

CITY OF WESTMINSTER
URGENCY COMMITTEE OF THE CABINET
MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

At a meeting of an Urgency Committee of the Cabinet held on Monday 18 October 2004 at 7.30 pm at Westminster City Hall, 64 Victoria Street, SW1.

Present: Councillors: Simon Milton (Chairman), Kit Malthouse and Colin Barrow.

1. DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

- 1.1 There were no declarations of interest.

2. MINUTES

- 2.1 **RESOLVED:** That the minutes of the meeting held on 12 July 2004 be signed by the Chairman as a correct record of the proceedings; and that the minutes of the meeting held on 14 July 2004 be signed by Councillor Malthouse as a correct record of the proceedings.

3. PROPOSED BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT FOR (1) PICCADILLY CIRCUS AND LEICESTER SQUARE; (2) PADDINGTON; AND (3) OXFORD STREET, REGENT STREET AND BOND STREET.

- 3.1 The Director of Planning & City Development introduced the report, which updated Members on the current progress of the three pilot BIDs towards formal establishment. It was noted that both the Heart of London BID (covering Piccadilly Circus and Leicester Square) and the Paddington BID had submitted their BID proposals for agreement by the City Council; and that the New West End Company (NVEC) BID (covering Oxford Street, Regent Street and Bond Street) required City Council endorsement before formal submission and request to hold a ballot.
- 3.2 In response to a question from Councillor Kit Malthouse, the Director of Planning & City Development explained the reasons behind the differing costs associated with the BID levies and indicated that the City Council would be funding the costs of the ballots, which would only be repaid should the ballots be unsuccessful. It was further noted that the NVEC BID, which covered a wide geographical area, would not be able to proceed on a partial basis, should support be forthcoming from just one part of the

proposed BID area. However, improvements funded through the BID would be apportioned approximately according to where the funding was raised.

- 3.3 **RESOLVED:**
- (1) That it be considered that the BID proposals formally submitted by Heart of London do not conflict with formally adopted and published Council policy, subject to the satisfactory completion of legal agreements between the BID and the City Council.
 - (2) That it be considered that the BID proposals formally submitted by Paddington BID do not conflict with formally adopted and published Council policy, subject to the satisfactory completion of legal agreements between the BID and the City Council.
 - (3) That the Chief Executive be requested to hold a BID ballot on the Heart of London and the Paddington BID Proposals.
 - (4) That the proposals by the New West End Company to become a formally established BID be welcomed and endorsed.
 - (5) That it be noted that the Cabinet Member for Economic Development and Transport will exercise the City Council's vote in any forthcoming BID ballot where the Council will be subject to the BID Levy.
 - (6) That, in respect of each successful BID proposal, the Director of Legal and Administrative Services be authorised to complete the necessary legal agreements required for the operation of the BID Levy, BID Ballot and service arrangement and any other necessary matters in consultation with the appropriate officers.

Reason for Decisions:

The BID proposals build on the work currently being carried out by these pilot BIDs during which they have worked effectively with the City Council to improve their areas. Their establishment as formal BIDs will provide a secure source of funding through the BID levy and enable them to continue to provide services over and above those that the City Council provides. This will ensure the continued improvement of their areas. Supporting them to become formal BIDs is one of the targets in Civic Renewal for 2004/5. Having considered the Heart of London BID proposal in June 2004 and there being no change to that proposal or the policy context against which that proposal can be judged, officers have concluded that there is no conflict between the proposal and Council policy. In respect of the Paddington BID officers have also concluded that there is no conflict between the proposal and Council policy.

4. CLOSE OF MEETING

4.1 The meeting ended at 7.37 pm.

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Chairman

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Date