

Committee(s) Barbican Estate Residents Consultation Committee Barbican Residential Committee	Dated: 25/03/2024 08/04/2024
Subject: Decisions taken under delegated authority or urgency powers	Public
Which outcomes in the City Corporation's Corporate Plan does this proposal aim to impact directly?	N/A
Does this proposal require extra revenue and/or capital spending?	
If so, how much?	
What is the source of Funding?	
Has this Funding Source been agreed with the Chamberlain's Department?	
Report of: Town Clerk	For Information
Report author: Julie Mayer - Town Clerk's Department	

Summary

This report advises Members of action taken by the Town Clerk in consultation with the Chairman and Deputy Chairman, in accordance with Standing Order Nos. 41(a) and 41(b).

**REQUEST FOR DECISION UNDER URGENCY: STANDING ORDER 41(A)
SUBJECT: TERM OF THE CHAIR OF THE BARBICAN RESIDENTIAL
COMMITTEE (BRC)**

At their last meeting on 25th March 2025, the Barbican Residents Consultation Committee (BRCC) received a report of the Executive Director, Community and Children's Services which provided an update on the operation, achievements and challenges for the Barbican Transformation Board. In concluding the discussion it was proposed by Sandra Jenner (Chair of the BRCC), Seconded by Graham Wallace (Andrewes House Representative and past BRCC Chair) and RESOLVED, unanimously, that:

'The Barbican Residents' Consultation Committee propose that the term of office of the Chair of the Barbican Residential Committee (BRC) be extended by a year, because the Barbican Residential Committee is at a critical stage in overseeing the Barbican Estate Office Transformation Programme and related projects, and that continuity of leadership on the Committee is crucial for the successful delivery of the recommendation by Independent Consultants, Altair.'

At the subsequent meeting of the BRC on 8th April 2024, this motion was put to Members for their consideration. The incumbent Chair, Mark Wheatley, was asked to leave the room so to not fetter the discussion. The Chair of the BRCC was invited to present the Committee's Resolution and stressed residents' concerns in that the appointment of a new Chair, at such a crucial stage, could be detrimental to the work of the Transformation Board. The Town Clerk noted that the vast

majority of BRC Members had joined the Committee within last 2 years and this too might have compromised succession planning.

The Town Clerk then explained the governance process; i.e. - Standing Order 29(2) (Appointment of Committee Chairs) dictates that the Chairs of Grand Committees (of which the BRC is one) may only serve in the role for a maximum of three years. There are a few exceptions (Policy, Police, Finance, Barbican Centre and City Bridge Foundation Chairmen) agreed by the Court of Common Council based on service need and industry practice. The Deputy Town Clerk further explained that similar waivers (to Standing Order 29(2)) had been agreed for other Committees in similar circumstances, so there was precedence for such a request. Members noted that any decision taken on the Resolution would be subject to confirmation by the Policy and Resources Committee and the Court of Common Council. Members noted that should this be approved by the Court, they would be permitting the current Chair to stand for another year, but the decision would not prevent another Member from standing in the usual manner.

The Members present and those joining on-line agreed with the Resolution and commended Mark Wheatley's Chairmanship over a very difficult period for the Committee and Barbican Estate Office.

Reason for urgency

When the Barbican Residential Committee considered the above Resolution on 8th April 2024, the Chair withdrew from the room, making the meeting temporarily inquorate. Whilst the meeting was still quorate, the Town Clerk suggested that this part of the agenda should continue as an 'informal session' with the live stream continuing. This would allow Members joining on-line to contribute to the discussion and the decision would be signed off under the urgency procedure. The Committee agreed and the Chair confirmed that he was happy for the discussion on to be held in public.

Those present in the room and online that supported the motion included:

Deputy Anne Corbett (Deputy Chair of the BRC)
Helen Fentimen
Timothy McNally
Steve Goodman
Dawn Frampton
John Foley
Andrew McMurtrie

Action Taken

The Town Clerk, in consultation with the serving Alderwoman and Deputy Chair of the BRC, agreed to propose to the Policy & Resources Committee and Court of Common Council, that Standing Order 29(2) be waived for the Barbican Residential Committee for the 2024/25 civic year, on the basis that the Barbican Residential Committee is at a critical stage in overseeing the Barbican Estate Office Transformation Programme and related projects, and that continuity of leadership on the Committee is crucial for the successful delivery of the recommendation by Independent Consultants, Altair.