



Communications & Corporate Affairs (Policy & Resources) Committee

Date: MONDAY, 12 DECEMBER 2022
Time: 1.45 pm
Venue: COMMITTEE ROOMS, 2ND FLOOR WEST WING, GUILDHALL, EC2V 7HH

Members:

Deputy Keith Bottomley (Chairman)	Deputy Edward Lord
Deputy Christopher Hayward (Deputy Chairman)	Catherine McGuinness
Deputy Rehana Ameer	Deborah Oliver
Emily Benn	Ruby Sayed
Tijs Broeke	Tom Sleigh
Deputy Henry Colthurst	Deputy Sir Michael Snyder
Mary Durcan	Alderman Professor Michael Mainelli
Alderman Prem Goyal	Alderman Sir William Russell
Deputy Shravan Joshi	

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Accessing the virtual public meeting

Members of the public can observe this virtual public meeting at the below link:
<https://youtu.be/TyuBkREO194>

A recording of the public meeting will be available via the above link following the end of the public meeting for up to one civic year. Please note: Online meeting recordings do not constitute the formal minutes of the meeting; minutes are written and are available on the City of London Corporation's website. Recordings may be edited, at the discretion of the proper officer, to remove any inappropriate material.

John Barradell
Town Clerk and Chief Executive

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AGENDA

Part 1 - Public Agenda

1. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**
2. **MEMBERS' DECLARATIONS UNDER THE CODE OF CONDUCT IN RESPECT OF ITEMS ON THE AGENDA**
3. **MINUTES**
To agree the public minutes and summary of the meeting held on 31 October 2022.

For Decision
(Pages 5 - 10)
4. **OUTSTANDING ACTIONS**
Report of the Town Clerk.

For Information
(Pages 11 - 12)
5. **PARLIAMENTARY TEAM UPDATE**
Report of the Remembrancer.

For Discussion
(Pages 13 - 18)
6. **CORPORATE AFFAIRS UPDATE**
Report of the Deputy Town Clerk and Executive Director of Communications and External Affairs

For Discussion
(Pages 19 - 24)
7. **MEDIA UPDATE**
Report of the Deputy Town Clerk and Executive Director of Communications and External Affairs.

For Discussion
(Pages 25 - 40)
8. **QUESTIONS ON MATTERS RELATING TO THE WORK OF THE SUB-COMMITTEE**
9. **ANY OTHER BUSINESS THAT THE CHAIRMAN CONSIDERS URGENT**

10. **EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC**

MOTION - That under Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Part I of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act.

For Decision

Part 2 - Non-Public Agenda

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

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

COMMUNICATIONS & CORPORATE AFFAIRS (POLICY & RESOURCES) COMMITTEE

Monday, 31 October 2022

Minutes of the meeting of the Communications & Corporate Affairs (Policy & Resources) Committee held at the Guildhall EC2 at 11.30 am

Present

Members:

Deputy Keith Bottomley (Chairman)	Deputy Edward Lord
Deputy Christopher Hayward (Deputy Chairman)	Alderman Nicholas Lyons
Deputy Rehana Ameer	Catherine McGuinness
Emily Benn	Deborah Oliver
Mary Durcan	Ian Seaton
Alderman Prem Goyal	Alderman Sir William Russell

Officers:

Bob Roberts	- Deputy Town Clerk and Executive Director of Communications
Kristy Sandino	- Town Clerk's Department
John Park	- Town Clerk's Department
Sam Hutchings	- Town Clerk's Department
Polly Dunn	- Town Clerk's Department
Paul Double	- Remembrancer
Paul Wright	- Deputy Remembrancer
William Stark	- Remembrancer's Department

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Deputy Shравan Joshi and Deputy Henry Colthurst. Tijs Broeke issued apologies but observed the meeting virtually.

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

Alderman Prem Goyal declared an interest in respect of item 7, Think Tank Review and Membership due to being a Senior Advisor on the Economic and Commercial Diplomacy Advisory Group at the International Business and Diplomatic Exchange (IBDE).

3. MINUTES

A Member noted that benchmarking would be important for the Resident Survey.

The report on the elections mentioned at item 17, had been submitted to the Policy and Resources Committee in October 2022.

RESOLVED – That the public minutes of the meeting held on 7 June 2022, be approved as an accurate record.

4. **OUTSTANDING ACTIONS**

Members received a report of the Town Clerk regarding the Sub-Committee's outstanding actions.

1/2022/P - The Deputy Town Clerk confirmed that the City Corporation could email Ward Newsletters using data for the Ward Lists (which is an electoral function) due to a lack of permissions when collecting the information.

Rather than seeking these permissions the Deputy Town Clerk recommended, with the support of Members, that the City Corporation bring back proposals for better and more effective engagement methods.

2/2022/P – the Deputy Town Clerk confirmed that this action had been completed, with the statement having been issued to the editor of the Livery Committee website. The Deputy Town Clerk commented that there were now greater lines of communication between the City Corporation and those working on the Livery Committee website.

RESOLVED, that the report be noted.

5. **PARTY CONFERENCE UPDATE**

Members received a report of the Deputy Town Clerk regarding an update on Party Conferences.

Both the Deputy Town Clerk, Chairman and Members of the Sub-Committee expressed their gratitude to the team of officers responsible for coordinating the various party conference visits and events.

Having requested that Members be given more specific duties for their visits, the Chairman of Policy & Resources Committee had hoped for more detailed Member feedback and intelligence to be featured within the report. It was also requested that more quantitative data be pulled together year on year (e.g., fringe attendance numbers etc.)

Another Member asked if Members could see how much was spent. It was suggested that because the funding came from City's Cash, this may need to be presented as an aggregate figure, with detail set out in a non-public supplement.

It was noted that there had been substantial and robust engagement with Labour.

RESOLVED, that the report be noted.

6. **SPORTS UPDATE**

Members considered a report of the Deputy Town Clerk regarding a update on sport engagement and the corporate wide sport review.

11.50 – Catherine McGuinness joined the meeting.

Members referenced the recent Global Sport Agora event at Guildhall and the important relationship between business and sport. It was acknowledged that sport engagement events were helping to improve relations between sport and the global Financial and Professional Services Sector. Members also noted that sport should play an integral part of plans for Destination City, City Livery engagement, and the new Corporate Plan.

All Members expressed support for repurposing of the unused Policy Initiative (PIF) monies for other sports engagement – noting that this would need to be approved by the Policy & Resources Committee.

The Policy Lead for Sport Engagement noted that opportunities to host more sporting events in the City, were being explored. Encouragingly, a large number of Members had expressed an interest to attend a Member Sounding Board breakfast on sports engagement, to discuss issues such as this.

11.59 – Deputy Randall Anderson left the meeting.

The schedule of engagement was deemed impressive, but a question was raised as to why the Qatar World Cup did not feature. Whilst it was being hosted abroad, it was felt that there could be potential to host screenings etc. or put a spotlight on relevant social themes such as LGBTQ+ representation in sport or Human Rights issues.

