



Policy and Resources Committee

Date: MONDAY, 28 FEBRUARY 2022

Time: 11.00 am

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

Members:

Deputy Catherine McGuinness (Chair)	The Rt Hon. The Lord Mayor Vincent Thomas Keaveny (Ex-Officio Member)
Christopher Hayward (Deputy Chairman)	Alderman Ian Luder
Deputy Keith Bottomley (Vice-Chairman)	Alderman & Sheriff Nicholas Lyons
Deputy Tom Sleigh (Vice-Chair)	Jeremy Mayhew
Rehana Ameer	Andrew McMurtrie
Nicholas Bensted-Smith (Ex-Officio Member)	Wendy Mead
Tijs Broeke	Deputy Andrien Meyers
Mary Durcan	Deputy Brian Mooney (Chief Commoner) (Ex-Officio Member)
Anne Fairweather	Deputy Alastair Moss (Ex-Officio Member)
Marianne Fredericks	Ruby Sayed (Ex-Officio Member)
Tracey Graham (Ex-Officio Member)	Alderman Baroness Scotland (Ex-Officio Member)
Alderman Timothy Hailes	Sir Michael Snyder
Caroline Haines	Deputy James Thomson (Ex-Officio Member)
Deputy Wendy Hyde (Ex-Officio Member)	Mark Wheatley
Deputy Jamie Ingham Clark	Deputy Philip Woodhouse
Shravan Joshi	Alderman Sir David Wootton
Deputy Edward Lord	

Enquiries: Polly Dunn; polly.dunn@cityoflondon.gov.uk

Accessing the virtual public meeting: [Members of the public can find the link to this virtual public meeting here.](#)

A recording of the public meeting will be available via the above link following the end of the public meeting for up to one municipal 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

[This page is intentionally blank]

AGENDA

Part 1 - Public Agenda

1. **APOLOGIES**

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

3. **REVIEW OF STANDING ORDERS**

Report of the Town Clerk.

For Decision
(Pages 5 - 76)

4. **DIGITAL SERVICES COMMITTEE**

Report of the Town Clerk.

For Decision
(Pages 77 - 82)

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

6. **ANY OTHER BUSINESS THAT THE CHAIR CONSIDERS URGENT**

7. **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.

Part 2 - Confidential Agenda – circulated separately

8. **CONFIDENTIAL RESOLUTION OF DIGITAL SERVICES SUB-COMMITTEE TO FINANCE COMMITTEE AND POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE**

For Decision

9. **QUESTIONS ON MATTERS RELATING TO THE WORK OF THE COMMITTEE**
10. **ANY OTHER BUSINESS THAT THE CHAIR CONSIDERS URGENT**

Agenda Item 3

Committee:	Date:
Policy & Resources Committee	28 February 2022
Subject: Review of Standing Orders	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?	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: Town Clerk	For Decision

Summary

In December 2021, the Court of Common Council determined new governance arrangements, arising from a comprehensive Governance Review undertaken by Robert Rodgers, The Lord Lisvane, and following extensive Member consultation as to the implementation of his various recommendations.

Arising from the changes approved, a series of consequential amendments to Standing Orders are required, so as to give effect to the decisions made by the Court. Similarly, amendments have also been required due to changes relating to the introduction of the Bridge House Estates Board, as approved by the Court earlier in the Governance Review process. This report details these consequential amendments required.

The Governance Review process also highlighted a number of other areas where further consideration of specific Standing Orders would be beneficial. Whilst these are less time-critical (i.e., changes are not required immediately to give effect to the implementation of the new post-Governance Review arrangements), it is considered both timely and appropriate to provide an initial opportunity to consider all items in the round. The various items are, therefore, also presented for Members' consideration.

Finally, it should be noted that the ongoing reviews of the Project Procedure, Procurement Strategy and other documents in keeping with the outcomes of the Governance Review may lead to further consequential changes being required in due course. It is intended that the incorporation of these amendments would also provide an opportunity for a further housekeeping exercise to improve the presentational arrangements of the document.

Recommendations

That Members:

- consider the proposed amendments to Standing Orders set out in this report, for onwards submission to the Court of Common Council; and

- delegate authority to the Town Clerk, in consultation with the Chair and Deputy Chairman, to make any such changes as are required following the Committee's consideration to facilitate onward submission to the Court of Common Council.

Main Report

Background

1. In September 2019, the Policy and Resources Committee proposed the undertaking of a comprehensive Governance Review of the City Corporation. Robert Rodgers, The Lord Lisvane, was appointed to conduct the Review.
2. The Committee received the Review in September 2020 and determined that the many proposals should be considered in a structured way in the coming period, with Members afforded sufficient time to read and consider the content and implications. It was noted that the recommendations were far-reaching and wide-ranging and it would be for Members to consider how far they were appropriate and which should be taken forward. It was also agreed that it would be of the utmost importance to ensure that the process provided for all Members of the Court to continue to have the opportunity to input and comment on the Review. To that end, a series of informal Member engagement sessions were arranged to afford all Members opportunities to express their views on the various aspects of the Review.
3. Members considered the section of the Review concerning the Standards Regime (Section 8) first, resulting in the Court ultimately agreeing to a new set of arrangements in January 2021 and an Independent Panel being appointed. Similarly, the Court came to conclusions in respect of the Competitiveness agenda (Section 5) and, separately, Bridge House Estates, earlier in the process, before considering the wider committee structure and general principles for the operation of processes in December 2021.
4. As a consequence of those decisions, various amendments are required to be made to Standing Orders, in order to give effect to the decisions reached by the Court and to allow for their implementation in the new municipal year. These are set out in this report.
5. In addition, a series of separate observations were made both by Lord Lisvane and by various Members throughout the Review process in respect of Standing Orders. In the interests of completeness, they are also set out in this report for Members' consideration.
6. Subject to Members' views, the Standing Orders will be updated for implementation in the new municipal year. Further adjustments are likely to be required as a consequence of related reviews in due course concerning certain thresholds and it is considered that this will also provide a helpful opportunity to take additional time to modernise the presentational aspects of Standing Orders.

