

Belfast Waterfront and Ulster Hall Ltd. Shareholders' Committee

Monday, 25th November, 2024

SPECIAL HYBRID MEETING OF THE MEMBERS OF THE BELFAST WATERFRONT AND ULSTER HALL LTD. SHAREHOLDERS' COMMITTEE

Members present: Councillor Ferguson (Chairperson);
Alderman Copeland; and
Councillors Bower, Brennan, R. Brooks, Canavan, Collins,
Doherty, S. Douglas, Flynn, Maghie, McCabe, McDowell,
McKay, Nic Bhranair, Ó Néill and Verner.

In attendance: Mr. D. Martin, Strategic Director of Place and Economy;
Mrs. L. Toland, Senior Manager, Economy;
Mr. C. Campbell, Divisional Solicitor;
Mr. S. Daniels, Chairman (BWUH Ltd.);
Mr. J. Hanna, Democratic Services and Governance
Manager;
Ms. E. McGoldrick, Democratic Services and Governance
Coordinator; and
Mr. C. Mealey, Committee Services Officer.

Apologies

An apology was reported on behalf of Councillor McCann.

Declarations of Interest

No Declarations of Interest were reported.

Restricted Items

The information contained in the report associated with the following item is restricted in accordance with Part 1 of Schedule 6 of the Local Government Act (Northern Ireland) 2014.

Resolved – That the Committee agrees to exclude the members of the Press and public from the meeting during discussion of the item as, due to the nature of the item, there would be a disclosure of exempt information as described in Section 42(4) and Section 6 of the Local Government Act (Northern Ireland) 2014.

The Members were also reminded that the content of 'restricted' reports and any discussion which took place during closed session must be treated as 'confidential information' and that no such information should be disclosed to the public as per Paragraph 4.15 of the Code of Conduct.

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Chief Executive Recruitment

The Strategic Director of Place and Economy submitted for the Committee's consideration a report that provided additional information on issues raised by Members at a special meeting of the Committee on 18th November, in relation to the recruitment and remuneration of a new Chief Executive to Belfast Waterfront and Ulster Hall Ltd (BWUH Ltd.).

The Chairman, BWUH Ltd., provided the Committee with additional information and further detail including, contextual information, the recruitment process, and a response to each of the issues raised by Members at the Committee's special meeting on 18th November.

During discussion, the Chairman, BWUH Ltd., answered a range of questions in relation to the recruitment and remuneration of a new Chief Executive to BWUH Ltd.

During further discussion, the Divisional Solicitor explained further the legal aspects in respect of the new Chief Executive's remuneration and that further advice on the issue would be provided in due course.

After discussion, the Committee:

- I. Agreed that an overview be provided to the Committee at its meeting on 20th January, 2025, focusing on Governance and the Shareholders' Agreement, together with the remit of the Committee;
- II. Agreed to defer the decision in respect of the new Chief Executive's remuneration, to a special meeting of the Committee, so that further legal advice could be provided; and
- III. Agreed that, in order to facilitate a timely decision, to request that the Council delegates authority to the Committee to take any such decision or decisions in relation to that issue.

Chairperson