The Deputy Town Clerk noted that there was an Ethical Investment Policy being brought for Member consideration in December 2022/January 2023.

RESOLVED, that Members

- (i) note the progress being made on the City Corporation's sport strategy and engagement work as outlined in this report
- (ii) endorse the proposed new Sport Ticket Allocation Procedure as set out in Appendix 1
- (iii) request that the Policy and Resources Committee agree to repurpose the underspend of £39,399, allocated from the Policy Initiatives Fund to the Commonwealth Games Queens Baton Relay event earlier this year, for other sport engagement activity in 2023/24

7. **THINK TANK REVIEW AND MEMBERSHIP 2022/23**

Members received a report of the Deputy Town Clerk regarding the Think Tank Review and Membership for 2022/23.

Concern was raised by Members about assessing concrete examples value the City Corporation gets from each institution. There was particular interest to

ensure there was a good party-political balance, as the nation approached the next general election.

The Deputy Town Clerk committed to providing greater detail to Members, including information on the various events, costs and core memberships.

RESOLVED, that the report be noted.

8. **CORPORATE AFFAIRS UPDATE**

Members received a report of the Deputy Town Clerk regarding an update on Corporate Affairs activities.

Thanks were issued by Members to Officers of the Corporate Affairs Team.

A political engagement plan informed by a series of policy priorities helped the City Corporation work with and utilise a series of allies.

Members were encouraged to hear of the efforts undertaken to ensure a “one team” approach between the Chairman of Policy and the Lord Mayor.

RESOLVED, that the update be noted.

9. **MEDIA UPDATE**

Members received a report of the Deputy Town Clerk regarding a Media Activities Update.

RESOLVED, that the update be noted.

10. **PARLIAMENTARY TEAM UPDATE**

Members received a report of the Remembrancer regarding an update from the Parliamentary Team.

The Remembrancer provided an introduction, focussing upon the Financial Services and Markets Bill, the Online Safety Bill and the Levelling-Up and Regeneration Bill.

There was a brief discussion on the Boundary Commission.

It was suggested that the Schools Bill be brought to the attention of the Education Board.

RESOLVED, that the update be noted.

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

There was one question raised on the governance and oversight of the Museum of London. The Deputy Town Clerk confirmed that the Museum was operationally independent of the City Corporation, but that contact was made on a weekly basis to support and amplify their communications initiatives.

12. **ANY OTHER BUSINESS THAT THE CHAIRMAN CONSIDERS URGENT**
There was one item of urgent business, whereby the Deputy Town Clerk provided a brief update on the recruitment for a Director of Communications. There had been a high level of interest and he was confident in the high calibre of candidates.
13. **EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC**
Members agreed that there was no discussion to be had in non-public session and concluded the meeting in public session.
14. **NON-PUBLIC QUESTIONS ON MATTERS RELATING TO THE WORK OF THE SUB-COMMITTEE**
None.
15. **ANY OTHER BUSINESS THAT THE CHAIRMAN CONSIDERS URGENT AND WHICH THE SUB COMMITTEE AGREES SHOULD BE CONSIDERED WHILST THE PUBLIC ARE EXCLUDED**
None.

The meeting closed at 12.41 pm

Chairman

Contact Officer: Polly Dunn
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Communications and Corporate Affairs Sub-Committee – Public Outstanding References

1/2022/P	7 June 2022	With regard to Ward Newsletters, upon request, the Deputy Town Clerk agreed to review whether they could be emailed rather than posted.	Deputy Town Clerk	31/10/22 – Deputy Town Clerk agreed, with the Sub-Committee’s support, to bring back proposals on better and more effective engagement measures.
2/2022/P	7 June 2022	Recent Policy Statement from the Policy Chairman was shared with the livery, if it had not already been done.	Deputy Town Clerk	Completed
3/2022/P	31 October 2022	Party Conference Update Members sought greater detail and an effort to collate feedback from Members (who each had their own duties) Further detail on spend to also feature where possible.	Head of Corporate Affairs	To be included in future iterations of the report (2023)
4/2022/P	31 October 2022	Think Tank Review and Membership 2022/23 Members sought greater detail on various events attended, costs and core Membership.	Head of Corporate Affairs	The Head of Corporate Affairs provided a written update to the Policy Chairman and Chair of the Sub Committee
5/2022/P	31 October 2022	Parliamentary Team Update It was suggested that the Schools Bill be brought to the attention of the Education Board	Director of Community and Children’s Services	Upon review the Town Clerk can confirm that a Schools Bill verbal update was provided by the Director of CCS at the Education Board meeting on 20 October 2022.

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Committee(s): Communications and Corporate Affairs (Policy & Resources) Committee – For discussion	Dated: 12/12/2022
Subject: Parliamentary Team Update	Public
Which outcomes in the City Corporation’s Corporate Plan does this proposal aim to impact directly?	6,7,8,9,11
Does this proposal require extra revenue and/or capital spending?	N/A
If so, how much?	N/A
What is the source of Funding?	N/A
Has this Funding Source been agreed with the Chamberlain’s Department?	N/A
Report of: Paul Double, City Remembrancer	For Discussion
Report author: William Stark, Parliamentary Engagement Officer	

Summary

This summary updates Members on the main elements of the Parliamentary Team’s previous and planned activity in support of the City of London Corporation’s political and parliamentary engagement since the last formal update to the subcommittee on 31 October 2022.

Recommendation(s)

Members are recommended to note the report.

Main Report

Legislative Programme Update

1. Since coming to power, Prime Minister Sunak has generally progressed the legislative agenda of his predecessor but one, Boris Johnson. The reappointment of a number of Johnson’s cabinet, such as Justice Secretary and Lord Chancellor Dominic Raab and Levelling Up Secretary Michael Gove, has lessened speculation of an overhaul to the Government’s agenda indicated during the brief premiership of Liz Truss. For example, it has now been confirmed that the passage of the Online Safety Bill will resume and the reappointment of Raab has raised the prospect of the revival of the Bill of Rights Bill. The commentary below provides an update on relevant Bills which have been considered before either House since the last update in October. Other Bills in which the City is interested but await further consideration are noted subsequently.
2. **Financial Services and Markets Bill** - The Financial Services and Markets Bill has now completed its committee stage and awaits a date for Report. The return of the Bill’s progenitors, Rishi Sunak and John Glen, to government as

Prime Minister and Chief Secretary to the Treasury respectively means the future of the legislation is secure. City Minister Andrew Griffith wrote to the Treasury Committee in November to confirm that the much-trailed “call-in” or intervention power to enable the Treasury to direct a regulator to make, amend or revoke rules has been dropped. Griffith’s letter noted that the “government is of the view that the existing provisions in the Bill are currently sufficient.” On Second Reading Sunak and Glen, in contributions as backbenchers, hinted at possible future policy directions, namely reforms in prospectus directive regulations regarding capital raising, the European packaged retail and insurance-based investment products directive (PRIIPS), changes to ringfencing rules, and reforms to MiFID as part of the wholesale market review.

