amount of interest and proposed attendance for the Board Effectiveness Training. It was noted around 80% of the Directors from the trading companies had shown an interest to attend the training session.

8 **RESOLVED: -**

- (i) Members noted the verbal training update.
-

ANNUAL APPOINTMENTS 2023-2024

The following report of the Major Development Lead, Group and Capital Finance was submitted:-

(See document No. 3 of the agenda pack)

Members were informed the annual appointments for 2023-24 was reported and agreed by Cabinet on 27 June 2023. This was noted by the Committee.

9 **RESOLVED: -**

- (i) Cabinet Committee Group Company Governance Committee noted the Annual Appointments 2023-2024 report.
-

ACIVICO LIMITED - PEN PORTRAIT (PUBLIC)

The following report of the Major Development Lead, Group and Capital Finance was submitted:-

(See document No. 4 of the agenda pack)

An overview of the report was provided by the Major Development Lead, Group and Capital Finance. This report was a high-level summary of Acivico Limited.

10 **RESOLVED: -**

- (i) Cabinet Committee Group Company Governance Committee noted the information on Acivico Limited provided within the report.
-

11 **SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS – MUNICIPAL YEAR 2023/24**

Members agreed the updates to the Committee meeting dates during 2023/24.

2023

Wednesday 21 July at 1500 - 1700 hours
Thursday 21 September at 1300 – 1500 hours
Thursday 16 November at 1400 – 1600 hours

2024

Thursday 25 January at 1400 – 1600 hours

Thursday 14 March at 1400 – 1600 hours

12

OTHER URGENT BUSINESS

There was no urgent business to consider.

EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC

RESOLVED:-

13

That, in view of the sensitive nature of the discussion due to take place relating to Acivico Limited and company updates, the public be now excluded from the meeting.