7. Moving forwards, Standing Orders shall also be the subject (together with the Scheme of Delegations) of more regular, annual review, as it is important for the Corporation to take a more agile and responsive approach to its governance arrangements (as opposed to waiting for larger, set-piece periodic reviews).

Summary of Changes

8. While the amendments are marked in the appended Standing Orders document (Appendix 1), for ease of reference and comprehension the table below provides a list summarising all changes made. This list also provides the accompanying rationale for any change, or highlights where specific consideration on an option is required.
9. As Members will note, some changes simply give effect to the decisions already taken by the Court in establishing the Bridge House Estates Board and through the Governance Review, while others are points of clarification or corrections of typographical and formatting errors. These are presented in the first summary table set out below and are also reflected in appendix 1. Members are asked to endorse the changes made as giving effect to the Court's previous decisions.
10. In addition, there are a number of areas which were raised through debate over the period and which require specific, wider consideration; for instance, whether Members would wish to pursue changes to various thresholds or time limits concerning the conduct of debate at Court meetings.
11. As these particular areas have yet to be discussed by Members, they have not yet been incorporated into appendix 1. Instead, Members' views are sought, together with delegated authority as may be required to allow for your Committee's determinations to be reflected in the Standing Orders document, ahead of consideration by the Court of Common Council. For the sake of ease of reference, these are presented in a separate summary table below.

Items relating to typographical errors, clarification of existing practice, previously agreed Governance Review recommendations, and Bridge House Estates Governance Arrangements.

Standing Order No.	Summary of Change / Rationale	Reason for Revision / Consideration
1(3)(e) (Application and Interpretation)	Following recent changes in the Town Clerk's Departmental structure: where there are references to the "Town Clerk", the <i>Deputy Town Clerk</i> and only <i>one</i> Assistant Town Clerk will be authorised to act in the absence of the Town Clerk, or where there is a vacancy in the office of Town Clerk.	Clarification / correction
3(2)(a) (Adjustments – Financial Limits)	The SO currently empowers the Town Clerk and Chamberlain to make changes in keeping with changes to the value of money. In practice, this has not been done in some time; therefore, mandating it as part of the annual review process will mitigate against the risk of thresholds falling out of kilter as years pass and is recommended.	Governance Review outcome
4 (Access to Meetings – non-Local/Police Authority Business)	An adjustment to reflect the Court's decision to disapply the practice of inappropriately treating its non-local authority business under the provisions of local government legislation.	Governance Review outcome
10 (Ballots – open and recorded)	Lord Lisvane proposed that provision should be made for ballots for appointments to committees, outside bodies, etc. to be undertaken in an open and recorded manner, rather than by secret ballot (as is currently the case). P&R was not minded to support this change when considering it in June 2021 and so an amendment is not included in the revised Standing Orders (and the Governance Review outcome would be to make no change); however, the observation is listed here for completeness and in case Members wish to revisit the consideration.	Governance Review outcome
12(7)(c) (Motions – Rescind / Revisit)	Formatting / numbering change for purposes of clarification and ease of reference	Formatting
13(4) (Questions – Addressing the Court)	An amendment to provide for the Chairs of all sub-committees empowered to report directly to the Court (under SO9) to speak (for instance, the Property Investment Board, Capital Buildings Board, etc.).	Clarification, Governance Review outcome
17(2) (Minutes)	This responds to a recent incident of confusion concerning the ability to raise points of discussion under the Minutes. It is not generally permissible under Local Government	Clarification / correction

	arrangements for Matters Arising to be raised under the Minutes in full Council meetings, neither is it in keeping with the traditional Local Government Standing Order for Minutes (nor the longstanding practice and intention of the Court's existing Standing Order). A revision to incorporate the wording of the traditional local government standing order would be "No discussion shall take place upon the minutes, except upon their accuracy and any question of their accuracy shall be raised by motion". This does not constitute a change in position, rather, simply a matter of clarification.	
18(1) (Chief Commoner)	Clarification to make clear that Aldermen are not eligible to stand as Chief Commoner.	Clarification / correction
18(6)(b) (Chief Commoner – Civic Affairs Sub-Committee)	This reflects the creation of the new Civic Affairs Sub-Committee, approved through the Governance Review.	Governance Review outcome
21 (Appointment)	A tweak to the wording is suggested to help prevent issue where (as has happened previously) the particular timing of Easter has caused this meeting to fall at the beginning of May.	Clarification / correction
22(1) (Committee Appointments – Limit)	A decrease from eight to six, as determined by the Court in December 2021.	Governance Review outcome
22(3) (Committee Appointments – Exemptions)	Amendments are required as a consequence of the change at 22(1) and due to the changes / abolition of the Capital Buildings and Standards Appeal Committees respectively.	Governance Review outcome, Formatting
New Standing Order	The insertion of a new Standing Order, which reflects the protocol approved by the Court concerning the limit on the numbers of committees considering items, would be beneficial. Draft wording is set out below for review. <i>1. Other than in exceptional circumstances, all reports shall be subject to approval by a maximum of three Committees or Sub-Committees.</i>	Governance Review