3. **Online Safety Bill** – Secretary of State for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport Michelle Donelan confirmed the Government will progress the Online Safety Bill. After a long break, proceedings resumed on 5 December following an announcement that controversial measures regulating “legal but harmful” content online were to be dropped. In their stead, Donelan said a “triple shield” will be introduced to tackle harmful content, where online platforms should remove content that is illegal, should remove content that violates the online platform’s terms of service and will be placed under an obligation to offer users the functionality to control their exposure to content such as legal forms of abuse and hatred. The City’s main interest in the Bill, provisions relating to online scams and fraudulent advertising, remain unchanged given they are illegal content. Given the extensive nature of changes to the Bill, it will be re-committed to a Bill Committee. An additional written ministerial statement from Technology Minister Paul Scully noted that despite the re-committal, the Government recognised “Parliament’s desire” to see the legislation enacted quickly.
4. **Economic Crime and Transparency Bill** – The Bill has progressed through committee stage in the Commons quickly with MPs keen to see the Bill on the statute books soon, given concerns illegal activities by Russian entities in light of the country’s invasion of Ukraine. Notably, Kevin Hollinrake, a prominent backbench voice who has called for the Bill to go further than is currently drafted, has become a junior Business Minister and has responded to debates on the legislation. It is yet to be seen whether further reforms, including a “failure to prevent” economic crime offence for businesses, will be brought forward. Assistant Commissioner Pete O’Doherty of the City of London Police met with Dame Margaret Hodge (Lab), a member of the Bill Committee, in November to discuss economic crime and expressed the City Police’s support for the Bill. The City Police also submitted evidence to the Bill Committee in support of the proposed legislation.
5. **Levelling-up and Regeneration Bill** – The Bill currently stands part way through Report Stage, having held one day of debate in November before the second scheduled day being pulled. Indications are that the second day was rescheduled due to Government fears about backbench rebellion over mandatory housing targets. The Leader of the House has, however, confirmed that the Bill will be progressed. The first day of debate on Report saw consideration of two amendments by the City’s MP Nickie Aiken, one on S.618

of the Housing Act 1985 (detailed below in the *Forward Look*) and a second regarding the abolition of the Vagrancy Act 1824. The Government accepted that new measures would provide a new code on vagrancy, which would not criminalise the behaviour.

6. **Procurement Bill** – The Bill is intended to make public procurement more accessible for new entrants, enabling them to compete for public contracts. It retains the core of the EU procurement regime, and encourages contracts with SMEs and social enterprises. Drafting aspects in respect to the City are currently being considered.
7. **Retained EU Law (Revocation and Reform) Bill** – The Bill is currently awaiting a date for Report stage in the House of Commons. It has come under fierce criticism from across the House for its “sunset” provisions, which will automatically revoke any Retained EU Law (REUL) that is not expressly preserved by 31 December 2023. Concerns have been expressed about the capacity of the Civil Service to sufficiently examine all REUL ahead of the deadline, which has been described as “arbitrary.” The Corporation’s evidence to the Public Bill Committee highlighted these timescale concerns, and in particular the potential risks this may pose to the financial services. The Bill is being actively monitored to ensure that the Corporation is fully briefed on its implications for the rule of law and the functioning of the UK-EU relationship.
8. **Bill of Rights Bill** – The Bill’s Second Reading, scheduled for September, was cancelled by the Truss government, however the return of Dominic Raab as Lord Chancellor and Secretary of State for Justice (as well as Deputy Prime Minister) means it is likely the Bill will be revived. Raab told the Justice Committee in November that the Bill is one of his “legislative priorities.”
9. **Public Order Bill** – The Bill establishes new criminal offences of “locking-on and going equipped to lock-on”, to criminalise the protest tactic of individuals intentionally attaching themselves to others, objects, or buildings to cause serious disruption. It will also introduce Serious Disruption Prevention Orders, a new preventative court order targeting protestors who repeatedly inflict disruption on the public. The new offences are of interest to the City of London Police, given the prevalence of protests within the Square Mile. The Bill has been reported to the Police Authority Board and the Board will continue to receive updates on its progress.
10. **Social Housing (Regulation) Bill** – The Bill, which is currently in Committee, reforms the regulatory regime for social housing landlords on consumer issues such as safety, transparency and tenant engagement, with new enforcement powers. Through the Bill, the Government seeks to “drive significant change in landlord behaviour to focus on the needs of their tenants and ensure landlords are held to account for their performance.” The Bill applies to the Corporation in its exercise of the functions and duties of a local authority which is a provider of social housing. It will be reported to the Children and Community Services Committee.

11. **Counsellors of State Bill** – A Bill to add The Princess Royal and The Earl of Wessex & Forfar as Counsellors of State has made fast progress through both Houses after its introduction in November. The Bill, which followed a message from the King to both Houses that he would be content for such legislation to be brought in, is likely to have been made law before the meeting of this subcommittee.
12. Other legislation making progress since the last report includes the **Northern Ireland Protocol Bill** and the **Higher Education (Freedom of Speech) Bill** which both await Report in the House of Lords.
13. Bills of note which have not made progress since the last update include the **Data Protection and Digital Information Bill**, **Schools Bill**, and **Trade (Australia and New Zealand) Bill**, which has had its Report Stage scheduled for 12 December.

City Corporation Private Legislation

14. Further to the decision of the Court of Common Council, the City of London (Markets) Bill was deposited in Parliament on 28 November. The first substantive Parliamentary proceedings on the Bill will take place in the new year. Ahead of this, the Office will continue with preparation of briefing materials as well as engagement work with parliamentarians in advance of these proceedings. Newspaper notices were published on 30 November.

Forward Look

15. Engagement on the Financial Services and Markets Bill will continue to a priority for the Parliamentary Team. While the scheduling of engagement will be influenced by the timetabling of the Bill, activities will continue apace including seeking bilateral meetings with parliamentarians interested in financial services. Wider messaging on the contribution of financial services and FPS sector asks, including highlighting the 'State of the Sector' report published by IG, will be promoted outside the Bill.
16. A meeting is being sought with the new Chair of the Treasury Committee, Harriett Baldwin, following the vacancy created by the appointment of Mel Stride as Work and Pensions Secretary. Officers have already met with Ms Baldwin's parliamentary office, and the Deputy Policy Chairman attended an APPG for Financial Markets and Services event with Ms Baldwin in October, prior to her election.
17. The Office will provide support with any actions needed further to Assistant Commissioner Pete O'Doherty's oral evidence given to the Public Accounts Committee on 1 December. O'Doherty spoke alongside Matthew Rycroft CBE, Permanent Secretary at the Home Office, Graeme Biggar CBE, Director General at National Crime Agency and Duncan Tessier, Director for Economic Crime at the Home Office. The oral evidence session was prompted by the findings of the National Audit Office report "Progress combatting fraud" which highlighted the "increasing and evolving" nature of fraud but expressed

disappointment with the Home Office that the “number of frauds resulting in a charge or summons is falling” and questioned the department’s understanding of the extent of fraud and the resources committed to tackling the problem.

