



## Port Health & Environmental Services Committee

**Date:** TUESDAY, 23 NOVEMBER 2021

**Time:** 11.00 am

**Venue:** COMMITTEE ROOMS, 2ND FLOOR, WEST WING, GUILDHALL

**Members:**

Deputy Keith Bottomley (Chairman)	Deputy Wendy Hyde
Mary Durcan (Deputy Chairman)	Alderman Gregory Jones QC
Rehana Ameer	Shravan Joshi
Alexander Barr	Alderwoman Susan Langley
Adrian Bastow	Vivienne Littlechild
John Bennett	Deputy Edward Lord
Peter Bennett	Deputy Robert Merrett
Tijs Broeke	Deputy Andrien Meyers
John Chapman	Deputy Brian Mooney (Chief Commoner)
Deputy Peter Dunphy	John Petrie
John Edwards	Deputy Henry Pollard
Deputy Kevin Everett	Henrika Priest
Anne Fairweather	Jason Pritchard
Helen Fentimen	Deputy Elizabeth Rogula
Sophie Anne Fernandes	Jeremy Simons
Christopher Hill	George Abrahams

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**John Barradell**  
Town Clerk and Chief Executive

# **AGENDA**

## **Part 1 - Public Agenda**

1. **APOLOGIES**
2. **MEMBERS' DECLARATIONS UNDER THE CODE OF CONDUCT IN RESPECT OF ITEMS ON THE AGENDA**
3. **MINUTES**  
To agree the public minutes and non-public summary of the last meeting held on 27 September 2021.  
**For Decision**  
(Pages 5 - 12)
4. **OUTSTANDING ACTIONS AND WORK PLAN**  
Report of the Town Clerk.  
**For Information**  
(Pages 13 - 16)
5. **BREXIT UPDATE**  
The Port Health and Public Protection Director to provide an oral update on the latest position.  
**For Information**
6. **NEW WORLD HEALTH ORGANISATION AIR QUALITY GUIDELINES**  
Report of the Executive Director Environment.  
**For Decision**  
(Pages 17 - 26)
7. **REVENUE AND CAPITAL BUDGETS 2022/23**  
Joint report of the Chamberlain and Executive Director Environment.  
**For Decision**  
(Pages 27 - 42)
8. **49TH CITY OF LONDON THAMES FISHERY RESEARCH EXPERIMENT**  
Report of the Executive Director Environment.  
**For Decision**  
(Pages 43 - 52)
9. **COMMERCIAL ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SERVICE PLAN**  
Report of the Executive Director Environment.  
**For Decision**  
(Pages 53 - 64)
10. **SERVICE CHANGES AND OUTCOMES FROM THE CLEANSING SERVICE 2021/22 BUDGET SAVING**  
Report of the Executive Director Environment.  
**For Information**  
(Pages 65 - 70)

11. **QUESTIONS ON MATTERS RELATING TO THE WORK OF THE COMMITTEE**

12. **ANY OTHER BUSINESS THAT THE CHAIRMAN CONSIDERS URGENT**

13. **EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC**

MOTION – That under Section 100(A) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public be excluded from the meeting for the following items on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Part I of the Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act.

**For Decision**

## **Part 2 - Non-public Agenda**

14. **NON-PUBLIC MINUTES**

To agree the non-public minutes of the last meeting held on 27 September 2021.

**For Decision**  
(Pages 71 - 72)

15. **PORT HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES DEBTORS - PERIOD ENDING 30 SEPTEMBER 2021**

Report of the Executive Director Environment.

**For Information**  
(Pages 73 - 84)

16. **NON-PUBLIC QUESTIONS ON MATTERS RELATING TO THE WORK OF THE COMMITTEE**

17. **ANY OTHER BUSINESS THAT THE CHAIRMAN CONSIDERED URGENT AND WHICH THE COMMITTEE AGREES SHOULD BE CONSIDERED WHILST THE PUBLIC ARE EXCLUDED**

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## **PORT HEALTH & ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES COMMITTEE**

**Monday, 27 September 2021**

**Minutes of the meeting of the Port Health & Environmental Services Committee held at the Guildhall EC2 at 11.00 am**

### **Present**

#### **Members:**

Deputy Keith Bottomley (Chairman)	Alderwoman Susan Langley
Alexander Barr	Deputy Robert Merrett
John Bennett	John Petrie
Peter Bennett	Deputy Henry Pollard
John Chapman	Henrika Priest
Deputy Peter Dunphy	Jason Pritchard
John Edwards	Deputy Elizabeth Rogula
Deputy Wendy Hyde	George Abrahams

#### **Officers:**

Juliemma McLoughlin	- Executive Director of Environment
Jon Averbs	- Director of Consumer Protection & Markets Operations
Gary Burks	- Superintendent & Registrar, COL Cemetery & Crematorium
Colin Buttery	- Director of Open Spaces & Heritage
Paul Wright	- Deputy Remembrancer
Ruth Calderwood	- Air Quality Manager
Gerry Kiefer	- Open Spaces Business Manager
Gavin Stedman	- Port Health & Public Protection Director
Paul Chadha	- Chief Lawyer
Jenny Pitcairn	- Senior Accountant, Chamberlains Department
Vincent Dignam	- Business Performance & Transport Group Manager
Karen Tillett	- Trading Standards Officer, Environment Department
Robin Whitehouse	- Pollution Team Manager, Environment Department
Kristina Drake	- Media Officer, Town Clerk's Department
Leanne Murphy	- Town Clerk's Department

### **1. APOLOGIES**

Apologies were received from Tijs Broeke and Deputy Edward Lord.

### **2. MEMBERS' DECLARATIONS UNDER THE CODE OF CONDUCT IN RESPECT OF ITEMS ON THE AGENDA**

There were no declarations.

### **3. MINUTES**

**RESOLVED**, that the public minutes and non-public summary of the meeting held on 13 July 2021 were approved as an accurate record.

### Matters arising

With regards to the previous request for practical advice for Members to share concerning office lights, Members were advised that a formal procedure was being developed by the City Corporation. A voluntary code of practice was also being developed which could be shared with constituents. The Chairman requested Officers to provide some paragraphs for Members to share regarding light nuisance whilst this was in development.

## **4. OUTSTANDING ACTIONS AND WORK PLAN**

The Committee received a report of the Town Clerk setting out the current list of outstanding actions:

### **Electric Vehicle Charging**

Officers confirmed electric charging points had been made available to residents and this matter was being followed up with the Planning & Transportation and Community & Children's Services Committees. Pressure continued to be put on the Landlord and a long-term plan was received. Members welcomed the arrangements made by the City Corporation and thanked Officers.

A Member noted that the arrangement was for four weeks only, and this needed to be communicated with residents, so they were aware of their options. The Member highlighted the need to help low-income residents and their transport needs. Officers agreed to share communications with residents and continue to apply pressure.

### **Measurement and mitigation options for operational rail noise from London Underground affecting the Barbican Estate**

The Chairman advised that he had a meeting with Nickie Aiken, MP for Cities of London and Westminster, who had a shared interest on tube related noise disturbance which was an issue across London. Members were advised that they were joining up with other MPs to deal with the issue.

Members were advised that an update was received from TfL with further details to follow in the coming weeks. A meeting took place at the beginning of September between TfL, Officers and Members and a number of issues were raised including the noise, delays, communications and noise measuring at Brandon Mews. Residents would be contacted regarding access.

A Member enquired if the works had been resolved at Defoe House. Officers were not certain as these were ongoing works over years and only some joints had been removed from the track.

The Chairman stated that TfL needed to be held to their promises to residents and they needed to understand the effect of the new timetables. The Deputy Chairman was disappointed there were still no noise measurements as they were led to believe it would happen quickly and encouraged Officers to keep pushing for this information. It was noted the next meeting would be held in a flat on site.

### **Busking at Southwark**

Members were advised that two meetings had taken place between Members, Officers, residents and Southwark and Officers continued to engage with buskers. It was noted there was also an issue with leafletting and there would be a meeting on Friday to resolve issues.

Members requested that Southwark be pushed to enforce on noise nuisance and take resident concerns seriously.

### **5. ENVIRONMENT BILL UPDATE**

The Committee received an oral update from the Deputy Remembrancer concerning the Environment Bill.

Members were informed that the Bill was going through its final stages at the House of Lords; the City Corporation had drafted an amendment on air quality to the Bill which was tabled by Lord Tope. Although the amendment was not put to a vote, it received cross-party support and generated significant debate. The Chairman and officers met with the Minister and officials from Defra to discuss and further discussion is ongoing at Official level to push this agenda forward.

Members discussed and agreed for the need to push the use of green technology and non-mobile road machinery/enforcement power.

With regards to a question concerning controls for generators, Officers were looking at generators and emissions targets set by Defra. The Bill would not require electric-based generators but was expected to provide trajectory. It was noted that WHO guidelines also supported this, and it was hoped these guidelines would be used to apply pressure.

A Member enquired if companies could buy back the power from the power supply company to get revenue. Officers confirmed this was being explored.

The Chairman was pleased and optimistic the City Corporation was pushing the Government and leading the agenda on air quality in London.

### **6. COVID-19 AND BREXIT UPDATE**

The Committee received an oral update from the Port Health and Public Protection Director concerning COVID-19 and the UK's impact of leaving the EU (Brexit) on Port Health & Public Protection.

Although airline activity at HARC during the period was around 25% of pre-COVID levels, greater numbers of pets continue to arrive on each flight, with the team dealing with a record number of animals each month. Port Health has also not slowed down with throughput 30% up on last year, a continuing upward trend.

Members were advised that DP World had announced a £300m investment in a fourth berth at London Gateway Port demonstrating their confidence in the UK and the opportunities it presents.

On 14 September, the Government confirmed there would be a further delay to the implementation of border controls on EU food and feed. Under the revised timetable:

- The requirements for pre-notification of Sanitary and Phytosanitary (SPS) goods, which were due to be introduced on 1 October 2021, will now be introduced on 1 January 2022;
- The new requirements for Export Health Certificates, which were due to be introduced on 1 October 2021, will now be introduced on 1 July 2022;
- Phytosanitary Certificates and physical checks on SPS goods at Border Control Posts, due to be introduced on 1 January 2022, will now be introduced on 1 July 2022;
- Safety and Security declarations on imports will be required as of 1 July 2022 as opposed to 1 January 2022;
- Full customs declarations and controls will be introduced on 1 January 2022 as previously announced.

This would give the ports and trade more time to prepare for border controls although in practice, no enforcement role would be undertaken and no charges levied until July 2022.

Members were informed that the Port Health service had recruited well with only three posts still to recruit and for which there are live recruitment processes. An additional 10 staff have been requested based on the latest Defra/HMRC projections, which could more than double the current throughput.

The issue of funding for 2022/23, until the border controls are implemented, was raised with Defra who are discussing continued support with the Treasury. Officers await further details, which are expected next month.

These delays would also have an impact on live animal checks, which are now unlikely to come into force until the end of 2022.

In response to a question regarding the challenges of high-risk imports through the ports on the south of the river, Officers confirmed that two ports on the south banks of the Thames are developing facilities to accept high risk food and feed. As there were less vessels entering through the Kent ports, they could be resourced strategically based on risk.

## **7. UPDATE ON THE IMPACT OF BUDGET CUTS ON THE CLEANSING SERVICE**

The Committee received an oral update from the Assistant Cleansing Director concerning the impact of budget cuts on the cleansing service.

Members were advised that there had been significant work since January and feedback so far suggested there had been a drop in standard. This was being reviewed and resources rescoped appropriately. Whilst the City is performing better than neighbouring boroughs, an increase of graffiti and flyposting,



increased demonstrations from Extinction Rebellion and cleaning up after the Euros have had an impact.

Members felt Officers did a good job dealing with graffiti. A Member enquired how much it cost to clean up following Extinction Rebellion events, e.g. the paint on Guildhall, and whether it was environmentally friendly to clean. Officers confirmed they were collating the costs to be included in a report in November. Whilst no chemicals were used, only hot waterpower washing, lots of water and manpower were needed to remove the paint. Members were pleased to learn that the City Corporation were taking Extinction Rebellion to Court for these costs. An application was also being made to convict against protesters.

8. **BUSINESS PLANS 2021/2022: PROGRESS REPORT (PERIOD 1)**

The Committee considered a report of the Executive Director Environment providing an update on progress made during Period 1 (April-July) against the High-Level Business Plans 2021/22 for the three service areas.

The Committee were determined to protect front line services which could not be done if they kept on being cut. A reprioritisation of spending was therefore required to maintain and improve services.

With regards to Port Health, a Member questioned why there was an unhappy face for imported food. Officers advised this was the result of a number of reasons as trade had jumped significantly and paperwork was not being delivered in a timely fashion due to Covid. It was hoped this would improve quickly.

In response to a question concerning Trading Standards complaint numbers, Members were informed that there were many scams and covid incidents in period 1 and it was hoped this again would improve. Officers agreed to provide exact figures.

*Post meeting note: For 1 April 2021 to 30 September 2021, 1,607 complaints were received and for the same period in 2020 there were 1,348, an increase of 19.2%*

Members enquired about enforcement activities against repeat offenders and Officers advised that they were considering what further action was appropriate including injunctions and criminal behaviour orders when necessary.

RECEIVED.

9. **ADOPTION OF LETTINGS ENFORCEMENT POLICY**

The Committee considered a report of the Director of Environment concerning the adoption of a Lettings Enforcement Policy.

Members were informed that the proposed Policy would mainly deal with breaches of legislation and provided guidelines for setting penalties for breaches.

**RESOLVED** – That Members agree to the adoption of the Lettings Enforcement Policy

10. **DRAFT CITY OF LONDON CONTAMINATED LAND INSPECTION STRATEGY 2021-2030**

The Committee considered a report of the Director of Markets & Consumer Protection concerning the City of London Contaminated Land Inspection Strategy 2021-2030.

Members were advised that statutory guidance requires adoption of a new strategy, which now included changes from all relevant committees and consultees.

A Member enquired if there was currently any contaminated land or areas of concern for the City Corporation on the register of contaminated land. Officers confirmed there were not any areas declared statutorily contaminated or of concern, but it is necessary for investigation to continue. Members were advised that only areas inside of the City of London are covered by this policy.