	<p>2. <i>The most appropriate Committee(s) in each instance shall be identified by the Town Clerk, in consultation with the Chief Officer in whose name the report is submitted.</i></p> <p>3. <i>Where the report in question affects the terms of reference of other committees (beyond the three identified as most appropriate), the Chairs/Chairmen of those committees to which the report is not submitted shall be notified and an opportunity provided to submit comments on behalf of their committee (to which the report shall also be circulated for information). The Chairs of those committees shall also be entitled to attend the decision-making meeting(s) to represent their committee's views.</i></p> <p>4. <i>Should any Chair/Chairman object to the decision taken in respect of (2) above, the final judgment of the Lord Mayor and Chief Commoner shall be sought.</i></p>	
27(1) (Sub-Committees)	Amendments are required to give effect to the decisions of the Court in December 2021 to provide greater control over the proliferation of sub-committees.	Governance Review outcome
27(2) (Sub-Committees – quorum)	Clarification to provide for local variations as required by specific circumstances	Clarification / correction
29(2) (Chairs – Term Limits)	A correction of “Police Committee” to the CoL Police Authority Board.	Clarification / correction
29(3)(a) (Chairs – Exemptions)	An update to the listed committees to reflect changes made through the Governance Review.	Governance Review outcome
29(7) (Chairs)	An update to the listed committees to reflect changes made through the Governance Review.	Governance Review outcome
30(Various) (Deputy/Vice Chairs, Policy & Resources)	Various amendments to reflect the decision by the Court in December 2021 to revert to a single P&R Deputy Chair.	Governance Review outcome

30(3)(a) (Deputy Chair – outgoing Chair eligibility)	An amendment to give effect to the Court’s decision to remove the automatic right to serve; instead, the outgoing Chair shall be eligible for election as Deputy Chair in same way as other eligible Members.	Governance Review outcome
30(9) (Deputy Chair – ex-officios)	An update to the listed committees to reflect changes made through the Governance Review.	Governance Review outcome
29 & 30 (Chairs / Deputy Chairs – Election / Open Ballots)	As with SO10, Lord Lisvane proposed that the process for elections to these posts should cease to be by secret ballot. Members were not previously minded to support this change when considering it and so an amendment is not included here, but the consideration is listed here for completeness.	Governance Review outcome
31 (Ward Reception Committees)	A wording clarification to make clear the Court’s practice of referring state hospitality to WRCs, i.e., hospitality relating to a visiting Head of Government or State, or another senior guest of sovereign / dignitary.	Clarification / correction
31(6) (Ward Reception Committees)	This relates to a practice which is now defunct, so can be deleted.	Clarification / correction
32 (Access to Meetings)	An alteration consistent with that made in respect of SO4, to reflect the decision around the inappropriate application of local authority legislation.	Governance Review outcome
35(3) (Attendance)	Updated to reflect changes to the Standards regime / the abolition of the committee.	Governance Review outcome
37(1) (Conduct of Debate)	A small clarification to make clear that the reference includes reports.	Clarification / correction
41(b) (Delegated Authority)	An adjustment to reflect the Governance Review outcome that, other than where circumstances make it impracticable, the wider views of the committee membership shall be sought in seeking to progress delegated authority decisions.	Governance Review outcome
43(1) (Outside Bodies)	A typographical correction (replacing the word “shall” with “may”).	Clarification / correction
45 (various) (Access to documents)	Typographical updates (references to City of London Corporation)	Clarification / correction

48 (Resource Allocation, Revenue Estimates, Capital Budgets)	Reference to Budgets within the Standing Order title	Clarification / correction
48(2) (Resource Allocation, Revenue Estimates, Capital Budgets)	Distinction on the budget approval process for BHE being within the gift of the BHE Board	BHE Review
48(3) (Resource Allocation, Revenue Estimates, Capital Budgets)	Distinctions drawn between the responsible Committee/Board for revenue estimates and capital budgets for City's Fund, City's Cash and Bridge House Estates	BHE Review
48(4) (Resource Allocation, Revenue Estimates, Capital Budgets)	Distinctions drawn between the necessary regulatory compliance of City Fund/City's Cash and with the Bridge House Estates (and any other charity for which the City Corporation is the Trustee)	BHE Review
48(5) (Resource Allocation, Revenue Estimates, Capital Budgets)	Specifies the responsibility of the Chamberlain in respect of monitoring the City Fund and City's Cash only, against the approved Prudential Indicators and reporting (via the Finance Committee) to the Court if they are to be breached.	BHE Review
48(6) (Resource Allocation, Revenue Estimates, Capital Budgets)	Full reference to the City of London Corporation	Clarification / Correction
48(7) (Resource Allocation, Revenue Estimates, Capital Budgets)	Specifies and distinguishes the reporting lines for detailed revenue estimates of City Fund and City's Cash (via the Spending Committee and Policy & Resources Committee) and for Bridge House Estates, the relevant budgets, analysis of projected movements and proposed allocation of funding to the charity's primary and ancillary object (via the Bridge House Estates Board).	BHE Review
48(8) (Resource Allocation, Revenue Estimates, Capital Budgets)	Articulates the required reporting from the Finance Committee and Bridge House Estates Board to the Court of Common Council in March of each year for the City Fund, City's Cash and Bridge House Estates.	BHE Review