18. Other forthcoming engagement regarding economic crime includes a meeting with Liberal Democrat Sarah Olney MP, following written parliamentary questions regarding the performance of Action Fraud. The Office reached out to Ms Olney to offer a meeting with the Chair of the Police Authority Board, with a mutually convenient time currently being sought.
19. Officers are in discussion with the APPG on Sustainable Finance regarding City Corporation involvement with the launch of a guide to sustainable finance for MPs in January.
20. Opportunities are being explored to promote the work of the Guildhall School of Music and Drama and the Barbican Centre to parliamentarians. While work remains at a very early stage, contact is being made with relevant officers regarding a visit by a delegation of parliamentarians.
21. The Office is in discussion with IG’s Interim Head of Skills about future engagement for the Socio-Economic Diversity Taskforce and membership body Progress Together. Initial approaches to the APPG for Social Mobility have been unable to progress due to the resignation of the APPG’s chair.
22. The Office will continue to amplify City Corporation and IRSG work on crypto technologies, following IG’s Head of Regulatory Affairs Gordon Mead appearing before the Crypto and Digital Assets APPG in late November. This builds on recent evidence submitted to the Treasury Committee and briefing issued to parliamentarians alongside the Financial Services and Markets Bill.
23. Parliamentary engagement in collaboration with the Industry and Parliament Trust includes with the City Police on tackling fraud, construction skills, commercial diplomacy and reinvigorating cities. The Lord Mayor and the Policy Chairman will have opportunities to present the City’s work in these areas.
24. The Office has submitted a response to the Boundary Commission supporting the revised proposals published in November, which maintained the constituency link between the Cities of London and Westminster. The decision of the Boundary Commission is to be welcomed, following the submission of representations at the first and second round of consultation on the initial proposals in favour of maintaining the link. Following this final round of consultation, the outcome will be announced in June 2023.
25. The Office will continue to pursue the repeal Section 618 of the Housing Act 1985, which disqualifies City Corporation members who live in Corporation-owned properties from voting on housing matters. Nickie Aiken MP tabled an amendment to the Levelling-up and Regeneration Bill seeking a repeal. Responding, Minister Dehenna Davison said she did “not want to make a commitment today” but was keen to work with Ms Aiken “to understand the issue of local voting rights in her constituency more fully” and “would love to get

a meeting in with her in due course.” The Office is in contact with Ms Aiken and her team to provide any support necessary ahead of the meeting.

William Stark

Parliamentary Engagement Officer

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Agenda Item 6

Committee(s): Communications and Corporate Affairs Sub Committee	Dated: 12/12/2022
Subject: Corporate Affairs Update	Public
Which outcomes in the City Corporation's Corporate Plan does this proposal aim to impact directly?	Outcomes 2 – 11
Does this proposal require extra revenue and/or capital spending?	No
If so, how much?	N/A
What is the source of Funding?	N/A
Has this Funding Source been agreed with the Chamberlain's Department?	N/A
Report of: Bob Roberts, Deputy Town Clerk and Executive Director of Communications and External Affairs	For Discussion
Report author: Sarah Bridgman, Senior Corporate Affairs Officer	

Summary

The below report outlines the activities of the Corporate Affairs Team since the last meeting of the Communications and Corporate Affairs Sub Committee on 31st October 2022. It highlights major activities undertaken to support the team's priorities.

The main priorities of the Corporate Affairs team since the last Communications and Corporate Affairs Sub Committee can be summarised as:

- Maintaining responsibility for the City Corporation's work with frontbench politicians, including monitoring changes to the Government, further developing engagement with the Opposition and advising on engagement
- Continuing the positive relationships with pan-London political stakeholders and briefing them on the work of the City Corporation
- Working with external partners to deliver successful events of interest to the City Corporation
- Progressing the review of sport engagement.

Recommendation(s)

Members are asked to:

- Note the report.

Main Report

Political Engagement

1. Since the last Corporate Affairs Update to the Communications and Corporate Affairs Sub Committee, the new Prime Minister Rishi Sunak formed a new Government. Throughout this process and the preceding leadership election, the Corporate Affairs Team has been leading the work to monitor the political landscape. This has included:
 - a. Monitoring the leadership election processes and any subsequent changes to the Government, and updating Members and Officers via public policy bulletins
 - b. Writing to newly appointed Ministers in portfolios of relevance to the City Corporation to outline the organisation's priorities in these areas
 - c. Analysing the positions of the new Government, including those announced in the Autumn Statement, and working with colleagues from across the organisation to determine what these will mean for the City Corporation.

2. Given the current political and economic climate, the Team has also been working to further increase engagement with Labour politicians. In the last month this has included:
 - a. Supporting the Policy Chairman with his bilateral meeting with the Shadow Secretary of State for International Trade, Nick Thomas-Symonds MP
 - b. Working with the Remembrancer's Office to provide briefings for the freedom ceremony and lunch for the Shadow Secretary of State for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy, Jonathan Reynolds MP.
 - c. Engaging at officer level to progress meetings in early 2023 with other key Shadow Cabinet members.

3. The Corporate Affairs Team continues to provide advice to teams across the organisation on the optimum ways to engage with Government and Opposition politicians. Since the last meeting of the Sub Committee, this has included:
 - a. Providing political briefing ahead of the Lord Mayor's Banquet and the State Banquet for the President of South Africa
 - b. Supporting colleagues in Innovation and Growth with letters to political stakeholders on cross border remote working and the UK's green taxonomy.

Pan-London Engagement

4. The Corporate Affairs Team continues to lead on the City Corporation's relationships with pan-London stakeholders. The work since the last Sub Committee meeting has primarily involved maintaining positive relationships across London government as well as providing briefings on the work and priorities of the City Corporation. This has included:

- a. Working in collaboration with the Office of the Town Clerk and the Media Team on the planning for the communication of the appointment of the new Town Clerk
- b. Sponsoring the London Conference organised by the Centre for London and attending, in order to engage with key stakeholders from across the capital and gather key insights on policy initiatives
- c. Collaborating with colleagues in the Media Team and the Remembrancer's Office on the communications plan for the markets co-location programme. The Team ensured that relations with key political stakeholders were managed, as well as providing strategic communications advice
- d. Supporting the Centre for London's report on London and Levelling Up, and ensuring that City Corporation messaging on this subject could form part of the project
- e. Providing input and analysis to Central London Forward's Central Activities Zone Future Actions Strategy, ensuring that the economic importance of the City of London is acknowledged.