Officers advised on the difficulties with the risk data and how that can be miss understood, including the need for evidence of contamination (rather than potential contamination) and the presence of a pathway from any contamination to persons or water before action would become necessary

Officers will work with the relevant departments regarding risks to corporation land both within and without the city of London and how that information should be held. Officers will liaise with relevant members and advise on how this information is recorded.

**RESOLVED** – That Members approve the proposal set out in paragraph 10 that the attached contaminated land inspection strategy 2021-2030 (Appendix 1) is adopted from the 1 October 2021.

11. **DELEGATED AUTHORITY REQUEST - REPLACEMENT OF THE LADY AILEEN'S ENGINES**

The Committee considered a report of the Executive Director of Environment requesting delegated authority to the Town Clerk regarding the replacement of the Lady Aileen's engines.

Members were informed that the Lady Aileen was over 20 years old, and whilst the hull was in good condition, the engines were of an even older design and deteriorating with parts harder to source. Replacement of the engines with the latest technology would improve efficiency and reduce emissions and carry forward from 2020/21 had been agreed for this purpose.

The proposal would be considered by the Corporate Projects Board and Projects Sub Committee and delegated authority was requested in order that the project could be progressed promptly. This request was approved by Members.

**RESOLVED** – that Members delegate authority to the Town Clerk, in consultation with the Chairman and Deputy Chairman, to approve the Gateway 1-4 Project Proposal and Options Appraisal for the replacement of the Lady Aileen's engines.

**12. RISK MANAGEMENT - PERIODIC UPDATE REPORT**

The Committee received a report of the Executive Director Environment providing assurance that risk management procedures in place within the Department of the Built Environment, Department of Markets and Consumer Protection, and the Open Spaces Department are satisfactory and that they meet the requirements of the corporate Risk Management Framework. Risk is reviewed regularly within each department as part of the ongoing management of operations.

The Committee was provided with an update on the management of risks faced by the departments.

**RESOLVED** – That Members note the report and the actions taken by each service area to monitor, mitigate and manage effectively risks arising from their operations.

**13. QUESTIONS ON MATTERS RELATING TO THE WORK OF THE COMMITTEE**

Speed boats

A Member asked the Committee and Officers to take note of the excessive noise from speed boats on the river at the upcoming Committee River Inspection and asked if this could be reviewed. Officers confirmed this had been raised with the Port of London Authority as to what could be legally done on this matter. Officers agreed to follow up with the Chief Executive of the Port of London Authority.

**14. ANY OTHER BUSINESS THAT THE CHAIRMAN CONSIDERS URGENT**

Thames Fishery Research Experiment

The Chairman highlighted the successful 49<sup>th</sup> City of London Thames Fishery Research Experiment on 18 September 2021 and thanked Officers for organising the event.

Launch of the new World Health Organisation (WHO) Air Quality Guidelines

Members were advised that guidelines were last published in 2006 and there had been lots of movement since leading to significant changes. The guidelines were not legally binding but provided a great evidence base. It was noted that the new Environment Bill set national targets supported by these guidelines and the City Corporation was already well on track to reach the targets. Officers would consider the implications for the Corporation and bring a report to the Committee for consideration.

**15. EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC**

**RESOLVED**, that – under Section 100(A) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public be excluded from the meeting for the following items on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Part I of the Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act.

16. **NON-PUBLIC MINUTES**

**RESOLVED**, that the non-public minutes of the meeting held on 13 July 2021 were approved as an accurate record.

17. **PORT HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES DEBTORS - PERIOD ENDING 30 JUNE 2021**

The Committee noted a report of the Executive Director of Environment regarding Port Health and Environmental Services Debtors for the period ending 30 June 2021.

18. **NON-PUBLIC APPENDIX: RISK MANAGEMENT REPORT - RISK REGISTER**

The Committee received a non-public Risk Register appendix to be read in conjunction with item 12 concerning Risk Management.

19. **NON-PUBLIC QUESTIONS ON MATTERS RELATING TO THE WORK OF THE COMMITTEE**

There were no questions.

20. **ANY OTHER BUSINESS THAT THE CHAIRMAN CONSIDERED URGENT AND WHICH THE COMMITTEE AGREES SHOULD BE CONSIDERED WHILST THE PUBLIC ARE EXCLUDED**

There was no other business.

**The meeting closed at 12.49 pm**

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Chairman

**Contact Officer: Leanne Murphy**  
**leanne.murphy@cityoflondon.gov.uk**

### Port Health & Environmental Services Committee – Outstanding Actions

Item	Date	Action	Officer(s) responsible	To be completed/ progressed to next stage	Progress Update
1.	19 September 2017	<b>Electric Vehicle Charging</b>	Transportation and Public Realm Director	September 2021	The Minorities Electric Vehicle Charging for the Middlesex Street residents is in place and has been advertised on the Estate website since 28 October 2021. There have been no applications sent through by the Estates team to the Car Parking team for any car park access cards to date.
2. Page 13	15 January 2019	<b>Measurement and mitigation options for operational rail noise from London Underground affecting the Barbican Estate</b>	Executive Director of Environment	December 2021	<p>Members and Officers met with LUL's Head of Track and Head of Line Operations on 2 September to discuss further mitigations for residents of the Barbican Estate affected by noise from the subsurface lines.</p> <p>A number of investigatory actions were committed to and the outcome of those investigations are detailed in a letter from Duncan Weir to the Chairman, circulated to members.</p> <p>A number of actions have been carried out by LUL to reduce the noise and vibration experienced by residents such as rail grinding, replacement of ballast, sleepers, rails joints and insulated block joints. The track is on a priority enhanced inspection regime to proactively identify discontinuities and defects to the infrastructure.</p> <p>However, LUL have now confirmed that points 35 A/B that are the main noise source for Brandon Mews cannot be moved, replaced or removed due to operational requirements. They</p>

					<p>are however maintained in good condition to minimise the noise and vibration generated when trains pass over them.</p> <p>Acoustic reports from properties in Defoe House and Brandon Mews are expected imminently. Resident communications will follow including discussion at the upcoming Transport Forum.</p> <p>The Chairman of PHES and Chairman of Policy and Resources have discussed the matter with Nikki Aitken MP who has committed to raise the issue with the GLA.</p>
3.	27 September 2021	<b>Busking at Southwark</b>	Director of Markets and Consumer Protection	Ongoing	<p>Following the two meetings between Members, Officers, residents and Southwark, Members requested that Southwark be pushed to enforce on noise nuisance and take resident concerns seriously. An update at the next meeting was requested.</p>
4.	27 September 2021	<b>Lighting Guidance Note</b>	Planning and Development Director	Ongoing	<p>A Lighting Guidance Note is in development and would be shared with Members when it was finalised. In the meantime, Officers agreed to provide some paragraphs for Members to share and continue to work on the Planning Guidance Note.</p>

**Port Health & Environmental Services  
Work Programme 2021/22**

**Standing Items**

- Outstanding Actions
- Minutes
- Brexit update
- COVID-19 update

<b>23 November 2021</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 49<sup>th</sup> City of London Thames Fishery Research Experiment</li> <li>• Commercial Environmental Health Service Plan</li> <li>• PHES Debtors Period Ending 30 September 2021</li> <li>• Revenue and Capital Budgets 2022/23</li> <li>• <i>New World Health Organisation Air Quality Guidelines Update</i></li> <li>• <i>Service Changes and Outcomes from the Cleansing Service 2021/22 Budget Saving</i></li> </ul>
<b>18 January 2022</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Annual Review of the Committee's Terms of Reference</li> <li>• Draft High-Level Business Plans 2022/23</li> <li>• Business Plans 2021/2022: Progress Report (Period 2)</li> <li>• Cemetery and Crematorium Fees and Charges 2022/23</li> <li>• Animal Reception Centre - Heathrow Airport: Annual Review of Charges</li> <li>• Risk Management - Periodic Update Report</li> <li>• Deep Dive CR21 Air Quality</li> <li>• <i>DBE Service Changes &amp; Budget Proposals</i></li> <li>• <i>Environment Bill implications</i></li> </ul>
<b>8 March 2022</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• PHES Debtors - Period Ending 31 December 2021</li> <li>• Proposed Charges for Street Cleansing, Waste Collection and Public Conveniences 2022/23</li> </ul>
<b>24 May 2022</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Election of Chairman/Deputy Chairman</li> <li>• Committee appointments</li> <li>• Order of the Court of Common Council</li> <li>• Massage and Special Treatment Licence Fees</li> <li>• Commercial Environmental Health Service Plan</li> <li>• Risk Management - Periodic Update Report</li> <li>• Business Plan Progress Update P3/Year End 21/22</li> </ul>

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<b>Committee:</b> Port Health and Environmental Services	<b>Date:</b> 23/11/2021
<b>Subject:</b> New World Health Organisation Air Quality Guidelines	<b>Public</b>
<b>Which outcomes in the City Corporation's Corporate Plan does this proposal aim to impact directly?</b>	2 and 11
<b>Does this proposal require extra revenue and/or capital spending?</b>	Yes
<b>If so, how much?</b>	£20,000 - £30,000
<b>What is the source of Funding?</b>	Identified in-year underspend in the Climate Action Strategy Central Risk Budget
<b>Has this Funding Source been agreed with the Chamberlain's Department?</b>	Yes
<b>Report of:</b> Juliemma McLoughlin, Executive Director, Environment	<b>For decision</b>
<b>Report author:</b> Ruth Calderwood, Air Quality Manager	

## Summary

Since 1987, the World Health Organisation (WHO) has issued air quality guidelines for the main air pollutants that have a damaging impact on health. As evidence about the harmful health impacts of air pollution advances, the air quality guidelines are revised. The latest set of guidelines were published in September 2021.

The new guidelines are more stringent than the previous set for nitrogen dioxide and particulate matter, PM<sub>2.5</sub> and PM<sub>10</sub>. New advice has also been issued for the management of black carbon; a type of particulate matter known to have a significant impact on health.

On 9<sup>th</sup> November 2021, the Environment Bill received Royal Assent. The Environment Act 2021 requires the government to set new targets for PM<sub>2.5</sub>. The targets will be influenced by the new WHO air quality guidelines but are unlikely to be as stringent, at least not in the short term. Once the targets are known, the City Corporation will need to develop an air quality plan detailing how the new targets will be met. Local authorities have not previously been responsible for managing levels of PM<sub>2.5</sub> as only a small proportion is generated locally.

Locally derived PM<sub>2.5</sub> is predominantly in the form of 'black carbon'. It is regarded as one of the more toxic types of small particle and is created by the incomplete

combustion of fossil fuels. In addition to being detrimental to health, black carbon is also a potent climate warming agent.

As previous work has not taken place to ascertain, in detail, the sources of PM<sub>2.5</sub> generated in the Square Mile, the proposal is to commission work to develop an inventory of local sources of PM<sub>2.5</sub> and consider how it can be effectively controlled. This information will then feed into the development of the new air quality plan, which is required under the Environment Act 2021.

PM<sub>2.5</sub> is the pollutant that has the greatest impact on health. By focussing on this pollutant, and in particular the black carbon fraction, the best health outcomes will be delivered. Action to deal with PM<sub>2.5</sub> also has the benefit of reducing overall levels of PM<sub>10</sub>. Reducing black carbon will assist the climate action programme.

## **Recommendation**

Members are asked to:

- Approve the commission of research, at a cost of £20,000 - £30,000, into locally derived sources of PM<sub>2.5</sub>, to formulate a plan to reduce levels in line with new statutory obligations, and for maximum health and climate benefits following the publication of the latest WHO Air Quality Guidelines.

## **Main Report**

### **Background**

1. Air pollution has an impact on health. It increases morbidity and mortality from cardiovascular and respiratory disease, and from lung cancer. Additionally, there is increasing evidence about the effects on other organs and systems in the body.
2. Since 1987, the World Health Organisation (WHO) has periodically issued health-based air quality guidelines to help governments reduce human exposure to air pollution. The guidelines were last reviewed in 2005 and published the following year<sup>1</sup>. Since then, there has been a significant amount of evidence about the adverse health impacts of air pollution. This has led to the guidelines being revised and a new set published in September 2021<sup>2</sup>.
3. The guidelines are designed to offer quantitative health-based recommendations for managing air quality. They are not legally binding, but they do provide an evidence-based tool to inform legislation and policy in WHO Member States, of

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<sup>1</sup> <https://apps.who.int/iris/handle/10665/69477>

<sup>2</sup> <https://apps.who.int/iris/handle/10665/345329>

which the United Kingdom is one. Current air quality targets in the UK are based on the 2005 guidelines.

4. In addition to new guidelines for the key pollutants, interim targets have been set to guide the reduction of air pollution towards the achievement of the guidelines. This recognises the difficulty that some countries will face in meeting the new recommendations.
5. Table 1 details the new guidelines for the pollutants of concern in the Square Mile: nitrogen dioxide, particulate matter PM<sub>2.5</sub> and PM<sub>10</sub>. An additional 'peak season' target has also been set for ozone.
6. The annual average nitrogen dioxide guideline was set at 40µg/m<sup>3</sup>. However, the new guideline has been set at just 10µg/m<sup>3</sup>, demonstrating that this pollutant has a greater impact on health than previously thought. There is also a new 24-hour guideline for nitrogen dioxide.
7. The PM<sub>2.5</sub> annual average guideline has reduced from 10µg/m<sup>3</sup> to 5µg/m<sup>3</sup> and the 24-hour guideline from 25µg/m<sup>3</sup> to 15µg/m<sup>3</sup>. The PM<sub>10</sub> annual average guideline has reduced from 20µg/m<sup>3</sup> to 15µg/m<sup>3</sup> and the 24-hour guideline from 50µg/m<sup>3</sup> to 45µg/m<sup>3</sup>.
8. New targets have also been set for carbon monoxide and sulphur dioxide. Historic monitoring has shown that these pollutants are both very low in the Square Mile, and across the country, and are therefore not considered to be a problem.

