



Court of Common Council

Date: THURSDAY, 5 DECEMBER 2024

Time: 1.00 pm

Venue: GUILDHALL

15. **QUESTIONS**
Question Summary

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Ian Thomas CBE
Town Clerk and Chief Executive

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COURT OF COMMON COUNCIL – 5th December 2024

QUESTIONS SUMMARY

1. Eamonn Mullally to ask a question of the Chairman of the Policy and Resources Committee:-

“In June 2024, Patrick Jenkins, writing in the Financial Times, authored an article titled ‘Undemocratic, Anachronistic, Fantastic. How the City of London survives.’ He highlighted the persistent under-representation of women in leadership and the slow progress in addressing racial inequality within the City of London Corporation. His concerns included:

- “What is the perspective of the next Lady Mayor, knowing she will only be the third woman to hold this position in over 800 years?”*
- “The 2018 Lord Mayor emphasized the importance of acknowledging the origins of the City’s historical wealth for maintaining modern credibility. Nevertheless, the corporation’s steps towards transparency regarding the slave trade have been gradual.”*
- “Diversity remains insufficient, with only six out of twenty-five Alders being women, and even fewer representing ethnic minorities. This raises questions about the corporation’s commitment to promoting diversity.”*

Many Members and Alders agree with the proposition that the City Corporation should better reflect the diverse population it represents. As the political leader of the Corporation what actions are you taking to improve gender and ethnic representation across Members and Alders, in the coming election and in the selection process for the Lord Mayor? What transparent pathways have been established to ensure these efforts are realized?”

*

2. Deputy Ann Holmes to ask a question of the Chairman of the Policy and Resources Committee concerning the publication of the MCP report and minutes of the discussion at the special November Court meeting:-

“Given the sensitive information in the paper, discussed at the special meeting of the Court held 26/11/24, has now been made public in the press, can that paper and the minutes of the meeting also be made public?”

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