Events with External Partners

5. The work of the Corporate Affairs Team includes arranging partnerships with external organisations such as think tanks, for events and projects that are relevant to our priorities as an organisation. Since the last meeting of the Sub Committee, these projects have included:
 - a. Sponsoring a lecture in Edinburgh organised by King's College London's Strand Group, given by Lord Macpherson, the former Permanent Secretary to HM Treasury. The lecture was entitled "Treasury Orthodoxy: Fact or Fiction?" and offered a timely overview of the role of the Treasury in shaping the UK's economic policy. One of the Vice Chairs of Policy and Resources introduced the event on behalf of the Policy Chairman. The event provided a useful opportunity to outline City Corporation work with the financial services sector around the UK, as well as to engage with Scottish policymakers and academics.
 - b. Hosting the Centre for Policy Studies (CPS) Margaret Thatcher Conference on Growth. The Policy Chairman gave opening remarks to the conference and took part in a panel session on "Why Choose Britain?" alongside the Economic Secretary to HM Treasury. Other speakers at the conference included the Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities, Michael Gove MP and Chairman of the Conservative Party, Nadhim Zahawi MP. The conference was well attended with a significant number of MPs attending the dinner.

Sport Engagement

6. Work continues on the strategic review of sport provision in the Square Mile by the Sport Engagement Manager, with external consultants appointed to undertake stakeholder engagement and gain insight into views on the direction of sport for the City of London. Residents, workers and visitors will all be

consulted via online focus groups and a survey to understand more about what sport services and facilities they would like the City Corporation to prioritise in the future. In addition, a Member Sounding Board has been set up to oversee the progress of the strategic review and provide direction on the development of a new sport and leisure strategy for the Square Mile.

7. It is anticipated that the new strategy will consist of three areas of focus: sport facilities, sport events and sport engagement, with each area having clear deliverable and measurable targets to work towards. Once the strategy has been drafted early next year, a fuller update will be provided to Members of this Sub Committee on the proposed approach being taken on sport.
8. Alongside this, there is also a plan to develop a sport strategy for the City Corporation's open spaces outside the Square Mile, which is expected to be launched concurrently with the Square Mile Sport Strategy next summer.

Future engagement

9. The Corporate Affairs Team continues to plan for future engagement with political stakeholders. Amongst other things, work is underway to:
 - a. Map plans for political engagement against the Policy Chairman's priorities and the annual calendar of City Corporation events, in conjunction with other teams across the organisation
 - b. Organise a roundtable for a senior member of the Shadow Cabinet, convening relevant representatives to brief them on the City Corporation's priorities
 - c. Plan for the 2023 Party Conferences, to be held in Bournemouth, Manchester and Liverpool, and to visit prospective venues for City Corporation events
 - d. Further develop engagement with Opposition politicians
 - e. Send an officer to the Labour Party Business Conference.

Corporate & Strategic Implications

Strategic implications

10. We engage with political stakeholders, organise events associated with the party-political conferences and work with the thinktanks and other third-party organisations to produce events and associated policy reports. This provides an opportunity for the City Corporation to engage with key audiences on important global, national and local government issues and to demonstrate the City Corporation's involvement in relevant debates. Sponsorship and political engagement would also help deliver outcomes 2 – 10 of the 2018-23 Corporate Plan.

Financial implications

11. The Corporate Affairs Team has an established budget for all party conference and engagement related activity. Any sponsorship of ad-hoc policy projects is currently funded via the Policy Initiatives Fund according to decisions of the Policy and Resources Committee.

Resource implications

None

Legal implications

None

Risk implications

None

Equalities implications

None

Climate implications

None

Security implications

None

Conclusion

12. Members are asked to note the ongoing work of the Corporate Affairs Team.

Sarah Bridgman

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Agenda Item 7

Committee(s): Communications and Corporate Affairs Sub Committee (Policy & Resources)	Dated: 12 December 2022
Subject: Media Update	Public
Which outcomes in the City Corporation's Corporate Plan does this proposal aim to impact directly?	[1-12]
Does this proposal require extra revenue and/or capital spending?	N
If so, how much?	N/A
What is the source of Funding?	N/A
Has this Funding Source been agreed with the Chamberlain's Department?	N/A
Report of: Bob Roberts, Deputy Town Clerk and Executive Director of Communications and External Affairs	For Discussion
Report author: Sanjay Odedra, Assistant Director of Media (Financial Services)	

Summary

This report summarises the media output from the City of London Corporation's Media Team since the last media update reviewed by the Communications and Corporate Affairs Sub Committee on 31 October 2022.

It gives a quantitative analysis of our print, broadcast, and digital reach.

It then gives details of the subjects which generated significant media coverage about the City Corporation and the Square Mile and a qualitative analysis on whether the tone and content has been mainly positive, negative, or neutral.

There was a high level of positive coverage around the Lord Mayor's Show, Destination City and plans to relocate Smithfield and Billingsgate markets to Dagenham Dock.

There was also significant coverage of the City Corporation's response to the Autumn Statement, trade relations with India and Switzerland, and COP27.

Recommendation(s)

Members are asked to note the contents of this report.

Main Report

Quantitative Analysis

1. The Weekly Media Summary produced every Friday measures and records the main print, broadcast, and digital media output of the Media Team. It is distributed to Members and senior officers.
2. This report collates and summarises the findings of the Weekly Media Summary from 14 October to 28 November 2022. This is a relatively short period compared to previous reports.

Print

3. There have been more than 136 articles relating to the City of London Corporation in national, regional, and local newspapers. This compares to 365 in the previous reporting period between 13 May to 14 October 2022.
4. Advertising Value Equivalent (equivalent if we paid for coverage) is £920,775 (this excludes radio, on-line, TV broadcasting and international print coverage). By comparison, the AVE for the previous reporting was £6,816,978. This is due to the period covered by this report being considerably shorter than the previous one, which included the death of Her Late Majesty The Queen and associated coverage.
5. Additionally, there have been at least 179 articles in international media which are not collated by the cuttings agency, and which are not included in the AVE figure. This compares to 254 in the previous reporting period.

Broadcast

6. There have been at least 23 pieces of broadcast media coverage achieved including BBC One, BBC Radio 4, CNBC, Bloomberg and BBC Radio Ulster. This compares to 44 pieces in the previous reporting period. These are also not included in the AVE figure.

Digital

7. The corporate Twitter feed now has 63,877 followers - up by 1,996 since the last report and still more than any London borough.
8. Our corporate Facebook page has 11,513 followers, up by 64 since the last report.
9. Our corporate LinkedIn page now has 38,326 followers, up by 1,639. This is more followers than any London borough and organisations such as UK Finance, and the CBI.
10. The Lord Mayor's Show posts reached 614,144 people, generating 6,434 engagements.

11. Destination City's Golden Key posts reached up to 22m people, generating 1.4m engagements.
12. The tweet on the City Corporation's corporate account announcing that Harry Kane would receive the Freedom of the City of London achieved a reach of around four million, while other posts, including on Tottenham Hotspur's official Twitter account, brought the estimated total reach up to 12 million views.
13. The most visited page on the corporate website was the Golden Key page with 15,241 views. This compares to 139,407 views of the Parliament Hill Lido page between 13 May 2022 and to 14 October 2022.