**Table 1**

Pollutant	Averaging time	Interim target				2005 AQG	2021 AQG	Average level in Square Mile
		1	2	3	4			
Nitrogen dioxide µg/m <sup>3</sup>	Annual	40	30	20	10	40	10	20 - 60
	24-hour	120	50	-	25	N/A*	25	73 - 114
PM <sub>2.5</sub> µg/m <sup>3</sup>	Annual	35	25	15	5	10	5	12
	24-hour	75	50	37.5	15	25	15	50
PM <sub>10</sub> µg/m <sup>3</sup>	Annual	70	50	30	15	20	15	16 - 24
	24-hour	150	100	75	45	50	45	54 - 71
Ozone µg/m <sup>3</sup>	Peak season	100	70	-	60	N/A*	60	No data
	8-hour	160	120		100	100	100	No data

\* No previous guideline set for this averaging time

9. Particulate matter is made up of many sources. At this stage, guidelines have not been set for the different types of particles, although it is widely accepted that particles such as black carbon (formed through incomplete combustion of fossil fuels) have more of an impact on health than other particle types. Black carbon is

also a powerful climate warming agent that acts by absorbing heat in the atmosphere.

10. To recognise the significance of black carbon, in its latest review of the air quality guidelines, WHO has recommended:
  - a. Measurements of black carbon
  - b. Undertaking emissions inventories of black carbon
  - c. Taking measures to reduce black carbon

## **Current levels of air pollution in the Square Mile**

### **Nitrogen dioxide**

11. Nitrogen dioxide is a colourless and odourless gas that is generated when fuel is burned. The Square Mile has historically experience high levels of nitrogen dioxide, however a wide range of national, regional, and local action has led to a significant reduction in recent years.
12. One of the aims of the City Corporation's current Air Quality Strategy is for over 90% of the Square Mile to meet the 2005 WHO air quality guidelines for nitrogen dioxide by 2025. This was achieved for the annual average guideline in 2020, when it was 93%. This compares to 67% in 2019 and 33% in 2018. The 2005 hourly average guideline is met everywhere.
13. Appendix 1 contains a map showing concentrations of annual average nitrogen dioxide during 2020. It is presented with reference to the new WHO air quality guidelines and interim targets. A map of concentrations during 2019 has been included for comparison.
14. Nitrogen dioxide is currently being measured in over 80 locations across the Square Mile. Annual average concentrations are between  $20\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$  and  $60\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ . The latter figure was not measured anywhere in 2020 but is an output from computer modelling for that year. Very few places across the country currently meet the new WHO guideline of  $10\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ . The maximum 24-hour reading in the Square Mile during 2020 was  $114\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ .
15. Although levels of nitrogen dioxide were lower than expected during 2020 due to the response to the COVID 19 pandemic, it is not anticipated that levels will return to 2019 concentrations. Instead, following an anticipated slight increase in 2021, we will continue to see year on year improvements due to the range of air quality plans and programmes in place. This will be greatly helped by the work underway for climate action, which will deliver greater energy efficiency, more renewable energy, and an accelerated programme of decarbonisation.

## **Particulates PM<sub>10</sub> and PM<sub>2.5</sub>**

16. Particulate matter is made up of a wide range of substances, for example dust, sea salt, ammonia, sulphates, nitrates, and black carbon from fuel combustion. It is defined by its size. PM<sub>10</sub> includes any particles that are under 10 micrometers in diameter and PM<sub>2.5</sub> less than 2.5 micrometers in diameter.
17. Annual average levels of PM<sub>10</sub> across the City are around 16µg/m<sup>3</sup> to 24µg/m<sup>3</sup>. The maximum 24-hour reading in 2020 was 71µg/m<sup>3</sup>. Particles from vehicle tailpipes, and tyre and brake wear result in higher levels adjacent to busy roads.
18. Annual average PM<sub>2.5</sub> concentrations are around 12µg/m<sup>3</sup> across the Square Mile. The maximum 24-hour reading in 2020 was 50 µg/m<sup>3</sup>. Concentrations of PM<sub>2.5</sub> are only very slightly higher at roadside which demonstrates the small contribution made to total PM<sub>2.5</sub> by local road traffic.

## **Ozone**

19. Ozone is not currently measured in the Square Mile as it has not been part of the statutory requirement for local air quality management. It is classed as a regional pollutant that cannot be controlled locally. It has also historically not been an issue in the City due to high levels of nitrogen dioxide which, due to chemical reactions that take place in the air, results in low levels of ozone. Levels of ozone in the south-east of the country are higher in rural areas than urban areas.
20. As nitrogen dioxide decreases, ozone levels in the Square Mile will increase. Plans are in place to install an ozone analyser in the Guildhall to measure the anticipated increase in ozone and provide data and corresponding health advice to the public.

## **Black carbon**

21. Measurements of black carbon have been made around the Square Mile using portable hand-held sensors. Relatively high levels of black carbon have been detected away from roadsides, often in the City's alleyways. This has been attributed to solid fuel burning in restaurants. Guidance has been produced for the restaurant industry with advice on how to minimise emissions of black carbon and ensure that correct appliance and fuel type is used.
22. Air Quality Officers have also been visiting retail premises to check compliance with the Air Quality (Domestic Solid Fuels Standards) (England) Regulations 2020. The aim is to prevent the sale and use of 'wet wood' which should reduce the amount of black carbon being emitted into the air

## **Proposal**

23. The Environment Act 2021 received Royal Assent on 9th November. It redefines local government's statutory obligations for improving air quality. Once new

national air quality targets have been set, local authorities will be required to develop plans demonstrating how they will be met.

24. The government will be setting new targets for PM<sub>2.5</sub>. The targets will be influenced by the new WHO guidelines, but we are unlikely to see an annual average target of 5µg/m<sup>3</sup>, at least not in the short term. At this stage it is not clear whether an additional target will be set for nitrogen dioxide.
25. The vast majority of PM<sub>2.5</sub> measured in the Square Mile comes from outside its boundary. However, there is some PM<sub>2.5</sub> generated locally. This is likely to be black carbon from the combustion of diesel in vehicles, generators and construction equipment, the burning of gas and from solid fuel used in restaurants.
26. The proposal is to commission work to understand the exact proportion of PM<sub>2.5</sub> generated locally and how it can be most effectively controlled. This will assist in the formulation of a new action plan required by the Environment Act 2021. The dominant type of local PM<sub>2.5</sub> is likely to be black carbon and targeting this pollutant locally will have the most effective health outcomes. Black carbon is a potent climate warming agent so this approach will lead to a positive effect on climate action. This work is anticipated to cost between £20,000 and £30,000.

## **Corporate & Strategic Implications**

### **Strategic implications**

27. Air quality policy and action at the City Corporation is framed in the Air Quality Strategy 2019 – 2024. It is supported by the Climate Action Strategy, Transport Strategy, Responsible Business Strategy, Procurement Strategy, and draft City Plan.
28. The work on air quality directly supports two Corporate Plan outcomes:
  - ‘People enjoy good health and wellbeing’
  - ‘We have clean air, land and water’
29. Tackling black carbon as an air pollutant will assist with the City Corporation’s climate action programme.

### **Financial implications**

30. Research into the locally derived sources of PM<sub>2.5</sub> is anticipated to cost between £20,000 and £30,000. The cost will be met by an identified in-year underspend from the Climate Action Strategy Central Risk Budget under the Resilience workstream.

### **Resource implications**

31. The requirement for Local Air Quality Management under the Environment Act 2021 forms part of the City Corporation's statutory obligations and is undertaken by the Air Quality Team.

### **Legal implications**

32. The City Corporation currently has a statutory duty to measure air pollution and develop and implement an improvement plan if health-based targets are not met. Under the Environment Act 2021, the City Corporation will be required to develop and implement a revised air quality plan detailing how new targets for PM<sub>2.5</sub>, and any other named pollutant, will be met.

### **Risk implications**

33. Air quality is listed as a corporate risk. The latest Deep Dive into the risk was presented to Audit and Risk Management Committee in January 2021. Taking the initiative at this early stage to assess and tackle local sources of PM<sub>2.5</sub> will assist in managing the risk.

### **Equalities implications**

34. Action to improve air quality has a positive impact on all sections of the population. The benefit is greatest for children and the elderly as they are more susceptible to the health impacts of air pollution. In December 2020, a Coroner ruled that a London child, Ella Adoo Kissi-Debrah, had died of asthma, with exposure to excessive air pollution being a contributory factor. This is the first time that air pollution has been explicitly linked to a named individual's death.
35. Improving air quality also has a positive impact on individuals whose lives are affected by asthma and other respiratory and cardiovascular conditions.

### **Climate implications**

36. Black carbon is a potent climate warming agent. Identifying and reducing the amount of black carbon produced in the Square Mile will have a positive impact on climate action.

### **Security implications**

37. None

## Conclusion

38. New WHO Air Quality Guidelines have been published. They set more stringent recommendations for levels of nitrogen dioxide and particulate matter PM<sub>10</sub> and PM<sub>2.5</sub> in the air. Advice has also been issued for managing black carbon.
39. The Environment Act 2021 alters the statutory obligations for local government with respect to air quality management. Local authorities will be given a new responsibility to take action to reduce levels of PM<sub>2.5</sub> once new targets are set.
40. This proposal is to commission work to understand the exact proportion of PM<sub>2.5</sub> generated locally and how it can be most effectively controlled. This will assist in the formulation of a new action plan required by the Environment Act 2021.
41. As the dominant type of local PM<sub>2.5</sub> is likely to be black carbon, and this type of particle is considered to have a significant impact on health, targeting this pollutant locally will have the most effective health outcomes. Black carbon is also a strong climate warming agent so this approach will have a positive effect on climate action.

## Appendices

Appendix 1: Maps of annual average nitrogen dioxide across the Square Mile during 2020 and 2019

## Reference

[WHO Air Quality Guidelines 2005](#)

[WHO Air Quality Guidelines 2021](#)

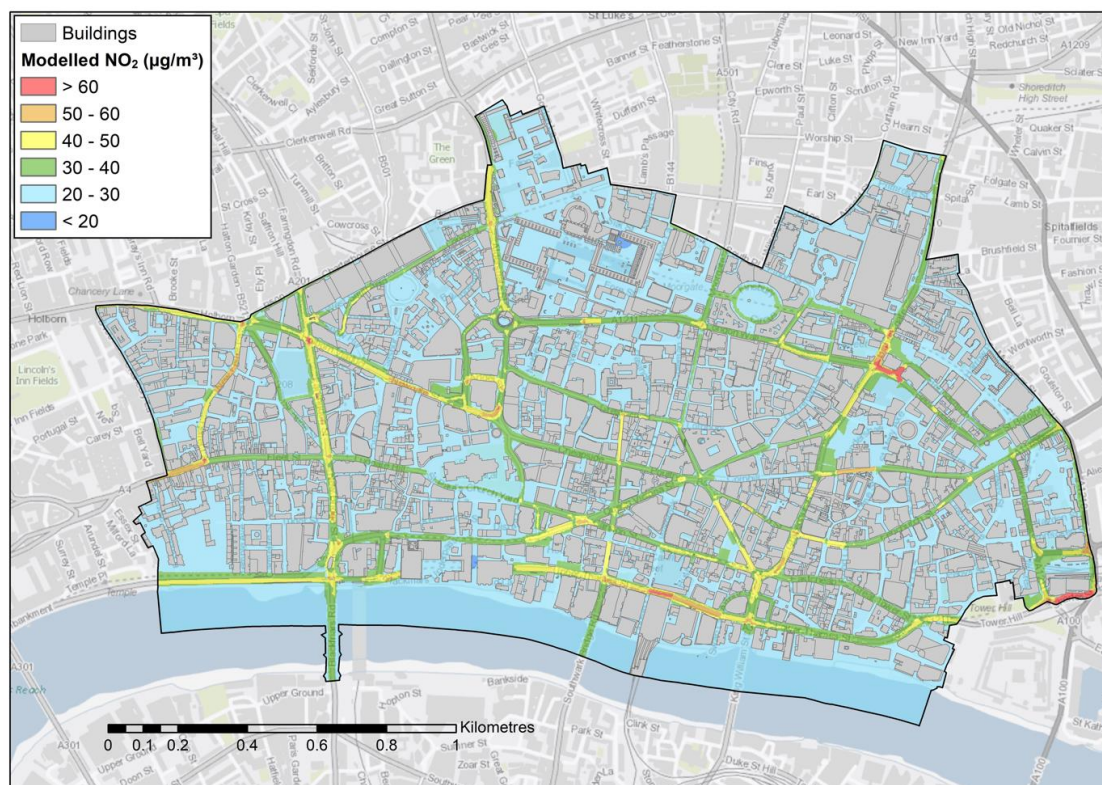
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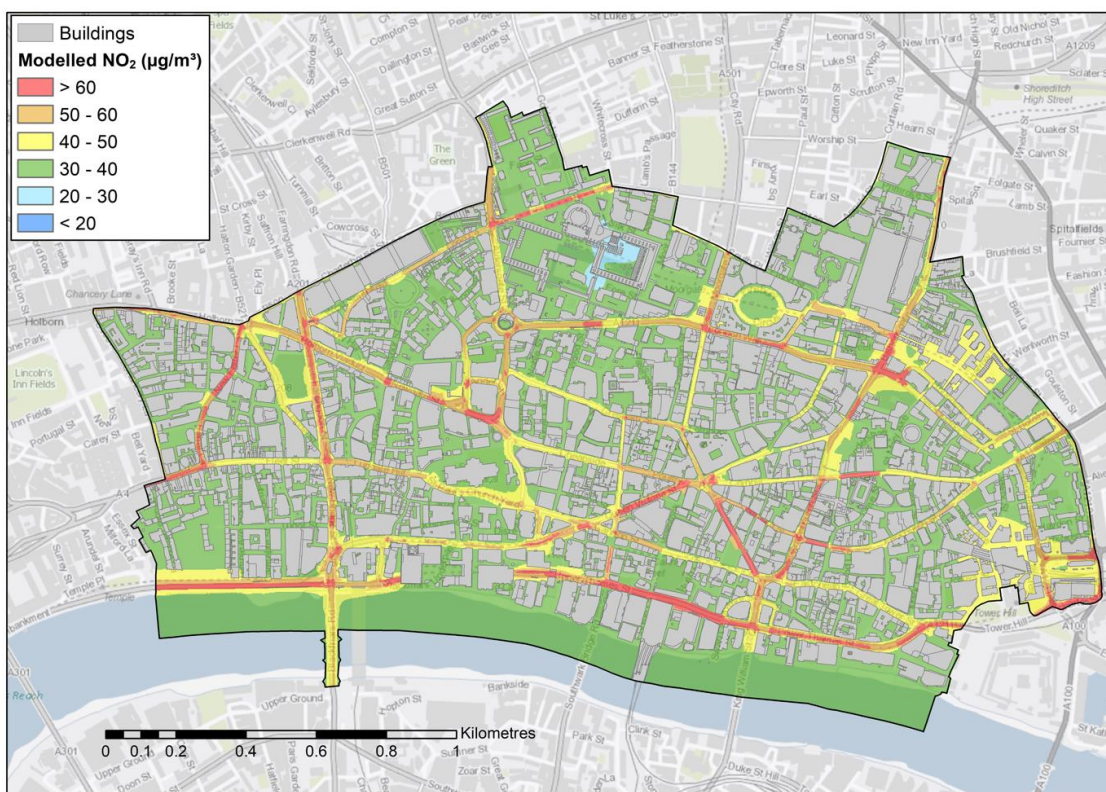


