Committee:	Date:
Culture, Heritage and Libraries Committee	26 May 2015
Subject:	Public
Decision taken under Urgency since the last meeting of the Committee	
Report of:	For Information
Town Clerk	

Summary

This report advises Members of action taken by the Town Clerk since the last meeting of the Committee, in consultation with the Chairman and Deputy Chairman, and in accordance with Standing Order No. 41.

Recommendation:

Members are asked to note the following decision, taken under urgency, since the last meeting:

City Arts Initiative - RNLI application: 'Tonne of Water':

An application from the RNLI to place an awareness raising installation on Tower Bridge, from the end of May until September 2015.

BACKGROUND:

The RNLI approached the City of London Corporation in order to place an awareness raising installation on Tower Bridge from the end of May until September 2015. Members are asked to note that, in London, more people drown in the River Thames than cyclists are killed on the roads, and the RNLI are seeking to raise the public's awareness of the dangers of the river. Tower Bridge is one of the busiest locations for the RNLI and they would like to help change that in any way they can.

The object they propose to install is a "frustrum" or truncated pyramid. The object's frame is painted in "lifeboat orange" and is very arresting; the faces are clear and it is filled with a tonne of water (1,000 ltrs). There are graphics on the side, which challenge the reader to see if they can move it. Naturally, they can't! The objective is to engage with the public in a light-hearted manner, but to give valuable information regarding to unseen dangers of entering the river, e.g. the very low temperature.

REASON FOR URGENCY:

Given that approval was required in early April, for installation at the end of May, and the next meeting of the Culture Heritage and Libraries Committee was not until 26th May 2015, officers sought a decision under Urgency. The Director of Culture, Heritage and Libraries consulted City Arts Initiative Members, who supported the initiative, both as a worthwhile cause and for being stunning artistically.

ACTION TAKEN:

The Town Clerk, in consultation with the Chairman and Deputy Chairman of the Culture, Heritage and Libraries Committee approved an application from the RNLI to place an awareness raising installation on Tower Bridge, from the end of May until September 2015.

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