Subject Details and Qualitative Analysis of Media Coverage

The qualitative analysis below assesses coverage ranging from significantly positive to significantly negative.

Lord Mayor's Show

- a. The Lord Mayor's Show generated widespread online, print, and broadcast media coverage.
- b. The event was broadcast live on BBC1 with an estimated peak audience of up to two million viewers.
- c. Lord Mayor Nicholas Lyons was interviewed by BBC Radio London on Saturday morning, ahead of the Show.
- d. Images of the Show were featured by the Evening Standard, Daily Mail, The Times, The Sunday Telegraph and City A.M.
- e. The Evening Standard ran an article on Friday previewing the Show. The Lord Mayor and the City of London Corporation were referenced. Further coverage in The Daily Telegraph, Yahoo News, and My London.
- f. National coverage in The Times and The Daily Telegraph on the Early Morning Rehearsal. The Lord Mayor Elect was also pictured and quoted in City A.M. and City Matters. Further coverage in City A.M., MSN, One City, Londonist, and Ian Visits.

Qualitative Analysis:

- a. Coverage was significant and the tone of reporting was positive and uncritical. There was some important coverage showcasing diversity in the BBC1 live broadcast, but this angle could be improved and amplified across the communications campaign. Efforts to make the Show more diverse and representative of London are being reflected in the media.

Financing our Future

- a. The Lord Mayor used his first column for City A.M. to set out his Mayoral theme, with a particular focus on financial inclusion. Excerpts from the column were featured on a front-page story in City A.M.
- b. The Financial Times published an interview with the Lord Mayor, in which he discusses support for early-stage companies, financial regulatory reform, and support for people affected by the cost-of-living crisis.
- c. The Lord Mayor was also interviewed this week by BBC Radio 4 Today, BBC Radio 5 Live Wake Up To Money, CNBC and Bloomberg at the start of his term. He discussed his mayoral theme, financial inclusion and the Autumn Statement.

Qualitative Analysis:

- a. High-profile coverage providing a positive platform for the Lord Mayor to set out his mayoral theme to a City, national and international audience.
- b. Some negative reporting of potential job losses in the Square Mile due to the recession.

Destination City

- a. The Financial Times published an interview with Policy Chairman Chris Hayward ahead of the Golden Key event.
- b. Further coverage of The Golden Key event appeared in City A.M., London World, Business Telegraph and News Dubai.
- c. Policy Chairman Chris Hayward was quoted in the Evening Standard ahead of the event. The paper covered The Golden Key on the front page of its website. The event was also previewed in Londonist, Metro, The Times, Secret London and Yahoo! News. The Daily Telegraph featured a photograph of giant puppets being prepared for the event. The event was also featured by social media influencers with a reach of up to nearly 2m people.
- d. The Policy Chairman wrote in City A.M. and City Matters looking ahead to the event.
- e. Head of Travel at The Times and The Sunday Times and Destination City Envoy Network member, Clare Irvin, was interviewed about the event on The Kay Burley Show live on Sky News.
- f. The City Corporation and Destination City were also referenced in City A.M. in an interview with hotelier Tony Matharu, who talks about how London can bounce back from the effects of the pandemic.

- g. The dedicated event website achieved 491,000 visits in a two-week period. This was created ahead of the Destination website which will be developed as part of the brand review, building on the learnings from the dedicated site.

Qualitative Analysis:

- a. High levels of coverage achieved across a range of media designed to encourage people to The Golden Key event. Reporting was positive and factual and reached the target audience in London and surrounding areas. The communications campaign achieved its primary aim of attracting a minimum 30,000 people to the event.
- b. This was supported by a wide range of coverage about the wider Destination City policy in major media titles. Reporting was positive and balanced and clearly explained the rationale for the initiative.

Lord Mayor's Banquet

- a. The Times previewed the Lord Mayor's Banquet speech in which he argued that by mobilising private savings and pension funds, we can unleash the capital to boost the early-stage growth economy. Further coverage in the Daily Telegraph and the Daily Mail.
- b. The Lord Mayor wrote in City A.M., urging the Government to do more to ensure high growth companies remain in the UK, ahead of the Lord Mayor's Banquet.
- c. The Financial Times reported Prime Minister Rishi Sunak warning that the so-called golden era of UK relations with China is over during a speech at the Lord Mayor's Banquet. Further coverage appeared in City A.M., The Guardian, Daily Mail, The Independent and The Times. The Lord Mayor was pictured in Evening Standard.

Qualitative Analysis:

- a. Positive coverage the Lord Mayor's speech, focusing on his call for more to be done to ensure high-growth companies can thrive in the UK.
- b. Showcased the event as a major national platform for the Prime Minister, who used his speech to focus on foreign policy - particularly relations with China – which is an area of significant interest for the City.
- c. Some negative social media commentary on the 'optics' of the Prime Minister attending the event.

Markets Co-Location Programme

- a. Policy Chairman Chris Hayward was quoted in the Evening Standard on the City Corporation's plans to relocate Smithfield and Billingsgate Markets to Dagenham Dock. Also in ITV London, Evening Standard, Bloomberg, Time Out, My London, This Is Local London, MSN, Property Week, Meat Management, Building Design, Building, Barking and Dagenham Post, East London Advertiser, Ian Visits, CoStar, Construction Enquirer, LocalGov and Time107.5.
- b. The Policy Chairman also wrote about the relocation in his City AM column, which was welcomed by the newspaper's editorial column.
- c. On London reported that the City of London Corporation has deposited a private bill in Parliament as part of plans to relocate Billingsgate and Smithfield markets to Dagenham Dock. Policy Chairman Chris Hayward was quoted.

Qualitative Analysis:

- a. Significantly positive coverage for the relocation, with the move being presented as an opportunity to create jobs and drive investment in London. This was particularly welcomed in light of the challenging macroeconomic outlook set out in the Autumn Statement.

Autumn Statement

- a. Policy Chairman Chris Hayward was quoted in more than 250 articles including a Daily Mail article about how UK businesses may be affected by the significant tax rises in Chancellor Jeremy Hunt's Autumn Statement. Further coverage included The Independent, Evening Standard and Bloomberg.

Qualitative Analysis:

- a. Coverage was positive, highlighting the impact of a higher tax burden on businesses but also reflecting the Policy Chairman's call on the Government to ensure the UK remains internationally competitive.

South Africa State Banquet

- a. Lord Mayor Nicholas Lyons was pictured in Mail Online in coverage of the State Banquet for the President of South Africa, Cyril Ramaphosa, at Guildhall. The Lord Mayor, the City Corporation and Guildhall were referenced in coverage of the president's State Visit in The Times, The Daily Telegraph, The Scotsman and over 70 other outlets. The Lord Mayor was referenced in Sky News, City AM and Mail Online coverage of the state visit.