## Appendix 1

Annual average nitrogen dioxide across the Square Mile, 2020, with reference to the WHO air quality guidelines and interim targets



Annual average nitrogen dioxide across the Square Mile, 2019, for comparison



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<b>Committee(s):</b> Port Health and Environmental Services	<b>Dated:</b> 23 11 2021
<b>Subject:</b> Revenue and Capital Budgets 2022/23	<b>Public</b>
<b>Which outcomes in the City Corporation's Corporate Plan does this proposal aim to impact directly?</b>	n/a
<b>Does this proposal require extra revenue and/or capital spending?</b>	N
<b>If so, how much?</b>	n/a
<b>What is the source of Funding?</b>	n/a
<b>Has this Funding Source been agreed with the Chamberlain's Department?</b>	n/a
<b>Report of:</b> The Chamberlain Executive Director Environment	<b>For Decision</b>
<b>Report author:</b> Jenny Pitcairn, Chamberlain's Department	

## Summary

This report presents for approval the revenue and capital budgets for the Port Health and Environmental Services Committee for 2022/23.

Overall, the proposed revenue budget for 2022/23 totals (£13.956M), a decrease in net expenditure of £0.747M compared to the 2021/22 Original Budget of (£14.703M).

The proposed budget for 2022/23 has been prepared within the provisional resource envelope allocated to the Executive Director by Resource Allocation Sub Committee in October 2021, but is dependent on the delivery of significant savings proposals which are still being developed.

The resource envelope must be adhered to, as failure to do so will impact Finance Committee's ability to set Council Tax rates for the year ahead and the requirement in law for the City to set a balanced budget.

## Recommendations

Members are asked to:

- i) review and approve the proposed revenue budget for 2022/23 for submission to Finance Committee;
- ii) review and approve the proposed capital budgets for 2022/23 for submission to Finance Committee;
- iii) authorise the Chamberlain, in consultation with the Executive Director Environment, to revise these budgets to allow for any further implications arising from subsequently approved savings proposals, Target Operating Model (TOM) implementation, changes to the Cyclical Works Programme, or changes to the resource envelope; and

- iv) agree that amendments for 2021/22 and 2022/23 budgets arising from changes to recharges during budget setting be delegated to the Chamberlain.

## Main Report

### Background

1. This report sets out the latest budget for 2021/22 and the proposed revenue and capital budgets for 2022/23 for your Committee and under the control of the Environment Department, analysed between:
  - **Local Risk Budgets** – these are budgets deemed to be largely within the Chief Officer's control.
  - **Central Risk Budgets** – these are budgets comprising specific items where a Chief Officer manages the underlying service, but where the eventual financial outturn can be strongly influenced by external factors outside his/her control or are budgets of a corporate nature.
  - **Support Services and Capital Charges** – these cover budgets for services provided by one activity to another. The control of these costs is exercised at the point where the expenditure or income first arises as local or central risk.
2. In the various tables, income, increases in income, and reductions in expenditure are shown as positive balances, whereas brackets will be used to denote expenditure, increases in expenditure, or reductions in income. Only significant variances (generally those greater than £50,000) have been commented on.
3. The latest 2021/22 budget and provisional 2022/23 budgets, summarised in Table 1 below, are analysed by risk, fund and Chief Officer in Appendix 1.

<b>Table 1 Summary Revenue Budgets 2021/22 and 2022/23</b>	<b>Original Budget 2021/22 £'000</b>	<b>Latest Budget 2021/22 £'000</b>	<b>Original Budget 2022/23 £'000</b>
Expenditure	(24,864)	(26,726)	(25,984)
Income	16,594	16,682	18,056
Support Services and Capital Charges	(6,433)	(6,756)	(6,064)
<b>Total Net Expenditure</b>	<b>(14,703)</b>	<b>(16,800)</b>	<b>(13,956)</b>

## **Latest Revenue Budget for 2021/22**

4. Appendix 2 provides details on budget movements between the 2021/22 original budget and 2021/22 latest budget. Overall, the 2021/22 latest budget is net expenditure of (£16.800M), an increase in net expenditure of (£2.097M) compared to the 2021/22 original budget. Main reasons for this net increase are:
- A net increase in central, departmental and capital recharges, (£323,000)
  - Approved central funding of pension costs in relation to flexible retirements, (£331,000)
  - Approved carry-forwards from 2020/21, (£577,000)
  - An allocation from Finance Committee contingency towards the cost of the Fishmonger's Hall Inquest, (£634,000)
  - An increase in the cost of the Corporate Works Programme managed by the City Surveyor during the year due to changes in phasing, (£171,000).

## **Proposed Revenue Budget for 2022/23**

5. The proposed 2022/23 budget is net expenditure of (£13.956M), a decrease of £0.747M in net expenditure compared to the 2021/22 original budget.
6. For 2022/23 budgets include:
- 2% uplift for inflation offset by 2% efficiency savings (a flat cash position).
  - Pay increases at 1.525% for grades A-C from 1 July 2021.
  - Increase of 1.25% in employer's National Insurance contributions
  - Previously agreed fundamental review savings

The resulting resource envelope must be adhered to, as failure to do so will impact Finance Committee's ability to set Council Tax rates for the year ahead and the requirement in law for the City to set a balanced budget.

7. The budget has been prepared within the resource envelope allocated to the Executive Director by Resource Allocation Sub Committee in October 2021, with the following exceptions and assumptions:
- The Executive Director is still in the process of identifying savings proposals which, if delivered, will enable her to remain within her City Fund resource envelope. As a result, the savings required of £1.029M have been incorporated into the 2022/23 budget as "Savings to be Applied" and will be revised as necessary throughout the year. These have been ring-fenced by Committee in the first instance, but this does not necessarily reflect the likely distribution of savings across the Department, which is yet to be determined.
  - The Department is not expected to complete implementation of the TOM until early 2022 therefore the budgets set out here do not reflect any changes to structures that may result from that process, including any associated savings as set out above.

8. Appendix 3 provides details on budget movements between the 2021/22 original budget and the 2022/23 proposed budget. Overall, there is a decrease in net expenditure of £0.759M. Main reasons for this net decrease are:
- Implementation of planned savings resulting in reductions in costs of staffing £83,000, supplies and services £72,000 and contract costs (mainly for street cleansing) £892,000.
  - Changes in fees and charges income:
    - Heathrow Animal Reception Centre, £392,000 increase
    - Port and Launches, £817,000 increase
  - A net reduction in central, departmental and capital recharges, £369,000
  - A reduction in the cost of the Corporate Works Programme managed by the City Surveyor due to changes in planned works (see para 9), £178,000
  - A reduction of (£1.446M) in savings to be allocated. The 2021/22 original budget included £1.309M in savings related to the TOM in addition to £1.166M in further savings required to remain within the resource envelope. Based on current levels of anticipated expenditure and income for 2022/23, only £1.029M remains to be identified which the Director will progress throughout the 2022/23 budgetary cycle.
  - A net decrease in transfers from reserves, (£363,000)
  - Increases in pay costs due to pay award, incremental and career grade progression, and recruitment of apprentices, (£193,000)
9. Members should note that the Cyclical Works Programme (CWP) figures included in this report relate only to elements of previously agreed programmes, which will be completed in 2021/22 and 2022/23. The separate bid for CWP works in 2022/23 has not been included in this report, as it is to be considered by Corporate Asset Sub-Committee in November, and then subsequently by Resource Allocation Sub-Committee to agree the funding. Once both Sub-Committees have agreed the 2022/23 programme Members will be advised of the outcome and the estimates adjusted accordingly.

## Staffing Statement

10. Table 2 below shows the movement in manpower and related staff costs.

<b>Table 2 Staffing Summary</b>	<b>Original Budget 2021/22</b>		<b>Original Budget 2022/23</b>	
<b>Service</b>	Manpower Full-time Equivalent	Estimated Cost £'000	Manpower Full-time Equivalent	Estimated Cost £'000
Public Conveniences	1.2	(86)	1.2	(88)
Public Conveniences - agency staff	-	(390)	-	(313)
Waste Collection	8.1	(522)	8.0	(531)
Street Cleansing	6.4	(418)	6.3	(427)
Waste Disposal	4.9	(313)	4.9	(324)
Transport Organisation	2.0	(96)	2.0	(100)
Cleansing Services Management	4.9	(382)	4.9	(382)
Coroner	3.0	(223)	3.0	(238)
City Environmental Health	29.3	(2,122)	28.3	(2,007)
Animal Health Services	47.9	(2,577)	51.0	(2,685)
Trading Standards	4.4	(350)	4.4	(348)
Port and Launches	76.3	(4,208)	89.0	(4,990)
Cemetery and Crematorium	67.0	(2,593)	67.2	(2,627)
<b>Total Port Health and Environmental Services</b>	<b>255.4</b>	<b>(14,270)</b>	<b>270.2</b>	<b>(15,060)</b>



## Draft Capital and Supplementary Revenue Budgets

11. The latest estimated costs for the Committee's current capital and supplementary revenue projects are summarised in Table 3 below.

Service	Project	Ex. Pre 01/04/21 £'000	2021/22 £'000	2022/23 £'000	Later Years £'000	Total £'000
	<b><u>Pre-Implementation</u></b>					
Port & Launches	Lady Aileen Launch Engines Replacement	-	1	-	-	1
Port & Launches	Denton Pier and Pontoon Overhaul Works	-	50	-	-	50
	<b><u>Authority to Start Work</u></b>					
City Environmental Health	Planning & Regulatory Services Casework Management System	-	283	-	-	283
Cemetery & Crematorium	Mechanised Digger Replacement	-	53	-	-	53
Cemetery & Crematorium	Cremator Replacement and Mercury Abatement	869	43	-	-	912
Cemetery & Crematorium	Chapel Hot Water	98	18	100	-	216
Animal Health Services	HARC Electrical Vehicle Purchase	-	78	-	-	78
<b>TOTAL PORT HEALTH &amp; ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES</b>		<b>967</b>	<b>526</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1,593</b>

12. Pre-implementation costs comprise only feasibility and options appraisal expenditure which has been approved in accordance with the project procedure, prior to authority to start work.

13. Therefore, the above figures do not include the cost of implementing the Lady Aileen Launch Engines Replacement and Denton Pier and Pontoon Overhaul Works projects which are subject to further gateway approvals.

14. The latest Capital and Supplementary Revenue Project forecast expenditure on approved schemes will be presented to the Court of Common Council for formal approval in March 2022.

## Conclusion

15. This report presents the proposed budgets for 2022/23 for the Port Health and Environmental Services Committee for Members to consider and approve.



## **Appendices**

- Appendix 1 – Committee Summary Budget – by Risk, Fund and Chief Officer
- Appendix 2 – 2021/22 Original Budget to 2021/22 Latest Budget
- Appendix 3 – 2021/22 Original Budget to 2022/23 Original Budget

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## Committee Summary Budget – by Risk, Fund and Chief Officer

Analysis by Service: City Fund	Original Budget 2021/22 £'000	Latest Budget 2021/22 £'000	Original Budget 2022/23 £'000
<b>LOCAL RISK</b>			
<b>Executive Director Environment</b>			
Public Conveniences	(507)	(502)	(484)
Waste Collection	(1,960)	(2,012)	(1,937)
Street Cleansing	(4,402)	(4,532)	(4,388)
Waste Disposal	(924)	(926)	(935)
Transport Organisation	(264)	(265)	(273)
Cleansing Services Management	657	629	568
Coroner	(293)	(293)	(308)
City Environmental Health	(1,907)	(1,912)	(2,088)
Animal Health Services	1,477	1,453	1,705
Trading Standards	(360)	(362)	(380)
Ports & Launches	(824)	(1,194)	(567)
Cemetery and Crematorium	1,885	1,868	1,840
	<b>(7,422)</b>	<b>(8,048)</b>	<b>(7,247)</b>
<b>City Surveyor</b>			
All Services	(840)	(986)	(637)
	<b>(840)</b>	<b>(986)</b>	<b>(637)</b>
<b>TOTAL LOCAL RISK</b>	<b>(8,262)</b>	<b>(9,034)</b>	<b>(7,884)</b>
<b>CENTRAL RISK</b>			
<b>Executive Director Environment</b>			
Waste Collection	0	(54)	0
Street Cleansing	0	(42)	0
Coroner	(8)	(642)	(8)
City Environmental Health	0	(10)	0
Trading Standards	0	(82)	0
Ports & Launches	0	(15)	0
Cemetery and Crematorium	0	(165)	0
	<b>(8)</b>	<b>(1,010)</b>	<b>(8)</b>
<b>TOTAL CENTRAL RISK</b>	<b>(8)</b>	<b>(1,010)</b>	<b>(8)</b>
<b>TOTAL SUPPORT SERVICES AND CAPITAL CHARGES</b>	<b>(6,433)</b>	<b>(6,756)</b>	<b>(6,064)</b>
<b>COMMITTEE TOTAL NET EXPENDITURE</b>	<b>(14,703)</b>	<b>(16,800)</b>	<b>(13,956)</b>

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## 2021/22 Original Budget to 2021/22 Latest Budget

