Public Document Pack

Court of Common Council

Date: **THURSDAY, 23 JULY 2026**
Time: **1.00 pm**
Venue: **GUILDHALL**

10. **QUESTIONS**

(Pages 3 - 4)

Ian Thomas CBE
Town Clerk and Chief Executive

This page is intentionally left blank

COURT OF COMMON COUNCIL – 23rd of July 2026

QUESTIONS SUMMARY

1. **Deputy Marianne Fredericks to ask a question of the Chairman of the Policy and Resources Committee concerning the Freedom of the City:-**
"Will the Policy Chair please report on what action has been taken by the Corporation in response to the motion passed at the meeting of the Court of Common Council last May about the removal of the Freedom of the City of London from Andrew Mountbatten-Windsor?"

*

2. **John Foley to ask a question of the Chairman of the Policy and Resources Committee concerning the impact of AI:-**
"According to a recent report from City Hall at least a million jobs in London are 'highly or significantly exposed' to the impact of AI. Approximately 300,000 admin, clerical, and data entry roles 'face the most immediate risk of automation', with a further '748,000, spanning IT, finance, and secretarial work, susceptible as GenAI streamlines and changes day-to-day tasks.' Disproportionately exposed, are 'young people, entry-level workers, and women because AI tools frequently automate tasks typically assigned to these roles'. These, of course, are predictions, and doubtless some people can be retrained and re-skilled. However, for many thousands of others the future job market looks bleak. With that in mind, does the Corporation have any plans to alleviate what could be a problem for the City's workforce – and also for its own?"

*

3. **Deputy Henry Colthurst to ask a question to the Chair of Community & Children's Services relating to the Statutory Independent Inquiry into Grooming Gangs:-**
"Is there any evidence to suggest that any of the grooming gang-related activity, reported in the news recently, took place in the City of London?

In any event, how does the City Corporation intend to influence other police forces, civic authorities across the nation and the courts to ensure that this sort of activity, both appalling and unacceptable, can be prevented from ever happening again in future?"

*

4. **Sue Farrington to ask a question of the Chairman of the Policy and Resources Committee concerning Business Improvement Districts:-**
"Given the increasing role that Business Improvement Districts [BIDs] play in shaping investment, cultural programming, place-making and strategic partnerships within the City, what arrangements does the City Corporation have in place to ensure that elected Members, particularly those representing affected wards, are informed and able to contribute their local knowledge and views at an early stage, before discussions with BIDs develop into formal proposals, partnerships or agreed corporate positions?"

*

5. **Stephanie Steeden to ask a question of the Chairman of the Policy and Resources Committee concerning the appointment of Ward Deputies:-**
"Following a recent change of Ward Deputy in Castle Baynard, which led to some confusion around the due process, could the Chair please clarify the mechanism by which an Alderman or Alderwoman appoints a Ward Deputy?"

*****