Qualitative Analysis:

- a. Positive coverage of the event showcasing links between the City and South Africa.

New Town Clerk and Chief Executive

- a. City A.M. reported on the appointment of appointed of Ian Thomas CBE as the organisation's Town Clerk and Chief Executive at a meeting of the Court of Common Council. Further coverage in Local Government Chronicle, The MJ and City Matters.

Qualitative Analysis:

- a. Coverage was factual and positive in tone. Stories appeared in important Local Government trades read by local authority elected Members and Chief Executives across the UK. City Matters reporting reached a key resident audience.

COP27

- a. Bloomberg quoted Policy Chairman Chris Hayward in an article on the finance sector's activity at the COP27 climate change conference.
- b. Policy Chairman Chris Hayward wrote in City A.M. on COP27 and the importance of London's role as a hub for green finance to support the transition to net zero.
- c. City Matters reported that The Mansion House will be the host venue for the Net Zero Delivery Summit 2023. The Policy Chairman was quoted.
- d. City Matters reported on the annual Sir Roger Gifford Lecture and quoted the Lord Mayor on the importance of private capital in delivering sustainable projects.

Qualitative Analysis:

- a. Limited coverage in a crowded space. Articles were broadly positive in highlighting the UK's strengths in sustainable finance. Wider reporting of the event raised questions of 'greenwashing' across the financial and professional services sector.

International trade

- a. City A.M. reported on a roundtable event organised by the City of London Corporation, as part of International Trade Week which urged the government to strike a "ground-breaking" trade deal with Switzerland to ease the flow of services trade between the two financial centres. Policy

Chairman Chris Hayward was quoted. Also in Politico, Wide World Mag, Latest Finance News, and Les Nouvelles.

- b. Policy Chairman Chris Hayward was quoted in the Daily Telegraph in coverage of the UK-Swiss mobility agreement in. Also in Daily Express, MSN, Law 360 and ten others.
- c. The Times of India reported that intensive negotiations are continuing towards a free trade agreement between India and the UK. Policy Chairman Chris Hayward was quoted. Further coverage appeared in The Economic Times, India Express, NDTV, Asian Lite and over 40 other outlets.
- d. The Hindu reported on the Policy Chairman Chris Hayward's comment on how the Prime Minister could add fresh impetus behind a India-UK FTA, given Rishi Sunak's previous remarks about the importance of financial services in a UK-India trade agreement. Further coverage across Bloomberg (India), NDTV, Economic Times, Telegraph (India), Business Standard, Eastern Eye, and 61 other outlets.
- e. Lord Mayor Nicholas Lyons was quoted in Times of India as welcoming the UK-India Young Professionals Scheme - which will offer 3,000 visas every year to degree-educated Indian nationals aged 18-30 to enable them to live and work in the UK for up to two years. Also reported by Politico, Business Insider, Bloomberg India, and Economic Times.
- f. The Late Lord Mayor's column in City A.M., which marked the launch of International Trade Week, argued that trade must be a key part of the new government's agenda - if it is to build on solid foundations to deliver growth and investment in a sustainable manner.

Qualitative Analysis:

- a. Considerable positive coverage for the City Corporation's work to strengthen trade relations around the world, particularly with Switzerland and India.

Visit to Northern Ireland

- a. Lord Mayor Nicholas Lyons was interviewed by BBC Radio Ulster during a two-day visit to Northern Ireland. The Policy Chairman was also interviewed by BBC Radio Ulster separately.
- b. Belfast Telegraph quoted both the Lord Mayor and Policy Chairman Chris Hayward on the visit
- c. The Policy Chairman was interviewed by The Irish Independent on the need for resolve the Northern Ireland Protocol to stimulate growth in Northern Ireland. Further coverage of the interview also in the Belfast Telegraph.

Qualitative Analysis:

- a. Positive coverage highlighting links between the countries, including messaging stating that London, Belfast and Dublin are a 'golden triangle of cities driving technology, innovation and sustainability'.

New Prime Minister takes office

- a. Policy Chairman Chris Hayward was interviewed by BBC London about the new Conservative Party leader and Prime Minister. The Policy Chairman urged the need for stability and highlighted the huge contribution of the FPS sector and the continued importance for collaboration with the City. Also in City Matters. Reuters, Yahoo, Channel News Asia, International Business Times and 81 other outlets.

Qualitative Analysis:

- a. Neutral coverage highlighting recent political and economic volatility, while also highlighting the City's desire to work closely with the new Government to deliver stability and growth.

Late Lord Mayor signs off

- a. City Matters and Financial News published an interview with Late Lord Mayor Vincent Keaveny looking back at his year in office and highlighting the progress made across his 'People and Purpose' theme.
- b. Politico also published an interview with the Late Lord Mayor in which he highlighted concerns about the competitiveness of the UK's tax regime for banks, a potential free trade agreement with India and partnership with the new Government.

Qualitative Analysis:

- a. Positive profile coverage looking back at the Late Lord Mayor's term in office and its highlights.

Planning, and Transportation

- a. BBC London News reported the City Corporation has approved revised plans to build a new home for the Museum of London in historic buildings at West Smithfield. The story also appeared with quotes from Planning Applications Sub-Committee Chairman Shravan Joshi in City A.M., MyLondon, Time Out, OnLondon, MSN, Construction Enquirer, Constructor Mag, London World and London Post.
- b. City Matters reported on the City of London Corporation's Planning and Transportation Committee resolution to approve the refurbishment and extension of Cripplegate House to create office space and a new community

and cultural space. Chairman of the City Corporation's Planning and Transportation Committee, Shravan Joshi, was quoted. Also reported by Construction Enquirer, Constructor Mag, Architects' Journal, Pro Landscaper Magazine and London Post.

- c. Chairman of the City of London Corporation Planning and Transportation Committee, Shravan Joshi, was quoted in Rail UK and City A.M. reports about upgrades to Bank tube station.
- d. City Matters, London TV and TaxiPoint reported on the consultation on proposals to make permanent the changes to the street layout in the Cheapside and Bank areas permanent, which aim to improve conditions for pedestrians. Chairman of the Streets and Walkways Sub Committee, Graham Packham, was quoted.

Qualitative Analysis:

- a. Largely positive coverage with particularly favourable reporting on the approval of revised plans from the Museum of London.

Police Authority Board

- a. The Independent, Mail Online and Evening Standard reported that the City Corporation and City of London Police Authority Board were among the signatories to a letter to the Prime Minister, urging the government to commit to tackling fraud via the forthcoming Online Safety Bill. Further coverage featured in nearly 230 other media outlets.

Qualitative Analysis:

- a. Widespread factual coverage urging the Government not to delay vital protections against online fraud.