Latest Revenue Budgets 2021/22	Original Budget (OR) 2021/22 £'000	Latest Budget (LB) 2021/22 £'000	Movement OR to LB Better / (Worse) £'000	Para Ref (Table 4)
<b>LOCAL RISK Expenditure</b>				
Employees	(14,262)	(14,279)	(17)	4a, 5
Premises Related Expenses	(1,057)	(1,015)	42	4b
Premises Related Expenses: City Surveyor	(840)	(986)	(146)	6
Transport Related Expenses	(519)	(919)	(400)	1a
Supplies and Services	(2,239)	(2,192)	47	4c
Third Party Payments	(8,414)	(7,672)	742	1b, 4d
Savings to be Applied	2,475	1,397	(1,078)	4e
<b>TOTAL Expenditure</b>	<b>(24,856)</b>	<b>(25,666)</b>	<b>(810)</b>	
<b>Income</b>				
Government Grants	1,401	1,401	0	
Other Grants, Reimbursements and Contributions	402	402	0	
Customer, Client Receipts	14,373	14,411	38	4f
Transfer from Reserves	418	418	0	
<b>TOTAL Income</b>	<b>16,594</b>	<b>16,632</b>	<b>38</b>	
<b>TOTAL LOCAL RISK</b>	<b>(8,262)</b>	<b>(9,034)</b>	<b>(772)</b>	
<b>CENTRAL RISK Expenditure</b>				
Employees	(8)	(347)	(339)	3, 7a
Supplies and Services	0	(681)	(681)	1c, 2, 7b
Third Party Payments	0	(32)	(32)	7c
<b>TOTAL Expenditure</b>	<b>(8)</b>	<b>(1,060)</b>	<b>(1,052)</b>	
<b>Income</b>				
Transfer from Reserves	0	50	50	7d
<b>TOTAL Income</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>50</b>	
<b>TOTAL CENTRAL RISK</b>	<b>(8)</b>	<b>(1,010)</b>	<b>(1,002)</b>	
<b>TOTAL LOCAL &amp; CENTRAL RISK</b>	<b>(8,270)</b>	<b>(10,004)</b>	<b>(1,774)</b>	
<b>RECHARGES</b>				
Central Recharges	(4,289)	(4,593)	(304)	
Recharges within Fund	(1,795)	(1,648)	147	
Recharges across Funds	(349)	(515)	(166)	
<b>TOTAL RECHARGES</b>	<b>(6,433)</b>	<b>(6,756)</b>	<b>(323)</b>	
<b>TOTAL NET EXPENDITURE</b>	<b>(14,703)</b>	<b>(16,800)</b>	<b>(2,097)</b>	

The significant movements in the local and central risk budgets are explained in Table 4 below.

<b>Table 4 Movements between 2021/22 Original Budget and 2021/22 Latest Budget</b>			
<b>Reason for Variance</b>	Movement Original to Latest Budget 2021/22		
	Expenditure £'000	Income £'000	Net Movement £'000
One-off items:			
1) Approved carry-forwards from 2020/21:			
a. Transport Related Expenses	(390)		(390)
b. Third Party Payments	(150)		(150)
c. Priorities Investment Pot	(37)		(37)
2) Allocation from Finance Committee contingency towards costs of Fishmonger's Hall Inquest	(634)		(634)
3) Corporate funding of pension costs in relation to flexible retirements	(331)		(331)
4) Allocation of planned Cleansing savings approved in January 2021:			
a. Employee Costs	83		83
b. Premises Related Expenses	7		7
c. Supplies and Services	72		72
d. Third Party Payments	892		892
e. Savings to be Applied	(1,078)		(1,078)
f. Customer, Client Receipts		38	38
5) An increase in employee costs due to:			
a. apprentice posts towards the corporate target, funded from the central pot	(44)		(44)
b. Pay award of 1.525% for grades A-C	(54)		(54)
6) Changes to phasing of the City Surveyor's Corporate Works Programme	(171)		(171)
7) Lord Mayor's Show costs incurred by Cleansing are now being met from central risk, fully matched by a transfer from the On-Street Parking Reserve:			
a. Employee Costs	(8)		(8)
b. Supplies and Services	(10)		(10)
c. Third Party Payments	(32)		(32)
d. Transfer from Reserves		50	50
Minor variations	23	0	23
<b>Total Movement Local and Central Risk</b>	<b>(1,862)</b>	<b>88</b>	<b>(1,774)</b>

The increase of £323,000 in support services and capital charge expenditure mainly reflects changes in the budgets of central departments and their apportionment between committees.

## 2021/22 Latest Budget to Proposed 2022/23 Original Budget

Provisional Revenue Budgets 2022/23	Original Budget (OR) 2021/22 £'000	Original Budget (OR) 2022/23 £'000	Movement OR to OR Better / (Worse) £'000	Para Ref (Table 5)
<b>LOCAL RISK</b>				
<b>Expenditure</b>				
Employees	(14,262)	(15,042)	(780)	2, 5, 6a
Premises Related Expenses	(1,057)	(1,050)	7	6b
Premises Related Expenses: City Surveyor	(840)	(637)	203	8
Transport Related Expenses	(519)	(523)	(4)	
Supplies and Services	(2,239)	(2,098)	141	1, 6c, 9
Third Party Payments	(8,414)	(7,564)	850	6d
Savings to be Applied	2,475	1,029	(1,446)	6e, 7
<b>TOTAL Expenditure</b>	<b>(24,856)</b>	<b>(25,885)</b>	<b>(1,029)</b>	
<b>Income</b>				
Government Grants	1,401	0	(1,401)	4
Other Grants, Reimbursements and Contributions	402	249	(153)	1
Customer, Client Receipts	14,373	17,752	3,379	2, 6f, 10
Transfer from Reserves	418	0	(418)	3
<b>TOTAL Income</b>	<b>16,594</b>	<b>18,001</b>	<b>1,407</b>	
<b>TOTAL LOCAL RISK</b>	<b>(8,262)</b>	<b>(8,884)</b>	<b>378</b>	
<b>CENTRAL RISK</b>				
<b>Expenditure</b>				
Employees	(8)	(18)	(10)	11a
Supplies and Services	0	(12)	(12)	11b
Third Party Payments	0	(33)	(33)	11c
<b>TOTAL Expenditure</b>	<b>(8)</b>	<b>(63)</b>	<b>(55)</b>	
<b>Income</b>				
Transfer from Reserves	0	55	55	11d
<b>TOTAL Income</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>55</b>	
<b>TOTAL CENTRAL RISK</b>	<b>(8)</b>	<b>(8)</b>	<b>0</b>	
<b>TOTAL LOCAL &amp; CENTRAL RISK</b>	<b>(8,270)</b>	<b>(8,892)</b>	<b>378</b>	
<b>RECHARGES</b>				
Central Recharges	(4,289)	(4,325)	(36)	
Recharges within Fund	(1,795)	(1,283)	512	
Recharges across Funds	(349)	(456)	(107)	
<b>TOTAL RECHARGES</b>	<b>(6,433)</b>	<b>(6,064)</b>	<b>369</b>	
<b>TOTAL NET EXPENDITURE</b>	<b>(14,703)</b>	<b>(13,956)</b>	<b>747</b>	

The significant movements in the local and central risk budgets are explained in Table 5 below.

<b>Table 5 Movements between 2021/22 Original Budget and 2022/23 Original Budget</b>			
<b>Reason for Variance</b>	<b>Movement Original Budget 2021/22 to Original Budget 2022/23</b>		
	<b>Expenditure £'000</b>	<b>Income £'000</b>	<b>Net Movement £'000</b>
Removal of one-off items from 2020/21:			
1) Approved grant funding from the Mayor's Air Quality Fund, fully offset by supplies and services costs	205	(205)	0
2) Externally funded posts in relation to Thames Tideway, Bank Capacity Upgrade and TFL Streetworks SLAs	122	(122)	0
3) Transfer from Products of Animal Origin (POAO) Reserve <sup>i)</sup>		(418)	(418)
4) Grant funding from DEFRA for Brexit preparations <sup>ii)</sup>		(1,401)	(1,401)
5) An increase in employee costs due to:			
a. provision for pay increases due to pay award, incremental and career grade progression	(384)		(384)
b. adjustment for latest apprentice posts towards the corporate target, funded from the central pot	191		191
c. Brexit related recruitment at the Ports <sup>ii)</sup>	(799)		(799)
6) Allocation of planned Cleansing savings approved in January 2021:			
a. Employee Costs	83		83
b. Premises Related Expenses	7		7
c. Supplies and Services	72		72
d. Third Party Payments	892		892
e. Savings to be Applied	(1,078)		(1,078)
f. Customer, Client Receipts		38	38
7) Further reduction in savings to be applied still to be identified after taking into account all other changes in local risk income and expenditure	(368)		(368)
8) Changes to phasing of the City Surveyor's Corporate Works Programme	178		178



9) An increase in sampling costs at the Ports as a result of increased throughput	(75)		(75)
10) Increases in income from:			
a. Heathrow Animal Reception Centre		392	392
b. Port and Launches – non-EU trade		817	817
c. Port and Launches – EU trade <sup>ii)</sup>		2,210	2,210
11) Lord Mayor's Show costs incurred by Cleansing are now being met from central risk, fully matched by a transfer from the On-Street Parking Reserve:			
a. Employee Costs	(10)		(10)
b. Supplies and Services	(12)		(12)
c. Third Party Payments	(33)		(33)
d. Transfer from Reserves		55	55
Minor variations	(75)	96	21
<b>Total Movement Local and Central Risk</b>	<b>(1,084)</b>	<b>1,462</b>	<b>378</b>

Notes:

i) No longer required due to increase in non-EU trade income.

ii) For the 2021/22 financial year DEFRA committed to underwrite the financial risk of additional staff recruited in preparation for Brexit in the event that throughput did not increase sufficiently that our income would fully cover the associated costs, and this was shown in the 2021/22 original budget as grant income. At present this underwriting is not anticipated to be extended into 2022/23, and the grant income budget is therefore reduced to zero but is replaced by trade income at the increased level required to meet the latest estimate of costs of all staff either in post or being recruited in preparation for checks on EU products.

The decrease of £369,000 in support services and capital charge expenditure reflects changes in the budgets of central departments and their apportionment between committees, most significantly as a result of a reduction in the cost of Walbrook Wharf depot.

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<b>Committee(s)</b>	<b>Dated:</b>
Port Health and Environmental Services Committee	23 November 2021
<b>Subject:</b> 49 <sup>th</sup> City of London Thames Fishery Research Experiment	<b>Public</b>
<b>Which outcomes in the City Corporation's Corporate Plan does this proposal aim to impact directly?</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>Does this proposal require extra revenue and/or capital spending?</b>	<b>Y</b>
<b>If so, how much?</b>	<b>£4,800</b>
<b>What is the source of Funding?</b>	<b>£4,800 City's Cash Grant</b>
<b>Has this Funding Source been agreed with the Chamberlain's Department?</b>	<b>Y</b>
<b>Report of:</b> Executive Director, Environment	<b>For Decision</b>
<b>Report author:</b> Gavin Stedman, Port Health & Public Protection Director	

## Summary

The purpose of this report is to inform your Committee of the outcome of the 49<sup>th</sup> City of London Thames Fishery Research Experiment which took place on Saturday 18 September 2021 along the foreshore of the River Thames, downriver from the Port Health Lower Thames Office in Denton, Gravesend. You are also asked to approve the proposal to proceed with the 50<sup>th</sup> Experiment in 2022.

## Recommendation(s)

Members are asked to:

- Note the content of this report;
- Review and approve the grant from City's Cash to partially fund the 2022 Experiment;
- Approve the 50<sup>th</sup> City of London Thames Fishery Research Experiment to take place in 2022 (date to be confirmed).

## Main Report

### Background

1. The Thames Fishery Research Experiment, which was first held in 1973, is an annual angling competition held along the foreshore of the River Thames, one and a half miles downriver from the Port Health River Division Office in Denton, Gravesend.

2. Your Committee has a long association with this event which is organised in collaboration with the Thames Angling Preservation Society and the Environment Agency.
3. The objective of the Experiment is to establish the environmental condition of the Thames through the variety, number and size of fish species in evidence. The scoring system and judging criteria assess the catch according to scarcity and significance in the context of a cleaner river. Over the years, the experiment has proven that the Thames remains the cleanest river in Northern Europe.
4. The Experiment encourages sustainability and conservation. The competition rules comply with advice and guidance issued by the Angling Trust and stewards oversee the anglers to make sure the rules are followed. Participants are advised about the proper handling of fish to minimise mortality and all young and undersize fish are returned to the river immediately once they have been recorded. The results of the Experiment provide valuable data to the Environment Agency, Thames Angling Preservation Society and members of the river community.
5. The event has the unique advantage of linking the river's recreational angling community with conservation and scientific study and is one of the earliest examples of a citizen science project. It also provides an opportunity for young people to take part in angling and develop an awareness and interest in the environmental condition of our rivers.
6. The Experiment brings together a diverse range of individuals and organisations who all have one thing in common: a passion for the conservation of the River Thames and the sustainability of the species which live in it.
7. In 2020, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, we were only able proceed with a limited version of the event which comprised just the angling competition, i.e. the scientific research experiment. This year, we were very pleased to make a return to the usual format, albeit still on a slightly reduced scale.
8. In light of the continued uncertainty around COVID-related restrictions, we took a 'cautious' approach, inviting fewer anglers and guests to attend than we normally would. This enabled us to maintain a reasonable level of social distancing and make the event as safe as possible for all.

### **Current Position**

9. On Saturday 18 September 2021, 31 adult anglers representing eight teams competed for the Lady Howard Trophy which was awarded to the team with the highest score. Additionally, eight school-aged anglers, including a team from the City of London School for Girls, competed for the PLA-sponsored Schools' Trophy. Details of all the competing teams are shown in the summary of results provided at Appendix A.
10. Prizes were also awarded for the largest/best fish and the best individual catch by an adult and by a member of a school team. In addition, the angler with the

overall catch judged to most demonstrate the continuing health and improvement of the River Thames was presented with the Biodiversity Award, which is sponsored by the Worshipful Company of Water Conservators.