48(9) (Resource Allocation, Revenue Estimates, Capital Budgets)	Full reference to the City of London Corporation	Clarification / Correction
48(9) and 48(10) (Resource Allocation, Revenue Estimates, Capital Budgets)	A new paragraph inserted relating to the commitment to income without the approval of the Court of Common Council unless otherwise provided for in the Standing Orders, with detail distinguishing the process for City Fund/City's Cash and the Bridge House Estates.	BHE Review
48(10) (Resource Allocation, Revenue Estimates, Capital Budgets)	Clarification that similar principles to those outlined in 48(9), shall operate for income items. Where income is received outside the City Fund and City's Cash budget set for the relevant year, or outside the annual budget for a charity for which the City Corporation is charity trustee, the relevant Service Committee (for Bridge House Estates this is the Bridge House Estates Board) shall be required to authorize acceptance of those funds which must be in accordance with the strategies and plans set for each fund.	BHE Review
48(11) (Resource Allocation, Revenue Estimates, Capital Budgets)	Distinction drawn between process for City Fund/City's Cash and Bridge House Estates, requiring estimated financial estimates to be considered by the Finance Committee and Bridge House Estates Board (respectively) before proposals are submitted to the Court of Common Council.	BHE Review
48(11) (Resource Allocation, Revenue Estimates, Capital Budgets)	Additional reference to authorisation under existing officer delegated authority added.	Clarification / correction
48(12) (Resource Allocation, Revenue Estimates, Capital Budgets)	Full reference to the City of London Corporation	Clarification / correction
49(1) (Financial Regulations)	Full reference to the City of London Corporation	Clarification / Correction
50(1) (Project Management)	Provides exemption of the Standing Order for Bridge House Estates projects, where the relevant responsibilities lie with the Bridge House Estates Board unless otherwise reserved to the Court of Common Council	BHE Review

50(1)(a) (Project Management)*	Responsibility for the City Corporation's programme of projects has been transferred to the Operational Property and Projects Sub Committee, who will have oversight of Project Management. Correction has also been made to reflect that this Sub Committee will be a joint Sub Committee of Finance and Policy & Resources Committee.	Governance Review outcome
50(1)(b) (Project Management)*	Responsibility for the decisions surrounding projects has been updated to capture that the authority will lie with the new Operational Property and Projects Sub Committee and the Spending Committee. Correction has also been made to reflect that this Sub Committee will be a joint Sub Committee of Finance and Policy & Resources Committee	Governance Review outcome
50(3) (Project Management)*	The new Operational Property and Project Sub-Committee will have responsibility for the review of the City Corporation's Project Procedure.	Governance Review outcome
50(4) (Project Management)*	Addition of express provision for the Town Clerk to vary the Project Procedure for both City Fund/City's Cash and Bridge House Estates. Updated reference to the Operational Property and Project Sub-Committee (in place of Projects Sub-Committee) as the relevant body for the Town Clerk to consult with when considering varying the Projects Procedure in relation to individual projects.	Clarification / Correction, Governance Review Outcome
50(4) (Project Management)	Protocol around the variation of the Project Procedure to be disapplied to schemes for refurbishment, redevelopment or reinstatement of up to £1.5mil per scheme/per property for investment properties – as provided for within the Scheme of Delegations to Officers.	Scheme of Delegations alignment
51(2) (Procurement and Contract Letting)	Adds provision for the consultation of the Bridge House Estates Board in advance of any changes to the Procurement Regulations that have an impact upon the charity.	BHE Review
51(2) (Procurement and Contract Letting)*	Updated reference to the body responsible for the review of Procurement Regulations from the Finance Committee to the Operational Property and Projects Sub-Committee, as per the approved Governance Review Court recommendations.	Governance Review outcome
52(1) (Writing-Off Debts)	Tidying up of wording / Full reference to the Court of Common Council	Clarification / Correction
52(1)(c) (Writing-Off Debts)	Specifies provision for the writing off of debts in excess of £10,000 for City Fund and City's Cash (via the Finance Committee) and for Bridge House Estates (via the Bridge House Estates Board)	BHE Review

52(1)(c) (Writing-Off Debts)	Threshold for approvals concerning the writing-off for bad debt increased to £500k for investment property and £100k for all other debt.	Scheme of Delegations alignment
52(2) Writing-Off Debts)	This update ensures that the Standing Orders are in accordance with the Scheme of Delegations to Officers in relation to the writing off of debt.	Scheme of Delegations alignment
53(various) Corporate Plans and Strategies	Deletion of "corporate" from "corporate plans" reference.	Clarification / Correction
53(1)(a) Corporate Plans and Strategies	Provision made to ensure that City Fund/City's Cash Corporate Asset Management Plans be subject to annual review by the relevant Committee of Court, whilst the Bridge House Estates Board will perform this role for Bridge House Estates	BHE Review
53(1)(a) Corporate Plans and Strategies*	Change in the regularity of the Corporate Asset Management Strategy review from annual to not less than every five years as per current practice. No longer to be reported to the Corporate Asset Sub-Committee (which ceases to exist) but to the Operational Property and Projects Sub-Committee Distinctions articulated between reporting arrangements for operational and investment properties in respect of any proposed property transactions that are not in accordance with the strategies referred to in SO 53(1)	Clarification / Correction, Governance Review outcome
53(1)(b) Corporate Plans and Strategies	Provision made to ensure that City Fund/City's Cash Investment Property Strategies be subject to annual review by the relevant Committee of Court, whilst the Bridge House Estates Board will perform this role for Bridge House Estates	BHE Review
53(4)(a) Corporate Plans and Strategies*	Change in approvals required for property transactions not in accordance with plans and strategies referred to in SO53(1) for investment and non-investment property to reflect the committees that will have oversight of those two portfolios (Property Investment Board and the Operational Property and Projects Sub Committee). Additional clarification about the Bridge House Estate Board's involvement for property within Bridge House Estates	Governance Review, BHE Review
54 (Capital Buildings)	Amendment to reflect new name and arrangements of the Capital Buildings Board	Governance Review
55(1) Acquisitions	Additional definitions added under acquisitions for Bridge House Estates "investment property assets" and "operational property assets"	BHE Review
55(2) Acquisitions	Full reference to the City of London Corporation	Clarification / Correction

