

**Minutes of the meeting of the Major Projects and Investment Committee
held at 4.00pm on Thursday, 6 May 2021
via MS Teams**

Present

Rashda Rana (Chair)
Jerry Cope
Jeremy Parr
David Phoenix
Tony Roberts
Kate Stanton-Davies
Vinay Tanna
Harriet Tollerson (from minute 6)

In attendance

Richard Flatman
Paul Ivey
Kerry Johnson
David Learmont (minute 7 only)
James Stevenson

Observer

Michael Cutbill

1. Welcome and apologies

The Chair welcomed members to the meeting. No apologies were received.

2. Declarations of interest

The committee noted the interest of David Phoenix in item 5 as a Director of SBC. No other interests were declared.

3. Minutes of the previous meeting

The committee approved the minutes of 25 February 2021, and their publication as redacted.

The committee approved the written resolution of 28 March 2021, subject to minor amendments to be approved by the Chair, and their publication as redacted.

4. Matters arising

All matters arising were noted as complete.

5. **SBC estate disposal and development**

The committee discussed the proposed disposal strategy for part of SBC's Clapham and Vauxhall sites. [REDACTED]

The committee noted the changes to the planning process, as advised by Lambeth Council. The pre-planning process may now take up to nine months, though it was hoped that this could offset the work required during the full planning process. The implications for the opening date at Vauxhall were noted.

[REDACTED]

The committee noted that the due diligence, when complete, would be made available to both MPIC and the SBC Board for information and comment.

The committee noted the legal advice from VWV to the LSBU Board detailing governors' responsibilities to SBC as its sole member.

[REDACTED] Final approval would be sought from the SBC Board at its meeting of 21 June 2021. A joint meeting of MPIC and the LSBU Board would be held on 24 June 2021 to consent on behalf of LSBU to the transaction.

6. **Update on London Road construction**

The committee discussed the time and cost challenges involved in constructing the LSBU Hub (London Road).

[REDACTED]

The committee noted the new estimated completion date of 21 October 2021, which meant that the building would not be fully available to staff and students until semester two of the 2021/22 academic year.

The committee noted the adversarial relationship between the LSBU project team and WDI. [REDACTED]

The committee supported the next steps required to re-start the relationship

with WDI and come to an agreement on costs.



7. **Project LEAP**

With David Learmont

The committee noted that the additional costs of £660k, attributed to the IT outage and noted by MPIC at its meeting of 25 February 2021, had been absorbed within the overall programme cost forecast.

The committee noted that detailed conversations had subsequently taken place between the Executive and PwC regarding the level of funding required for release three (R3) of the Customer Relationship Management (CRM) system. The original funding available for R3 was £3.6m, however a level of overspend was now required in order to deliver the full functionality of the CRM.

The proposed total cost for R3 was now £4.1m, which included unbudgeted expenditure of £0.5m. The committee noted that a lower level of spend would mean that certain key features of the CRM could not be implemented.

The committee approved the additional unbudgeted expenditure of £0.5m (+VAT), required to progress with the programme. This is within the authority set by the financial regulations.

The committee noted that the budgeted overspend was accounted for in full by the additional costs incurred due to the IT outage, which the Executive had hoped to absorb within the programme. Recovery of those costs was being sought through the University's cyber insurance. Any such recovery would reduce the programme overspend of £0.5m.

The committee also noted the update on workpackage 6.0.

8. **Estates development update**

SBC estates

The committee noted the update on the Nine Elms STEAM Centre (NESC) at Vauxhall.

The committee noted that a delay in the planning process meant that construction had begun later than anticipated, but was now underway. The delay was not expected to affect the planned completion date.

LSBU major capital development programme

The committee noted the progress to date on LSBU capital developments.

The committee noted that the fibre links had now been installed in the Health Skills Centre.

Governors' discussion

A governor drew attention to the two cost overruns discussed in the meeting, and requested the Executive to reflect on the root causes and any lessons to be learned.

**Date of next meeting
4:00pm, Thursday 24 June 2021**

Confirmed as a true record

..... (Chair)