11. Fishing took place between 09:00 and 13:00 and was followed by judging of the largest/best fish by the Thames Angling Preservation Society and The Fishmongers' Company. Competitors and guests then gathered in a marquee for lunch and the presentation of awards. Commemorative badges were presented to all newcomers by your Chairman, Deputy Keith Bottomley, who also hosted the event.
12. In contrast to the usual 150 attendees, this year, to ensure a COVID-safe event, only 90 people were present. The day was a great success and enjoyed by all participating anglers and guests. The warm and sunny weather conditions were very unusual for this event, but were most welcome.

Principal VIPs / guests were:

- Sheriff Christopher Hayward and Mrs Alexandra Hayward
- Sheriff-Elect Alderman Alison Gowman and Mr Glenn Hurstfield
- Sir David Howard and Lady Valerie Howard
- Martin Bigg (Walbrook Warden of the Worshipful Company of Water Conservators') and Mrs Eileen Bigg
- Chairman of Policy and Resources Committee, Deputy Catherine McGuinness
- Chief Commoner, Deputy Brian Mooney

Other guests included:

- Members of the PH&ES Committee
- Representatives of:
  - The Environment Agency
  - The Fishmongers' Company
  - Port of London Authority
  - Thames21

## Results

13. 90 fish of 5 species were caught this year: 471 fewer than the previous year's total of 534 fish, and 285 less than in 2019. The number of species represented in the catch was, however, the same as that in 2020.

2021 Results			
Species	Number Caught	Minimum Size	Maximum Size
Bass	8	18cm	32cm
Eel	14	20cm	60cm
Flounder	21	17cm	33cm
Pouting	13	12cm	20cm
Whiting	34	11cm	27cm

14. Several factors may have influenced the size and variety of this year's catch, but it is likely that the event being held in September rather than October (due to tidal patterns) and the unusually warm temperature played a role.
15. Results data for the past 10 years is provided at Appendix B to this report.

### **Feedback from stakeholders**

16. Positive feedback was received from many of the participating anglers and guests. Stakeholders continue to acknowledge the importance of the Experiment in terms of providing valuable information about the environmental condition of the River Thames and in supporting river users.

### **The recreational angling community**

17. The angling community's representative has commented as follows: "This year's Experiment was fished in much the same format as 2020 with four anglers per team, rather than the usual eight, in order to ensure a low risk, COVID-compliant, event.
18. An important difference, though, was that two teams of school students were able to participate again this year. It is so important that young people both understand the importance of the River Thames to the marine environment and the way this Experiment plays it's part in helping us monitor progress in improving the health of this great river.
19. What was remarkable was that one of our young angling teams landed two Bass, a Flounder and an Eel to secure 45 points, more than half the points totalled by some of the adult teams. This was also the first time most of these youngsters had fished.
20. The experiment was held earlier in the season than previous years, following detailed analysis to find the tide that ensured the best and safest fishing time. This inevitably led to less Whiting, a winter species, being caught and therefore fewer fish in total. This was also compounded by a smaller number of anglers taking part.
21. However, there was a good showing of summer species including Bass, Eels and Flounders, with the winner of the Biodiversity Award having three of these species in his catch. A sixty centimetre Eel was one of 14 landed and released and we could be seeing signs of a turning point in the recovery of this endangered species. This is consistent with reports from other anglers across the estuary.
22. With regards to the adult team results, it was good to see a new name holding the Lady Howard Trophy this year, Charles Stanley, although there were only fifteen points and three fish separating the top three teams.

23. On a personal level, I was honoured to spend my day assisting the PH&ES Committee Team. We had four species and a lot of fun. More importantly, it helped me to understand the high level of importance seen in this event and appreciate the support behind it.
24. Finally, a big thank you to the organisers, sponsors, stewards, and those who coached, and donated equipment and bait to, the student angling teams."

### **Financial summary**

25. The total cost of this year's event was £10,101. Although there were fewer attendees than in usual years, we needed to hire additional marquee space and outdoor toilet facilities in order to maintain adequate social distancing and avoid attendees entering the small site office. The total cost also includes £1,250 to replenish our stock of commemorative badges.
26. Funding was provided through a grant of £4,800 from City's Cash. Unfortunately, although we asked other organisations to consider making a financial contribution, none did so this year. The remaining cost to the local risk budget is, therefore, £5,301. These figures do not include staff costs or use of in-house resources.

### **Proposals**

27. The March 2016 Policy and Resources Committee agreed the transfer of funding commitments from Finance Grants Sub Committee to the relevant Committees for ongoing administration.
28. As a result of this transfer, your Committee is required to review and approve the annual grant from City's Cash to deliver the Thames Fishery Research Experiment. The amount of the grant for 2022/23 is yet to receive final approval but is expected to remain at £4,800.
29. I recommend that your Committee approves the continuation of funding from City's Cash towards this event, which provides valuable scientific information and supports the angling community. We hope that the Thames Fishery Research Experiment in 2022 will return to its full-scale format so that this 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary milestone can be properly recognised and celebrated.

### **Corporate & Strategic Implications**

30. The City of London Thames Fishery Research Experiment encourages sustainability and conservation. It is one of the oldest Citizen Science Projects and encourages young people to become involved in conservation of the River Thames.
31. The continued support of your Committee has demonstrated the City's commitment to supporting communities.

## **Conclusions**

32. The 2021 City of London Thames Fishery Research Experiment was a successful event which was well supported and enjoyed by all who took part. Although we were unable to invite as many anglers and guests to attend as we usually would, it was very pleasing to see a return to the usual format while ensuring COVID-safety. The Experiment itself again provided valuable data and information to associated organisations and the recreational angling community.
33. It is hoped that, if approved by your Committee, there will be no restrictions on the arrangements for the 50<sup>th</sup> Experiment in 2022, and we will be able to invite all of the usual participants and guests to attend.

## **Appendices**

- Appendix A – Summary of results
- Appendix B – Results data 2012-2021

### **Gavin Stedman**

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Environment Department

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## 49<sup>th</sup> City of London Thames Fishery Research Experiment Summary of Results

### Lady Howard Trophy

Place	Team	Fish Caught	Points
1	Charles Stanley Angling Team	19	115
2	Kent Angling Team	19	110
3	Essex County Angling Team	16	100
4	Public Services Angling Team	12	75
5	Thamesiders Angling Team	7	50
6	PLA Angling Team	5	45
7	Port Health & Environmental Services Committee Team	4	25
8	City of London Invitation Angling Team	3	20

### School's Trophy

Place	Team	Fish Caught	Points
1	City of London School for Girls	4	45
2	School Student Team (independent)	1	15

### Adult Individual Competition

Place	Team	Fish Caught	Points
1	Kent Angling Team	12	70
2	Charles Stanley Angling Team	9	65
3	Public Services Angling Team	7	50

### Student Individual Competition

Place	Team	Fish Caught	Points
1	City of London School for Girls	3	40
2	School Student Team (independent)	1	15
3	City of London School for Girls	1	5

### Biodiversity Award

The catch, which in the judges' opinion, best demonstrated the continuing health and improvement of the River Thames was awarded to a member of the Charles Stanley Angling Team (2 Bass, 5 Flounder, 1 Pouting and 1 Whiting).

### The Fishmongers' Cup

The best single fish was judged to have been a 60cm Eel caught by a member of the Kent Angling Team.

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**49<sup>th</sup> City of London Thames Fishery Research Experiment  
Summary of Results 2012-2021**

<b>Year</b>	<b>2012</b>	<b>2013</b>	<b>2014</b>	<b>2015</b>	<b>2016</b>	<b>2017</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>2021</b>
<b>Date</b>	27 Oct	19 Oct	20 Sept	10 Oct	15 Oct	21 Oct	22 Sept	12 Oct	17 Oct	18 Sept
<b>Total anglers</b>	76	76	76	76	76	74	72	71	24	39
<b>Winning team</b>	Public Services	Essex	Kent	Kent	Essex	Essex	Essex & Kent (Tie)	Essex	Kent	Charles Stanley
<b>Bass</b>		2			6	14	20	6	4	8
<b>Cod or Codling</b>	1			8						
<b>Crab</b>								5		
<b>Dab</b>	3			2		1				
<b>Dogfish</b>										
<b>Eel</b>		3	8	2	17	1	7	8		14
<b>Flounder</b>	24	21	63	14	20	9	5	35	8	21
<b>Pouting</b>	2		23	17	5			128	14	13
<b>Plaice</b>			1						1	
<b>Rockling</b>			1							
<b>Sandeel</b>										
<b>Smelt</b>			3							
<b>Sole</b>		1	3	4	1	2	1	6		
<b>Whiting</b>	520	72	19	537	86	68	28	187	534	34
<b>Total fish</b>	<b>550</b>	<b>99</b>	<b>121</b>	<b>584</b>	<b>135</b>	<b>95</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>375</b>	<b>561</b>	<b>90</b>
<b>Total species</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>5</b>

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<b>Committee:</b> 1) Port Health & Environmental Services Committee (For Decision) 2) Health & Wellbeing Board (For Information)	<b>Dated:</b> 1) 23 November 2021 2) 26 November 2021
<b>Subject:</b> Commercial Environmental Health Service Plan 2021-2023	<b>Public</b>
<b>Which outcomes in the City Corporation's Corporate Plan does this proposal aim to impact directly?</b>	<b>1, 6</b>
<b>Does this proposal require extra revenue and/or capital spending?</b>	<b>N</b>
<b>If so, how much?</b>	<b>N/A</b>
<b>What is the source of Funding?</b>	<b>Existing local risk budgets</b>
<b>Has this Funding Source been agreed with the Chamberlain's Department?</b>	<b>N/A</b>
<b>Report of:</b> Juliemma McLoughlin, Executive Director Environment	<b>1) For Decision 2) For information</b>
<b>Report authors:</b> Gavin, Stedman, Port Health & Public Protection Director Tony Macklin, Assistant Director (Public Protection)	

## Summary

This report seeks approval for the Port Health Service Plans and a longer-term Commercial Environmental Health Service Plan for 2021-23 due to changes in requirements of central Government but at the same time being flexible enough to respond to the needs of the recovery of the City of London.

These plans are normally submitted annually and require approval by your Committee.

## Recommendations

Members are asked to approve the Commercial Environmental Health Service Plan 2021-2023 (Appendix A).

## Main Report

### Background

1. In order to be transparent and accountable, local authorities are required to gain Member approval for plans annually setting out their enforcement work in key areas, and Food Safety and Health & Safety are two such areas for which this is required.
2. We must also however, continue to also meet the local needs of City businesses, residents, workers and visitors and the City Corporation's vision and aims as set out in the Corporate Plan 2018-2023 and this is achieved through our

departmental Business Plan and individual teams' Service Plans which detail the work that will be done and by which we are judged overall by our Key Performance Indicators.

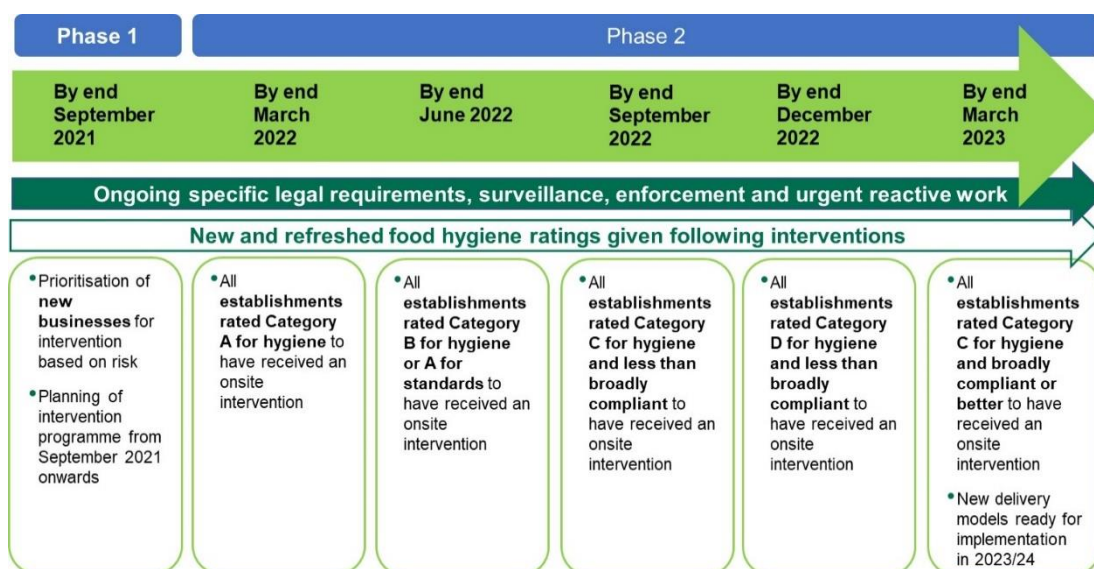
3. Realising all the public health work and COVID-19 related work that local authority officers were being asked to do, in April 2020, the Food Standards Agency relinquished the requirement for local authorities to undertake a comprehensive programme of official controls inspections with relation to food hygiene and simply required them to carry out interventions with:-
  - food businesses with a Food Hygiene Ratings of 0, 1 or 2 (the so called '*less than broadly compliant*') to:
    - *verify if they were trading; and*
    - *if they have started to operate delivery services and/or*
    - *had introduced new processes to enable them to diversify their menus.*
  - food businesses where an intervention was now due which included
    - *food hygiene interventions due in Category A and B food businesses (prescribed frequency of 6 and 12 months respectively)*
  - established businesses changing what they do, such as pubs providing takeaway food;
  - community groups who were preparing meals to frontline services and vulnerable groups;
  - new businesses where registration information provided raised concerns about a potential public health problem; and
  - following up on food or feed incidents notified to us.
4. Due to this change in approach, in July 2020 we submitted to this Committee a different form of Service Plan for Commercial Environmental Health covering Food Safety and Health & Safety which outlined priorities and set out a graduated return to normal once the COVID-19 lockdown was lifted and the City began to return to normality.
5. Consequently, in November 2020, Members approved an interim Service Plan for the team taking into account all the additional duties that have been placed upon local authorities since the start of the Coronavirus pandemic. Unfortunately, re-occurring lockdowns caused the team to review this already revamped Service Plan and it was re-presented in a shorter report to this Committee in May 2021.