55(2) Acquisitions	For Investment Property Assets - distinctions made for possible Total Acquisition Costs and the corresponding required approvals for the three separate funds: City Fund, City's Cash, and Bridge House Estates.	BHE Review
55(3) Acquisitions	For Operational Property Assets - distinctions made for possible Total Acquisition Costs and the corresponding required approvals for the three funds: City Fund, City's Cash, and Bridge House Estates.	BHE Review
55(3) Acquisitions*	Acquisitions of interest in operational property assets will need to be reported to the Operational Property and Projects Sub-Committee in place of the Finance Committee.	Governance Review outcome
56 (Identification of Surplus Property)	Clarification in Standing Order title now includes reference to Operational requirements as Property Assets that are considered surplus may be for both departmental or operational requirement.	Clarification / correction
56 (Identification of Surplus Property)*	As per the Governance Review outcome, the introduction of a mechanism to allow for the new Projects & Operational Sub-Committee to raise and progress discussion on assets which it believes are surplus.	Governance Review outcome
56(1) (Identification of Surplus Property)	Clarification that Committees are required to consider the effective and efficient use of operational property assets within their management and control.	Clarification / correction
56(1) (Identification of Surplus Property)	The effective and efficient use of operational property assets for Bridge House Estates property will be monitored by the Bridge House Estates Board.	BHE Review
56(1) (Identification of Surplus Property)*	As committees consider the effective and efficient use of an operational property asset within their management/control (for City's Cash), this will be monitored by the Operational Property and Projects Sub-Committee in place of the Corporate Asset Sub-Committee, which will no longer exist.	Governance Review
56(2)(a) (Identification of Surplus Property)	If a Bridge House Estates operational property is no longer required for use by the charity, a report must be made to the Bridge House Estates Board.	BHE Review
56.2.a (Identification of Surplus Property)	As committees consider whether an operational property asset within their management/control (for City Fund or City's Cash) is no longer required, a report on the circumstances will be made to the Operational Property and Projects Sub-Committee in place of the Corporate Asset Sub-Committee, which will no longer exist.	Governance Review

57(1) (Freehold disposals)	Disposals of freeholds subject to 2000 year leases and of former freehold highway land shall be approved by the Finance Committee if part of City Fund/City's Cash. For Bridge House Estates, this will be subject to the approval of the Bridge House Estates Board.	BHE Review
57(1) (Freehold disposals)*	Disposals of non-investment property freeholds subject to 2000 year leases (for City Fund and City's Cash) will be subject to approval by the Operational Property and Projects Sub-Committee in place of the Finance Committee.	Governance Review
57(2) (Freehold disposals)	For freehold disposals - distinctions made for anticipated receipt and the corresponding required approvals for the three funds: City Fund, City's Cash, and Bridge House Estates.	BHE Review
57(2) (Freehold disposals)	Updating the thresholds for committee approvals for the freehold disposals of City Fund/City's Cash non-investment property to reflect the changes to the Officer Scheme of Delegations (approved by Court in December 2021)	Scheme of Delegations alignment
57(2) (Freehold disposals)	Updating the reporting requirements for approval of the freehold disposals with an anticipated receipt of £5mil or above (for non-investment property) to the Operational Property and Projects Sub-Committee in place of the Finance Committee	Governance Review
58(1) (Leasehold Disposals / Surrender)	Thresholds dictating approval required by Committee of leasehold disposals/surrenders (City Fund and City's Cash) revised in line with the Scheme of Delegation as approved by Court in December 2021	Scheme of Delegations alignment
58(1) (Leasehold Disposals / Surrender)*	The Committees that have the responsibility for approving the disposals/surrender of leaseholds corrected in line with the new Governance Structure	Governance Review
58(1)(a) (Leasehold Disposals / Surrender)	Increase on the threshold for lettings periods to 30 years or less for officer delegation, as agreed through the Scheme of Delegation review.	Scheme of Delegations alignment
58(1)(b) (Leasehold Disposals / Surrender)	For lettings - distinctions made for anticipated premium receipt and the corresponding required approvals for the three funds: City Fund and City's Cash.	BHE Review
58(1)(b) (Leasehold Disposals / Surrender)*	Authority to approve the grant any lease at less than full rack rental value for a period of 175 years or less shall, for City Fund and City's Cash non-investment property, lie with the Operational Property and Projects Sub-Committee in place of the Finance Committee.	Governance Review

