City Surveyors Department Issues

Officers from the City Surveyors Department have provided the following updates:

12. Barbican Occupiers Users Group

The Barbican Occupiers Group met on 13 October principally to discuss the revised plans of the Barbican campus where custodianship responsibilities had been plotted. The main area still to be resolved is a section of the walkway that passes through the Guildhall School of Music and relates to cleaning responsibilities.

At officer level the Comptroller and City Solicitor is co-ordinating and investigating the Podium surface water issues with particular reference to the area above Virgin Active. Funds have been made available to fully investigate the area above and adjacent to Virgin Active's demise and carry out water proofing works over the next year.

The occupiers group is next due to meet on 26 January 2012.

13. Crossrail

Works commenced in November 2010 in the Moorgate area and demolition has now taken place. There are temporary closures of footpaths in Moorgate and Moor Place with alternative footways being maintained whenever possible. Work has how started on the necessary preparation for the construction of the operational shaft and the main utilities diversions has been completed. Crossrail are being encouraged to include the Olympics in their programming.

This work will continue and there will be similar disruptions in the area for the next few years until the station opens in 2018.

14. Barbican Arts Centre Cinema Relocation

Approval for the tender for the Barbican Cinema scheme is currently being sought. Works on site will commence in February 2012 and complete in July 2012.

Fringe Redevelopments

15. Frobisher Crescent

The sale of 62 units has been completed out of the 69 units built and a further 7 are reserved so all of the flats will shortly have been sold.

The developer is replacing at his own expense the radiators within the flats following a review of the suitability of the original radiators to operate within the high pressure central heating system. Works commenced in November 2011.

Works to improve the appearance of the Sculpture Court have been agreed and will consist of low maintenance "hanging" gardens and moveable planters which are to be installed once all necessary permissions have been obtained by the developer. The works commenced in October.

16. Milton Court Redevelopment

Position as of October - reinforced frame of residential building up to level 20 & fit out underway on levels 7, 8 and 9. Cladding continues to be fixed to the exterior. Work progress remains on schedule -a 137 week construction period with practical completion due first quarter 2013.

17. Moorgate Telephone Exchange

This site has been sold to MGPA, Quadrant Developments are the development manager. The developers have commenced the process to demolish the existing building and intend to implement the planning consented office scheme.

18. St Alphage House

Planning Permission granted at the end of August 2011. No timetable set for development, but could be in 2012.

19. Roman House

A planning application for residential use has been submitted (refurbishment and extension to provide 90 flats), but has not yet been determined, but expects to achieved a committee meeting before the end of the year.

20. Public Lifts Serving the Barbican Estate

Following breakdown of the down escalator in August Kone have been instructed to carry out necessary repairs. Replacement parts have been ordered

and regretfully there were further delays before the parts became available for them to carry out the repair to the broken (down) escalator.

The broken (up) escalator had been temporarily repaired and put back into service but unfortunately went out of service again in October. As soon as the replacement parts for this escalator arrive the escalator will be put back into service. Crossrail have advised that they will not be taking these escalators out of service until 2013.

21. YMCA

The decision of the various Committees has been relayed to YMCA England. A meeting with its Chief Executive is awaited to progress the service of Notice.