## **Current Position**

### ***Commercial Environmental Health***

6. We are still prioritising our work to ensure that City businesses in a variety of sectors operate and remain safe for their customers. This has meant that officers have been present in the City throughout the various lockdowns and easings to support businesses, ensure compliance and promote confidence.
7. To this end, the work below outlines our current overall priorities.

- Ensuring COVID-19 Compliance in all open business premises with a public interface either pro-actively or by reacting intelligence / complaints.
  - Undertaking food hygiene inspections / interventions in food businesses as prescribed by the current Food Standards Agency's current guidance (see below), based on risk, complaints, and emerging issues.
  - Undertaking inspection audits of all cooling tower sites which are deemed to be either high risk or for which we have received intelligence / complaints to indicate that the risks are not being managed correctly.
  - Continuing with the Health & Safety Investigation into significant incidents.
8. In May 2021, the Food Standards Agency's Board endorsed a [Local Authority Recovery Roadmap strategy](#) or "Reset" programme covering the period September 2021–March 2023 which would enable local authorities to tackle any backlogs in their food hygiene inspection programmes as the country began recovering from the pandemic.
9. Below in **Table 1** is set out the minimum number of inspections we currently have to complete each quarter until March 2023 as set out in the Service Plan 2021-2023 (**Appendix A**).



Minimum no. of City Food Hygiene Inspections due:-

93	3	57	26	1	342
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**Table 1**

10. These are minimum number of inspections that we must deliver and below in **Table 2** are set all the other, lower risk, D & E premises. The challenge is the numbers of D rated premises as in many cases their complexity, having traditionally catered for many thousands and as such are some of the largest

food premises around. We will therefore seek to integrate these D rated premises into the programme throughout the whole period on a risk-basis.

<b>Category</b>	<b>Due (&amp; overdue) to end March 2022</b>	<b>Due April 22-March 23</b>	<b>TOTALS</b>
New (unrated)	93	Unknown	<b>93 (minimum)</b>
<b>A</b> (*due every 6 months)	3	0 (at present)	<b>3*</b>
<b>B</b> (*due every 12 months)	43	14	<b>57*</b>
<b>C</b> (less than broadly-compliant)	22	4	<b>26</b>
<b>C</b>	271	71	<b>342</b>
<b>D</b>	727	59	786
<b>D</b> (less than broadly-compliant)	1	0	<b>1</b>
<b>E</b>	104	127	231

**Table 2**

11. The FSA's expectation is that all LAs will do more wherever they can and have stated that *"every LA should move at a faster pace to align with the Food Law Code of Practice"* and *"where resources are available, local authorities should also undertake interventions for other, lower risk establishments in accordance with the code"*.

### **Public Health**

12. The Commercial Environmental Health Team will continue to work in collaboration with Public Health colleagues in the LB of Hackney with whom we share a joint Public Health Team on the tracking and tracing of COVID-19 cases and possible outbreaks in the City.

### **Port Health Service**

13. The Port Health Service has continued to operate throughout the various COVID-19 lockdowns and easements over the past year. However, the Service has focussed its attention on undertaking border controls on food and feed that have been imported from countries outside of the EU. The Service has seen imports of food and feed increase by over 25% when compared to the previous year.
14. In addition, the Service has been preparing for border controls on EU food and feed imports, which will be implemented from July 2022.
15. Food premises interventions will be done in accordance with the same "Reset Programme requirements placed upon Commercial Environmental Health above until March 2023 but with a much smaller number of food businesses.

### **Corporate & Strategic Implications**

16. The Service Plan continues to support two of the main aims of the City Corporation's Corporate Plan 2018 to 2023:



***Contribute to a flourishing society***

1. People are safe and feel safe.

***Support a thriving economy***

6. We have the world's best legal and regulatory framework and access to global markets.

**Local Implications**

17. The backlog of food safety inspections for 2021-2022 due to the UK transitioning through various lockdowns and easings can now be dealt with in a phased manner but Commercial Environmental Health will continue to engage with City businesses with respect to both Food Safety and Health & Safety as well as ensuring continued compliance with all applicable Coronavirus legislation that remains.

**Financial implications**

18. None. The Service Plan will be met from within existing local risk budgets.

**Resource implications**

19. None.

**Legal implications**

20. Failure to produce and complete a Member-approved Service Plan including a programme of Official Food Controls interventions could result in the Food Standards Agency taking over the operational control of the City's Food Authority functions.

**Risk implications**

21. Potential reputational risk to the City Corporation if the above happens.

**Equalities implications**

22. None.

**Climate implications**

23. None.

**Security implications**

24. None.

## Proposals

25. Commercial Environmental Health will undertake the work set out in their Service Plan for 2021-2023 but also continuing to focus on supporting business to recover from the Coronavirus pandemic.
26. The Port Health Service will continue to:
  - a) focus on imported food and feed controls at the border,
  - b) prepare for the implementation of EU border controls later this financial year; and
  - c) undertake interventions based on risk, taking latest Food Standards Agency guidance into account the same as Commercial Environmental Health.

## Conclusions

27. The proposed Commercial Environmental Health Service Plan ensures a risk-based and supportive approach to City businesses and to the protection of consumers and the public ensuring compliance with all applicable Coronavirus legislation that remains in place.
28. At the same time as meeting the City Corporation's obligations to central Government and its agencies, both Commercial Environmental Health and the Port Health Service will continue to support businesses to recover from the Coronavirus pandemic.

## Appendices

Appendix A - Commercial Environmental Health Service Plan 2021-2023

## Background Papers

- Port Health & Environmental Services: July 2020 Agenda Item 14 - [Commercial Environmental Health Team Service Plan 2020-2021](#)
- Port Health & Environmental Services: November 2020 Agenda Item 7 - [Amendments to the Commercial Environmental Health Team Service Plan 2020-2021 with respect to Food Safety](#)
- Port Health & Environmental Services: May 2021 Agenda Item 10 - [Commercial Environmental Health and Port Health Service Plans 2021-2022](#)

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**Environment Department  
Port Health & Public Protection Service  
Commercial Environmental Health Service Plan 2021-2023**

**Introduction**

1. Commercial Environmental Health is responsible for regulating food safety (standards and hygiene), occupational health & safety, some statutory nuisances (not noise) and the investigation of certain infectious diseases arising from activities for which we are the enforcing authority. We are part of the Port Health & Public Protection Service (PH&PP) in the Environment Department.
2. Our work also includes food standards and certain health & safety interventions at Smithfield Market. The feedstuffs (animal food) enforcement function in the City is carried out under contract through the Association of London Environmental Health Managers and as part of cross-London delivery model.
3. There are separate Official Food Control Activities in the Port Health Service which has a separate Food Service Enforcement Plan.
4. The current Commercial Environmental Health Team Service Plan 2021-2023 continues to support the following Outcomes from the [Corporate Plan 2018-2023](#):

***Contribute to a flourishing society***

1. People are safe and feel safe.

***Support a thriving economy***

6. We have the world's best legal and regulatory framework and access to global markets.

**Key Performance Indicators [KPI's]**

5. Our Key performance Indicators (KPIs) are reported to the Port Health & Environmental Services Committee along with other planned activities and key highlights, every 4 months as part of the regular oversight of our work.

**Continue to secure a positive improvement in the overall Food Hygiene Rating Scheme profile for City of London food establishments from a baseline profile at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2013**

**75% food businesses inspected will receive a report/letter detailing the outcome of their inspection within 5 working days and the remainder within 10 working days. This will accord with standards in the FHRs system (the 'brand' standard)**

**All authorised officers to receive/complete the necessary professional development with at least 10 hours CPD on Official Food Controls, tailored to delivery of this Service Plan.**

**To complete a risk-based intervention programme for cooling towers systems within the year.**

## **Current Work**

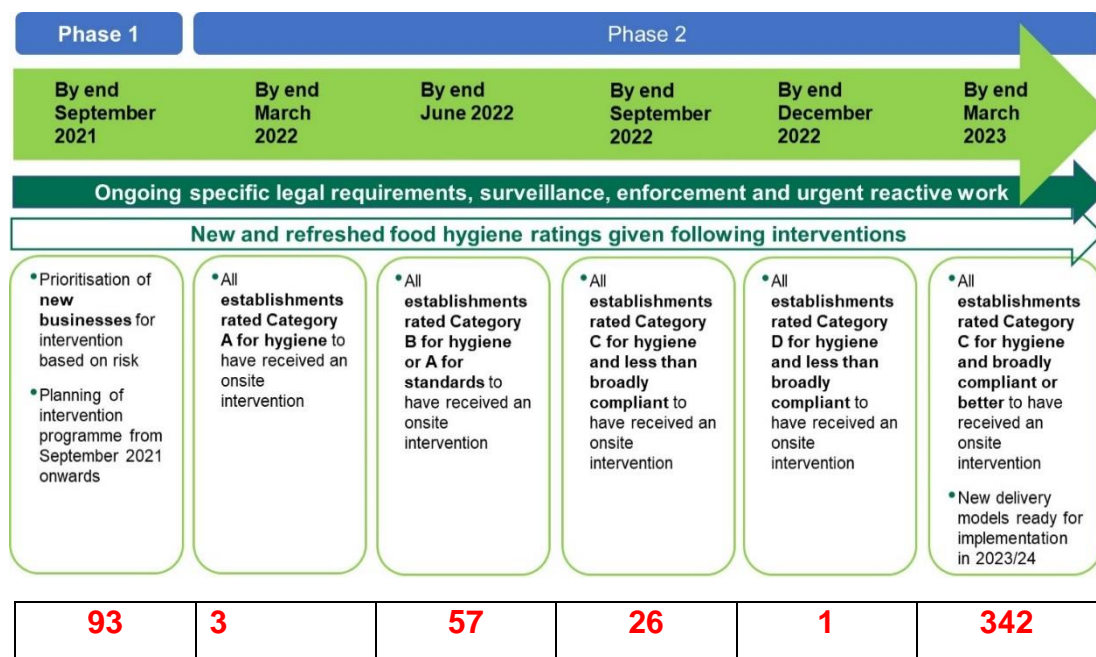
6. We will continue to prioritise our work as set out in the earlier Commercial Environmental Health Service Plan 2021-2022 approved by Members earlier this year to ensure that City businesses in a variety of sectors operate and remain safe for their workforce, customers, and other visitors. This has meant that officers from the team have been present in the City throughout the various COVID-19 lockdowns and easing, seeking to support business, ensure compliance and promote confidence; to this end, the work below outlines our current continuing priorities:-
  - a) Contributing to the local outbreak planning and management systems in the City & Hackney COVID-19 Local Outbreak Management Plan.
  - b) Ensuring compliance with current COVID-19 legislation in all open business premises with a public interface either pro-actively or by reacting to intelligence / complaints
  - c) Undertaking food hygiene inspections / interventions in food businesses as prescribed by the latest Food Standards Agency's guidance, based on risk, complaints, and emerging issues.
  - d) Undertaking inspection audits of all cooling tower sites which are deemed to be either high risk or for which we have received intelligence / complaints to indicate that the risks are not being managed correctly.
  - e) Following up on the agreed Local Contact Tracing (LCT) response for Covid-19 cases in the City.
  - f) Continuing with the Health & Safety Investigations into significant incidents.

## **Moving Forward**

### **FOOD SAFETY**

7. In May 2021, the Food Standards Agency's Board endorsed a [Local Authority Recovery Roadmap strategy](#) or "Reset" programme covering the period September 2021–March 2023 which would enable local authorities through setting quarterly targets, to tackle any backlogs in their food hygiene inspection programmes as the country began recovering from the pandemic.

8. We will therefore seek to complete the following minimum number of Food Hygiene Inspections due by March 2023



**Table 1**

9. The figures above and in **red** below in **Table 2** are minimum number of inspections that we know about and which we must deliver. Also set out below in **Table 2** are all the other, compliant, or lower risk, D and E rated premises that we will be seeking to engage with over the period.
10. The main challenge is the large number of D rated premises and in many cases their complexity, some having traditionally catered for many thousands of City workers on a daily basis and as such they are some of the largest food premises around. We will therefore seek to integrate these D rated premises into the programme throughout the whole period on a risk-basis.

Category	Due (& overdue) to end March 2022	Due April 22-March 23	TOTALS
New (unrated)	93	Unknown	93 (minimum)
A (*due every 6 months)	3	0 (at present)	3*
B (*due every 12 months)	43	14	57*
C (less than broadly-compliant)	22	4	26
C	271	71	342
D	727	59	786
D (less than broadly-compliant)	1	0	1
E	104	127	231

**Table 2**

11. We will also maintain the City Corporation's support for the national Food Hygiene Rating Scheme (FHRS) and continue to support the FSA on the development of the mandatory public display of ratings at each food business.

12. We will also work with the Food Standards Agency on meat hygiene and standards and other initiatives at Smithfield Market to ensure that all meat and meat products that are traded through the market are cut stored, prepared, and transported hygienically and safely and that there is traceability of all products from source to end-retailer.
13. We seek to continue to promote the enhanced City Healthier Catering Commitment (HCC) Award scheme in support of the [City of London Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2017-2021](#) whilst undertaking our statutory food interventions.

## **PUBLIC HEALTH**

14. We will:-

- a) work in collaboration with public health colleagues in the LB of Hackney, with whom we share a joint Public Health Team, on the tracking and tracing of COVID-19 cases and possible outbreaks in the City although over time, we anticipate our work on COVID-19 will gradually diminish;
- b) engage, explain and if necessary enforce emerging legislation as it specifically affects businesses in the Night Time Economy (NTE) along with colleagues in the Licensing Team; and
- c) investigate incidents of infectious disease and non-infectious environmental hazards.

## **HEALTH & SAFETY**

### **Control of Legionella**

15. To protect the City from the threat of Legionnaires' disease caused by *Legionella sp.* bacteria, we will:-
  - a) undertake risk-based interventions in cooling towers (135) and other at-risk water systems; and
  - b) assist with the provision of related training / work experience and generally contribute to the regulatory and facilities services management communities.
16. We will continue to promote and support workplace health and wellbeing and the London Healthy Workplace Award with our partners, [Business Healthy](#) with officers advising on best practice and signposting to further support.