58(1)(c) (Leasehold Disposals / Surrender)	For lettings - distinctions made for anticipated premium receipt and the corresponding required approvals for Bridge House Estates.	BHE Review
58(1)(d)	Adding clarification that the granting of long leases for a peppercorn rent without a premium, where there are no additional financial implications, for example, leases for substations with UKPN, will be approved as per the Scheme of Delegations to officers.	Scheme of Delegations alignment
59(1) (Variations)	In the context of seeking minor variations to the terms of ground lease restructurings, disposals, acquisitions and other transactions, or to leases being taken by the City Corporation as tenant, specific reference has been added to confirm that this be the position whether acting as a trustee of Bridge House Estates or otherwise.	BHE Review
59(2) (Variations)	Revisions have been made to the threshold for approval (for variations to the terms of an existing lease, tenancy, licence or other agreement) revised in line with the Scheme of Delegations changes, as approved by Court in December 2021.	Scheme of Delegations alignment
59(2) (Variations)	This change relates to the distinct paths of approval for variations to the terms of an existing lease, tenancy, licence or other agreement relating to a property, stipulated for City Fund/City's Cash and for Bridge House Estates.	BHE Review
60 (Disposals subject to planning agreements)	In the context of land held by the City of London Corporation as freeholder approved for redevelopment, specific reference has been added to confirm that this be the position whether acting as a trustee of Bridge House Estates or otherwise added.	BHE Review
61 (Employee Handbook)	An amendment has been made to reflect change of name of the Establishment Committee to the Corporate Services Committee.	Clarification / correction
62(2) (Officers)	A clarification has been made to ensure it is understood the provision extends to Aldermen as well as Common Councillors.	Clarification / correction
62(3) (Officers)	An amendment has been made to reflect change of name of the Establishment Committee to the Corporate Services Committee.	Clarification / correction
63(1) (Appointments)	A minor amendment has been made to refer more clearly to the City Corporation.	Clarification / correction

63(2) (Appointments – Deputy Chief Officers)	Although no change is proposed here, it should be highlighted that this may need re-examination and amendment in due course following the completion of the Target Operating Model changes.	N/A (highlighted for completeness)
64(1)(c) (Disciplinary Action)	An amendment has been made to reflect the change of name of the Establishment Committee to the Corporate Services Committee.	Governance Review
64(6) (Disciplinary Action)	A change has been made to reflect that the "relevant independent person" appointed to the Statutory Officer Review Panel will be from the Independent Appeals Committee, following the abolition of the Standards Committee.	Governance Review
64(7) (Disciplinary Action)	Updated reference from the Police Committee to the City of London Police Authority Board, as it is now known.	Clarification / correction
64(7) (Disciplinary Action)	This wording has been altered to reflect the changes to the Standards regime.	Governance Review
64(9) (Disciplinary Action)	This simply reflects updated referencing within the Standing Orders	Clarification / correction

Items for consideration:

2 (Suspension of SOs)	<i>A question has been raised as to whether a higher threshold than a simple majority should be required to suspend specific Standing Orders. Members' views are sought.</i>	<i>For consideration</i>
9(4)(a) (Referral of Reports - threshold)	<p><i>This point of consideration reflects P&R's recent concerns over the referral of a planning application. Whilst the referral mechanism is a useful one and the Court must retain the ability to exercise sovereignty on issues Members consider of importance, you may wish to consider a modest increase in the number of signatories required to, say, 1/5 (20%) of the membership of the Court, so that there is a greater confidence anything escalated is of significance to a substantial proportion of the Court.</i></p> <p><i>Wording is also proposed to reflect the fact that it is not permissible to refer Licensing determinations to the Court (due to the parameters of separate legislation which supersede Standing Orders). Given the recent discussion concerning Planning applications, Members may also wish to consider whether they wish to specify that it should not be in order to refer Planning applications under this mechanism.</i></p>	<i>For consideration</i>

9(4)(b) (Referral of Reports – urgency referrals)	<p>Members have expressed disquiet at the late circulation of information prior to meetings, particularly where there is insufficient time to digest documents. Members may wish to consider changing the deadline for urgent referrals to 12noon the day before the Court, as 12noon on the day renders it impractical to print and/or publish electronically and circulate the report in time, let alone allow Members to read and consider what could be a significant volume of information.</p>	For consideration
10(3) (Ballots – physical or digital)	<p>Your Committee may wish to consider whether the Court should continue with paper ballots in Court itself, or instead undertake ballots in advance of meetings (where able).</p> <p>During the Covid period, ballots for appointments to committees / outside bodies were undertaken electronically prior to Court meetings, with ballot papers issued shortly after the Summons allowing several days to complete and submit them. The results were announced prior and the Court then appointments made at the meeting on the basis of the outcomes. This had the advantage of meaning that the will of the whole Court was known (rather than just those able to be present on the day), whilst also saving time taken up by balloting at Court meetings themselves. However, it is recognised that this might constitute an additional administrative burden for Members in advance of Court meetings and ballot emails may be missed (especially in the event of technical difficulties), whereas a hard copy on the day obviates that risk.</p>	For consideration
10(4) (Ballots – different voting arrangements)	<p>A preferential voting system is currently used where there are multiple candidates for a single vacancy. All other contests are managed on a first-past-the-post basis. Members may wish to consider whether this divergent approach should be continued, or whether a uniform approach would be preferable.</p> <p>In case of benefit in coming to a determination, there have been no “preferential” votes undertaken since March 2017 where there has been no change between the Member who gets the most votes in the first round of voting and the Member who is ultimately appointed following all vote reallocations.</p>	For consideration
10(5) (Ballots – Term Allocation)	<p>Members may wish to consider whether, in circumstances where varying terms are being allocated on the basis of seniority / votes received, discretion should be provided to allow for the allocations to be re-arranged if all successful candidates are in agreement. This could be beneficial in situations where someone anticipating standing</p>	For consideration

