

Report – Hospitality Working Party of the Policy and Resources Committee

Applications for Hospitality

To be presented on Thursday 9th March 2017

*To the Right Honourable The Lord Mayor, Aldermen and Commons
of the City of London in Common Council assembled.*

(i) Reception to mark the 60th Anniversary of the rededication of St Lawrence Jewry Church

St Lawrence Jewry Church was originally built in the twelfth century. The medieval church was destroyed in the Great Fire of London and was rebuilt by Christopher Wren between 1670 and 1677. The Church then suffered extensive damage during the Blitz in December 1940 and, after the war, the City of London Corporation agreed to fund its restoration. The Church was restored to Wren's original design, and it was transferred from a parish to a guild church; becoming the City of London's official church. St Lawrence Jewry was rededicated in July 1957.

This year is the 60th since the rededication and an approach has been made for the City Corporation to host an early evening reception following a service, planned for Wednesday 19 July, to mark the anniversary. Guests would include representatives from the City Clergy, the Guild Church Council, Friends of St Lawrence Jewry, Livery Companies associated with the Church, interfaith representatives and Members with relevant interest.

It is therefore **recommended** that hospitality be granted for an early evening reception following the 60th anniversary service to mark the rededication of St Lawrence Jewry and that arrangements be made under the auspices of the Hospitality Working Party; the costs to be met from City's Cash and within the approved parameters.

This would be a Committee event.

(ii) Armed Forces Flag Day 2017

The annual Armed Forces Flag Day forms part of a week of activities across the country to raise public awareness of the contribution made by the Armed Forces. Armed Forces Flag Day was established to provide an opportunity to show support for members of the Armed Forces and Service families.

To mark this occasion and in line with previous years, it is proposed that the City Corporation hosts a flag-raising ceremony in Guildhall Yard during the afternoon of Thursday 22 June, followed by light refreshments in the Old Library.

This event will provide an opportunity for the City to show its support for the Armed Forces and raise awareness of the contribution made to our country by those who are currently serving or have previously served in the Forces.

Guests will include serving and retired military personnel, cadets, Masters and Clerks of Livery Companies, school children from the City's schools, and members of the general public. The Court of Common Council will take place on the same day.

It is therefore **recommended** that hospitality be granted for a flag-raising ceremony to mark Armed Forces Day, followed by light refreshments, and that arrangements be made under the auspices of the Hospitality Working Party; the costs to be met from City's Cash and within the approved parameters.

This would be a full Court event.

(iii) Reception to mark the centenary of the Royal Air Force (RAF)

The RAF celebrates its centenary on 1 April 2018 and, to celebrate this, the "RAF100" programme has been planned. This will comprise a six-month programme of events across the UK starting in April 2018 with a focus on commemorating the RAF's achievements, raising its profile and promoting a better understanding of its role. There will be a service at Westminster Abbey and a parade on the Mall with a flypast.

Following discussions with those planning the centenary programme, it is proposed that the City Corporation hosts an early evening reception on 19 April in the Great Hall and Old Library. The reception would mark the start of a weekend of RAF focused events at Guildhall, including an aircraft display in the Guildhall Yard.

The guest list is expected to include a Member of the Royal Family, the Chief of the Air Staff, serving members of the RAF, RAF reserves, cadets and adult instructors, representatives from City Schools, Livery Companies with connections to the RAF and representatives from the City's Privileged regiments.

It is therefore **recommended** that hospitality be granted for an early evening reception to mark the centenary of the Royal Air Force and that arrangements be made under the auspices of the Hospitality Working Party; the costs to be met from City's Cash and within the approved parameters.

This would be a full Court event.

All of which we submit to the judgement of this Honourable Court.

DATED this 16th February 2017

SIGNED on behalf of the Working Party.

Michael Welbank, MBE
Chief Commoner and Chairman, Hospitality Working Party