## **REACTIVE WORK**

17. We will:-

- a) respond to complaints and service requests on a triaged risk basis; and
- b) respond to all:-
  - Reporting of Injuries, Deaths & Dangerous Occurrences Regulations (RIDDOR);
  - Lifting Operations & Lifting Equipment Regulations (LOLER); and
  - Asbestos Removal Notifications,

again on a triaged risk basis.

18. We will also undertake inspections on behalf of the Licensing Team with respect to the issuing of new Massage and Special Treatment Licenses

#### **PRIMARY AUTHORITY PARTNERSHIP WORK.**

19. [Primary Authority](#) (PA) enables businesses to form a legal partnership with one local authority, which then provides assured and tailored advice on complying with environmental health, trading standards and other regulations. Local regulators must respect these relationships and consult with the partner local authority before instigating enforcement action.
20. Whilst legislation specifically dealing with Coronavirus is not included as Public Health is currently not part of the national Primary Authority Scheme, a considerable amount of advice on the matter was sought and given to our PA Partner organisations during 2020-2021.
21. We will therefore:-
  - a) continue to work with our PA Partner organisations, providing charged-for regulatory advice; and
  - b) lead on the London Primary Authority Regional Group.

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<b>Committee:</b> Port Health and Environmental Services Committee – For Information	<b>Dated:</b> 23 November 2021
<b>Subject:</b> Service Changes and Outcomes from the Cleansing Service 2021/22 Budget Saving	<b>Public</b>
<b>Which outcomes in the City Corporation's Corporate Plan does this proposal aim to impact directly?</b>	4, 11, & 12
<b>Does this proposal require extra revenue and/or capital spending?</b>	<b>No</b>
<b>If so, how much?</b>	<b>£0</b>
<b>What is the source of Funding?</b>	<b>N/A</b>
<b>Has this Funding Source been agreed with the Chamberlain's Department?</b>	<b>N/A</b>
<b>Report of:</b> Juliemma McLoughlin, Environment Director	<b>For Information</b>
<b>Report author:</b> Jim Graham, Assistant Director Cleansing	

## Summary

This report outlines the impacts on the cleansing standards in the City of London following the £760,000 budget reduction for 2021/22 and the subsequent restructuring of the remaining cleansing resources. It details the results of the independent Local Environmental Quality surveys carried out in September 2021 that show that, although standards are lower, the City Corporation continues to meet its statutory obligations under the Environmental Protection Act 1990 and that the street environment is better than the neighbouring central London borough's benchmark.

The report highlights levels of footfall which are currently around half of pre-pandemic levels and how officers will continue to monitor available data and use this to optimise the allocation of resources to ensure that the revised cleansing standards are achieved.

## Recommendation

Members are asked to:

- Note the report.

## Main Report

## Background

1. In January 2021 Members approved a significant change in the Cleansing Service effective from April 2021 as part of delivering a balanced budget in 2021/22. Alongside that service change was an appreciation that there would be a commensurate change in standards to deliver a service more aligned to other central London boroughs. These changes would see a more reactive service which was likely to result in some noticeable changes, and the purpose of this report is to give an early indication of those impacts.

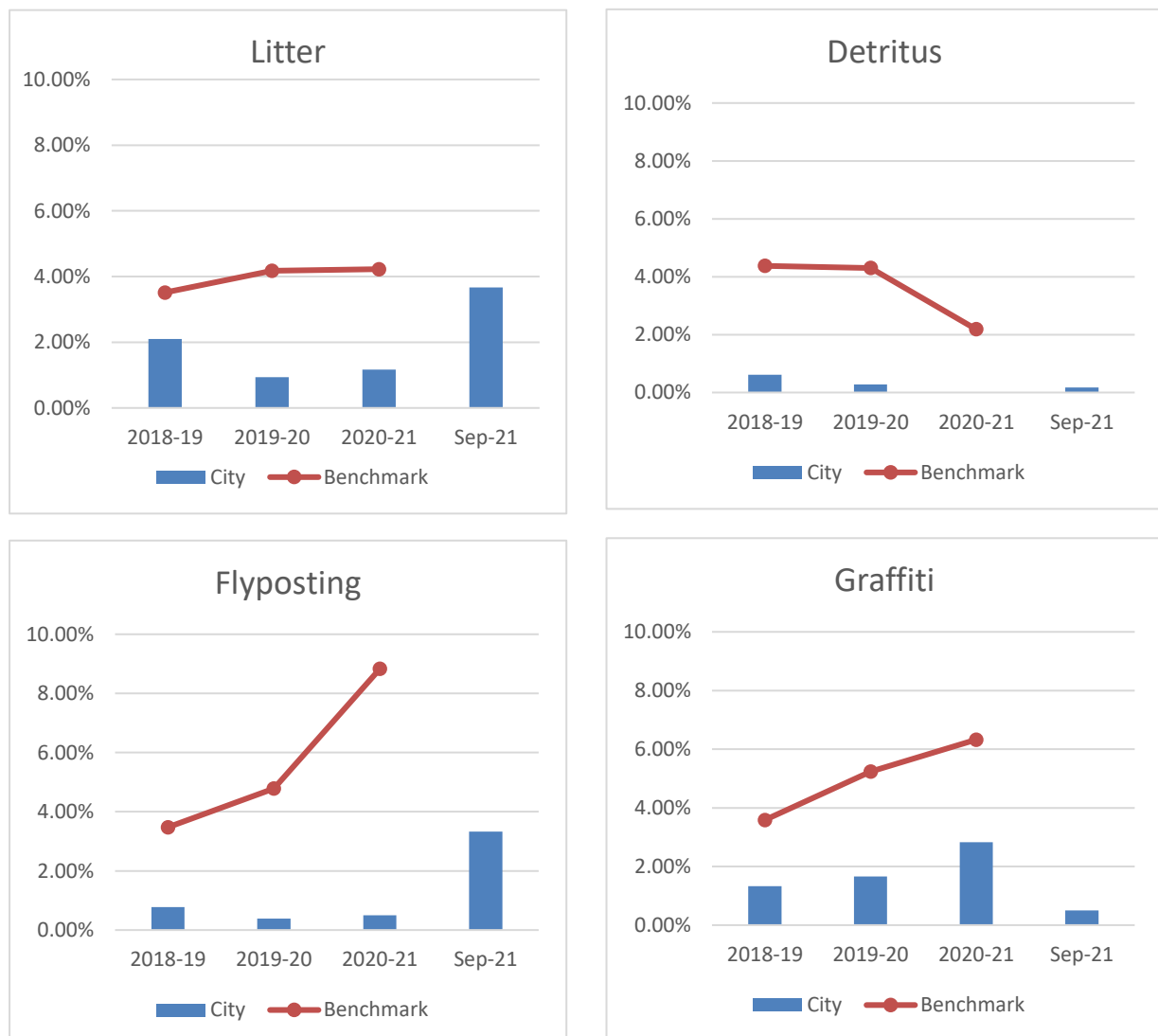
2. The package of savings totalling £760K per annum was taken from the following services:
  - Reduction in daily morning sweeping resource
  - Reduction in weekday afternoon/evening sweeping resource
  - Reduction in night-time cleansing resource
  - Reduction in weekend cleansing resource
  - Reduction in carriageway sweeping and washing resource
3. It was envisaged that these changes would lead to a noticeable lowering of on-street standards and move the service to a more reactive position, with response times to all jobs being longer. However, officers believed that this reduction in service would still achieve the cleansing standards set out in the Environmental Protection Act 1990 (EPA 1990) and would remain comparable to other central London boroughs.
4. The City Corporation has independent Local Environmental Quality (LEQ) survey inspections carried out by Keep Britain Tidy during the year. These inspections are carried out to the previous National Indicator 195 standards set out in the EPA's Code of Practice on Litter and Refuse and identify the percentage of areas that are found to have unacceptable levels of litter, detritus, flyposting and graffiti when surveyed. By comparison to the available London and national benchmarks, the City's results are historically excellent. Members agreed that the target for the percentage of LEQ surveys failing to meet EPA 1990 standards be adjusted to be no more than five percent (from two percent previously) from April 2021. This is aligned with the performance of neighbouring central London boroughs.

### **Current Position**

5. The full required savings have been achieved and the service was restructured from April 2021 to maximise the efficacy of the remaining resources. This was prior to the relaxation of Covid lockdown rules and the full removal of restrictions on 19 June 2021. Since then, the City has seen a steady increase in footfall with more workers returning.
6. Daily feedback reports from Street Environment Officers and regular meetings with managers from Veolia suggests that the step-down in service levels is having the expected impact, particularly in the evenings and at weekends in line with the reduction in resources at these times. Better weather, more al fresco dining and the return to the City of more workers are all starting to have an impact on littering levels, with al fresco drinking and dining causing issues around new and existing informal seating/gathering areas such as the riverfront and Cheapside (Bow Church, or the new seating areas). However, the Clean Streets Partnership members and hospitality businesses with outside areas are doing well at maintaining cleanliness standards in compliance with their outside dining licences.
7. The Cleansing Service has been able to cope with unexpected events such as the Euro 2020 Final and the Extinction Rebellion protests, but in some cases services had to be diverted that would normally perform scheduled cleansing of

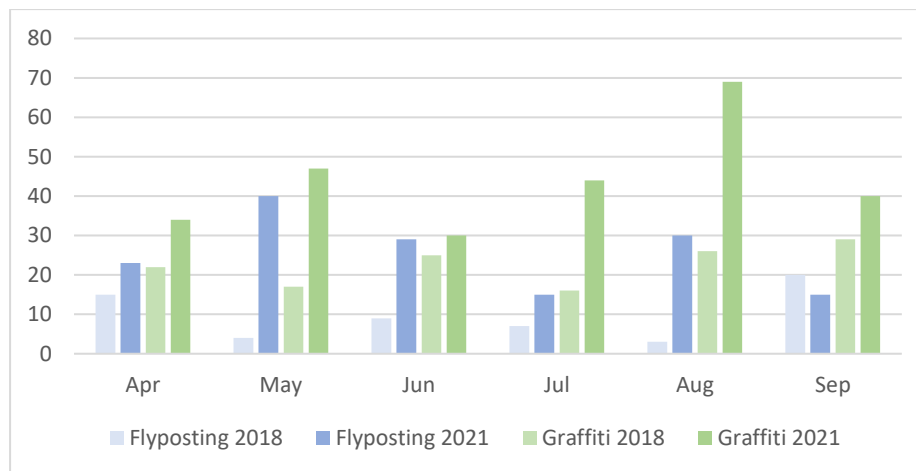
street furniture, gullies and pavement washing. This either put these services behind schedule or they were not carried out as a result.

8. Whilst planning the redesigned service officers expected that the new service would deliver standards similar to our neighbouring boroughs. The results from the LEQ survey data from Keep Britain Tidy, carried out in the second week of September 2021, show an increase in the percentage of sample streets deemed to have 'unacceptable' levels of litter from the pre-pandemic average of around 1.1% to 3.6%. The results are in line with officers' expectations and are generally better or aligned with neighbouring Central London boroughs benchmarks and we are still achieving the minimum standards set out in the EPA 1990. The charts below show the result from the LEQ surveys in September 2021 along with the last three years results for the City against the benchmark of our two neighbouring central London borough. Overall, the City's current results remain good and are better than our neighbouring boroughs previous benchmark.



9. The City has seen a considerable increase in reports of graffiti and fly posting on street furniture, which can be partly attributable to the recent Extinction Rebellion protests, but it also appears that low footfall may have led to an increase in other

forms of anti-social behaviour. Reported incidents of flyposting and graffiti in the first two quarters of 2021 are around double the pre-pandemic levels seen in the same period of 2018. Whilst crews have been removing this on a reactive basis, previously it would have been cleared quicker by scheduled services.



10. Historically the Cleansing Service receives a negligible level of complaints from the public and there has not been any noticeable change to this following the introduction of the revised service from April 2021.
11. The Cleansing Service continues to run regular behaviour change campaigns such as the recent chewing gum campaign designed for heritage areas and the smoking related litter campaign. These campaigns consistently show positive reductions in the amount of litter dropped and, alongside enforcement measures and the Clean Streets Partnership, assist in reducing the pressure on the current services.

## Proposals

12. According to the Google Mobility Data that the City Corporation has been using to gauge the number of people returning the Square Mile, footfall is currently between 50-65% of pre-pandemic levels. Officers will continue to closely monitor the cleansing standards and sources of internal and external data available to maximise the allocation of resources to achieve the best cleansing levels possible.
13. The City's next LEQ surveys will be carried out in March 2022 and, unless there are significant issues that need to be reported beforehand, officers will bring a further report detailing the survey results to this committee in May 2022.

## Corporate & Strategic Implications

Financial implications – none.

Resource implications – none.

Legal implications – Officers believe that the current standards achieved with the available resources continue to meet the City’s statutory obligations under the EPA 1990.

Risk implications – As detailed above the standards being achieved with the current resources are possible due to the current reduced footfall. There is a risk that, should footfall significantly increase, these standards will not remain achievable. As any increase is likely to be gradual, officers intend to mitigate this risk by both continued close internal monitoring and external LEQ surveying and will seek to flex resources as required to achieve the best possible outcomes. Alongside this they will continue to promote the Clean Streets Partnership and deliver effective behaviour change campaigns.

Equalities implications – none.

Climate implications – Whilst officers believe that the City will continue to meet its statutory obligations under the EPA 1990 any increase in litter has environmental implications, particularly as the City is a riverside authority and items, especially plastics, dropped on land can result in marine litter. Increases in detritus and reduction in carriageway cleansing can also contribute to poor air quality, particularly in enclosed and built-up areas. Officers will consider both these issues whilst they continue the close monitoring of the service and seek to allocate resources as necessary.

Security implications – none.

## **Conclusion**

14. Officers will continue to closely monitor the situation as more people return to the City and, using the various sources of data available, will maximise the allocation of resources to ensure that the City’s cleansing standards are maintained to the best possible level. Significant increases in footfall are likely to place serious strain on the service and officers will ensure that this committee is kept informed of these issues and the necessary courses of action to maintain the revised cleansing standards agreed in January 2021.

## **Appendices**

- None

## **Background Papers**

DBE Service Changes & Budget Proposals – PHES 20 January 2021

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