	<i>down from the Court in the next year or two would otherwise be awarded the longer term.</i>	
<i>11(3) (Motions – time limits)</i>	<p><i>The Mover of a Motion is currently afforded 10 minutes to open and close debate, which some Members have reflected feels excessive. Given the overall time allocation for Motions is 60 minutes, this would potentially account for 1/3 of all available time; therefore, a reduction to, say, a maximum of 7 minutes each to open and close would provide greater opportunity for wider debate by the Court whilst still representing a sufficiently lengthy period for the Mover to make their points.</i></p> <p><i>Members' views are sought.</i></p>	<i>For consideration</i>
<i>11(4) (Motions - Amendments)</i>	<p><i>Members may wish to consider whether to insert a subsection to provide for notice of any amendments intended to be moved, so as to allow for wording to be made available in advance and inform debate (other than those which are consequential upon matters arising from the debate and so flow naturally from it / could not have been pre-empted).</i></p> <p><i>Alternatively (or additionally), there may be some merit in proposing that amendments made during the meeting be handed to the Town Clerk in writing, so they can be shown on a screen or otherwise made clear in order that Members are certain what they're voting on.</i></p>	<i>For consideration</i>
<i>11(11) (Adjournment)</i>	<i>Members may wish to consider whether to include provision for the Lord Mayor to adjourn the Court immediately, for a specified period, so as to avoid unnecessary delay (for instance, where the Fire Alarm is sounded and a swift evacuation is necessary, such as in March 2016).</i>	<i>For consideration</i>
<i>12(3) (Motions - threshold)</i>	<p><i>As with referrals, it has been suggested that the current number of signatories required (10) is a relatively low proportion of the Court.</i></p> <p><i>Members may, therefore, wish to consider whether a slight increase would be desired, to ensure Motions for debate are on matters which reflect the views of a sufficient number of the Court.</i></p>	<i>For consideration</i>
<i>12(4) (Motions – urgency)</i>	<i>As with urgent referrals, an earlier deadline would be beneficial in ensuring that there is time for the Lord Mayor to consider properly the grounds for urgency and the Motion's</i>	<i>For consideration</i>

	<p><i>validity, as well as to ensure the Motion can be circulated and made known to Members and members of the public in advance of the meeting. Bringing the deadline forward to 9am on the day of Court, for instance, would provide an additional window within which to facilitate this greater transparency of process.</i></p> <p><i>Members' views are sought.</i></p>	
12(5) (Motions – withdrawal)	<p><i>Lord Lisvane proposed that the ability of the Mover and Seconder to withdraw a Motion should be removed. Another suggestion that arose through the Governance Review process was that the Mover and Seconder should have the ability to make amendments to the Motion at the outset, with the Court's consent.</i></p> <p><i>Members' views are sought.</i></p>	<i>For consideration</i>
12(6) (Motions – expiring time)	<p><i>At present, a warning that the time limit for the consideration of Motions is being neared is only provided when moving to another Motion.</i></p> <p><i>In practice, Members have found it helpful to be informed of remaining time limits as a matter of course and so it is suggested that altering the Standing Order, such that notice is provided of remaining time automatically would be beneficial in helping to manage debate.</i></p>	<i>For consideration</i>
13(5) (Questions – number)	<p><i>Lord Lisvane suggested that the current facility for a Member to submit up to three questions is unduly generous and should be reduced to one per Member.</i></p> <p><i>Members' views are sought accordingly.</i></p>	<i>For consideration</i>
13(13) (Questions – Policy Statement)	<p><i>Lord Lisvane proposed that a greater number of questions should be permitted here.</i></p> <p><i>Separately, it has been suggested may be advisable to move this subsection to sit under SO6 as a general provision, as it relates to a separate type of item than questions.</i></p>	<i>For consideration</i>

13 (Questions – Written submissions)	<p>Lord Lisvane proposed the requirement for the wording of questions to be circulated, so as to avoid lengthy preambles or a situation where the question asked on the day varies from the original posed.</p> <p>He also proposed changes in respect of the facilitation of written questions and responses in between meetings, and Members views are sought thereon.</p>	For consideration
13 (Questions – Public Questions)	<p>Through discussion at the Court of Common Council in December 2021, it was asked that consideration be given to facilitating public questions.</p> <p>Such provisions are common elsewhere and normally require questions to be submitted in advance, with the questioner invited to have their question read or to ask it in person. It is normal for either a specific number or a particular time limit to be applied to help manage proceedings.</p> <p>Should Members wish to adopt this approach, a proposed protocol would be brought to your March meeting for consideration and adoption in the new municipal year.</p>	For consideration
14 (Divisions)	<p>A suggestion has been made that the current Standing Order is, perhaps, overly prescriptive and would benefit from re-drafting to future-proof for the possibility of electronic divisions and so on. Should Members so wish, a truncated SO will be inserted, linking separately to notes on different procedures for physical / hybrid / virtual meetings.</p>	For consideration
18(6)(c) (Chief Commoner – Civic Affairs Sub-Committee)	<p>In view of the above, an amendment or deletion of (c) is also required depending on whether Members feel the Chief Commoner should be eligible to Chair committees.</p>	Clarification / correction, For consideration
18 (Chief Commoner – casual vacancy)	<p>Members might wish to consider whether a new sub-section is required to reflect arrangements for any vacancy which might arise, for instance through a resignation from the Court or death in service. In such circumstances, it has been the convention that the Immediate Past Chief steps into the role for the interim period, until such time as a new Chief Commoner (or Chief Commoner designate) is elected by the Court.</p>	For consideration