London Wall West

- a. The Observer reported on the City Corporation's plans to redevelop the Museum of London site at London Wall.
- b. City Matters reported that the City Corporation's Policy and Resources Committee agreed to reduce the size of proposals to redevelop Bastion House and the existing Museum of London site, following extensive public consultation. The Policy Chairman Chris Hayward was quoted. Further coverage in Architects' Journal.
- c. Architects' Journal ran a feature on whole-life carbon assessments and how they are being used to support property developments in London, including London Wall West. A City Corporation spokesperson was quoted.

Qualitative Analysis:

- a. Negative coverage due to continuing criticism from the Barbican Quarter Action campaign group and the experts they have enlisted, particularly around the carbon impact of redeveloping London Wall West.

Salisbury Square Development

- a. Evening Standard covered the foundation stone ceremony for the new Salisbury Square Development. The Policy Chairman was referenced, while the Lord Mayor and Chairman of the Capital Buildings Committee Sir Michael Snyder were pictured. Also in The Times, City Matters, Yahoo! UK and Ireland and Law Society Gazette.

Qualitative Analysis:

- a. Positive coverage of the event and the City Corporation's investment in the new development, set against the context of court closures across the UK in recent years.

Public health

- a. City Matters reported on where City residents can get COVID-19 and flu jabs and cost of living support. Chair of the Community and Children's Services Committee Ruby Sayed was quoted.
- b. Civil Society and Charity Times reported that charities and other voluntary organisations are invited to apply for City Corporation funding that will help them offer warm spaces and events for Londoners this winter.
- c. London Post reported on a new free energy support service being launched to help City of London residents struggling with the cost of living. Chairman of the Community and Children's Services Committee Ruby Sayed was quoted.

Qualitative Analysis:

- a. Coverage reached key resident and charity/voluntary audiences in line with the City Corporation's operational public health communications plan.

Charitable Giving

- a. Charity Today reported on a £119,000 grant from the City of London Corporation's charitable funder, City Bridge Trust, awarded to a Peckham-based community centre, The Coplestone Centre, for its varied programme of activities, including yoga, tai chi, and creative writing classes. Chair of the CBT, Giles Shilson, was quoted.

- b. Londonist reported on the history of Bridge House Estates, how it maintains five London bridges, and the work of its funding arm, City Bridge Trust, which gives out over £28 million to London-based charities every year.
- c. City Bridge Trust Deputy Chairman Paul Martinelli was interviewed on London Live and Radio Jackie in a piece about a £50,000 grant to the charity Connect: North Korea, to help people from North Korea acclimatise to life in the UK.

Qualitative Analysis:

- a. Londonist coverage was positive and reached a young and dynamic London audience. However, media appetite for grant stories remains low in what is an increasingly competitive news environment.

Housing

- a. Building Design and Construction reported on the development of over 90 new homes on the City of London Corporation-owned York Way Estate in Islington. Chairman of the City of London Corporation's Community and Children's Services Committee, Ruby Sayed, was quoted. Further coverage in Housing Digital.

Qualitative Analysis:

- a. Positive and factual reporting in a number of trade publications. But there was no interest from Islington media in the story, despite it being, in the Media Team's view, of interest to readers in the borough.

Open spaces

- a. The Evening Standard reported on an avian flu outbreak in Epping Forest. Chairman of the Epping Forest and Commons Committee, Ben Murphy, was quoted. Further coverage in BBC Radio Essex, Essex Live Time Out, MSN, My London, Waltham Forest Echo, and Yahoo News.
- b. The Ham and High reported that Hampstead Heath could be affected by strike action, after City Corporation staff who are GMB union members, voted in an indicative poll to reject a final pay offer. A City Corporation spokesperson was quoted.
- c. The City of London Corporation was referenced in an article in The Observer about its financial support for the recreation of Branch Hill Pond on Hampstead, which is noted for having been painted by Constable. Further coverage in Ham&High.

- d. Chairman of the City Corporation's Epping Forest Committee, Ben Murphy, wrote in the Epping Forest Guardian about how Lord Mayor Nicholas Lyons is supporting the Forest during his mayoral year.
- e. BBC Essex interviewed the City Corporation's Epping Forest and Commons Committee Chair, Ben Murphy, on the harmful impact of fungi foraging in Epping Forest. Also in Epping Forest Guardian and Air Quality News.
- f. In his column in the Ham & High, the Chair of the City Corporation's Hampstead Heath Management Committee, William Upton KC, wrote about the Queen's Green Canopy tree planting campaign being part of a "living legacy" in honour of the late Queen.
- g. Ham and High reported on Hampstead Heath and Golders Hill Park winning the 'London in Bloom' awards. Chair of the City of London Corporation's Open Spaces and City Gardens Committee, Caroline Haines, was quoted.

Qualitative Analysis:

- a. Coverage of the avian flu outbreak in Epping Forest was negative but factual and carried City Corporation and Defra public health guidance
- b. Coverage of potential strike action on Hampstead Heath was negative and speculative.
- c. Columns by the Chairman of the Epping Forest and Commons Committee, and the Chairman of the Hampstead Heath Management Committee, were positive and reached key local audiences.
- d. The Chairman of the Epping Forest and Commons Committee's interview on BBC Radio Essex was authoritative, informative, and factual.
- e. Coverage of London in Bloom wins was positive, factual, and corporately important.

Freedom of the City of London

- a. Over 250 articles in national, international and regional print, digital and broadcast media reported that the England football captain, Harry Kane, will be awarded the Freedom of the City of London. The Policy Chairman and Deputy Policy Chairman Keith Bottomley were widely quoted. Coverage included BBC News, the Sun, Sun online, the I, Independent, Mail Online and Evening Standard.
- b. Quest Media ran a story on the award of the Freedom of the City of London for Shadow Business Secretary, Jonathan Reynolds MP. The Policy Chairman is quoted. Further coverage in The Daily Telegraph, Yahoo! News, London Post and Politico's London Playbook newsletter.

- c. BBC News, Irish Independent, Irish News, Evening Standard, City A.M. and City Matters reported on the Freedom of the City of London award for the radio and television presenter, Dermot O’Leary, who was recognised for his charitable work and patronage of the London Irish Centre. Late Lord Mayor Vincent Keaveny, who was the award’s chief nominator, was quoted in most of the coverage. The announcement was also picked up by around 170 regional media outlets.
- d. Evening Standard reported former West Ham United midfielder Mark Noble has been awarded the Freedom of the City of London. Also in BBC Sport.

Qualitative Analysis:

- a. Widespread positive coverage which was celebratory and factual in tone.

Port Health

- a. City Matters reported that the Thames Fishery Research Experiment environmental project celebrated its 50th anniversary. The City Corporation was referenced as a partner, and Chairman of the Port Health and Environmental Services Committee, Keith Bottomley, quoted.

Qualitative Analysis:

- a. Positive coverage presented the project factually and without criticism.

Options

11. None.

Proposals

12. None.

Key Data

14. See current position.

Conclusion

14. Members are asked to note the contents of this report.

Appendices

None

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