20 (Petitions)	<p><i>The current wording is unhelpfully ambiguous and would benefit from a summary of the process being set out (i.e., that petitions are referred by the Court on to the relevant Committee(s) for further consideration).</i></p> <p><i>As a longer-term consideration, Members may also wish to consider whether a process for electronic petitions, with a considered threshold to require a debate, might be explored (similar to what is in place for the House of Commons).</i></p>	<i>For consideration</i>
25(2) (Vacancies – Process)	<p><i>Changes to formalise the process of notification and appointment would be beneficial, to provide clarity around process as well as to facilitate the Court’s recommendations around “making best use of talent” agreed in December 2021.</i></p> <p><i>If Members are supportive, an amendment will be inserted to regularise the time periods for notice and nominations.</i></p>	<i>For consideration</i>
26 (Terms of Reference)	<p><i>Lord Lisvane identified this Standing Order as unnecessary / superfluous and recommended its removal.</i></p> <p><i>Subject to Members’ consent, it will, therefore, be deleted.</i></p>	<i>For consideration</i>
28 (Joint Committees)	<p><i>As identified by Lord Lisvane, the current SO is confused and refers to Joint Meetings of Committees rather than Joint Committees in the more generally understood local authority sense.</i></p> <p><i>As suggested by Lord Lisvane, given the intent of the SO is almost certainly to refer to Joint Meetings (as are used from time-to-time at the Corporation), it is proposed that this be re-worded to reflect an accurate position.</i></p> <p><i>Subject to Members’ confirmation that they are happy for a revised SO to reflect this position, the wording will be clarified accordingly.</i></p>	<i>For consideration</i>
29(1)(e) (Chairs – meeting cancellation / rescheduling)	<p><i>Throughout the Governance Review process, several Members reflected on the need to move away from cancelling or changing the date / time of scheduled meetings due to the Chair’s availability. The addition of some advisory wording to help emphasise this point may, therefore, be something Members wish to consider.</i></p>	<i>For Consideration</i>

31(8) (Ward Reception Committees)	<i>Members may wish to consider a minor adjustment to provide for the possibility for an exception, where there is a specific reason (for instance, a Member with exceedingly close connections with the country or Head of State in question).</i>	<i>For consideration</i>
35(3) (Attendance)	<i>Following some recent discussions around certain items, Members may wish to consider whether attendance should be limited and at the Chair's discretion in certain instances, such as where the committee is considering staffing matters concerning named or identifiable members of staff, or where information has been provided in confidence by the Royal Household or Her Majesty's government. Clarification should also be provided in respect of inability to attend the private deliberations of Licensing Sub-Committees when they are coming to their determinations.</i>	<i>For consideration</i>
36(1) (Quorum)	<i>Lord Lisvane proposed that a general quorum provision be inserted (for instance, 33% or similar). Members may wish to consider whether this should be mandated, rather than the individual arrangements agreed by the Court as at present. It should be noted, however, that there will be specific considerations that may need to be borne in mind which may cause challenges with a uniform application and would require further exploration (for instance, where there need to be specific representatives beyond a simple number of people present, e.g., the Local Govt Pensions Board, which requires at least one Employee Representative and Scheme Manager Representative).</i>	<i>For consideration</i>
37 (Conduct of Debate)	<i>A suggestion was made in the Governance Review process that Members may wish to consider whether there should be a limit on number of occasions on which an individual can speak to any one item, akin to the arrangements for the conduct of debate at Court (where each Member is permitted to speak twice on any motion). Members' views are sought.</i>	<i>For consideration</i>
38 (Decisions)	<i>Lord Lisvane proposed providing the option for Members to call for a recorded vote on decision items (akin to a Division at the Court). Should this be something Members wish to pursue, it may also be worth considering whether it should be for an individual to be able to demand this, or whether it should require a certain proportion of the Committee (for instance, 20%) to do so.</i>	<i>For consideration</i>

40 (Duration)	<i>Through the Governance Review process, several Members expressed dissatisfaction with the duration of some meetings. The suggestion has, therefore, been made that Members may wish to consider limiting the time by which a meeting may be extended (for instance, by a maximum of 30 minutes).</i>	<i>For consideration</i>
42 (Conferences)	<i>This reference is somewhat outdated and the requirements are all captured within the Business Travel Scheme and Financial Regulations, so is superfluous. It is, therefore, suggested to Members that this either be deleted or, alternatively, a revision to refer directly to those documents</i>	<i>For consideration</i>

**Standing Orders marked with an asterisk have been drafted pursuant to the decisions taken by the Court in December 2021 to set up a new Operational Property and Projects Sub-Committee and consistent with the direction to streamline and delegate relevant decisions making powers to said sub-committee.*

12. Corporate & Strategic Implications

- **Strategic implications** – These changes will facilitate efficiencies in the delivery of the City of London Corporation Strategy.
- **Financial and Resource implications** – the move towards more efficient processes will inevitably lead towards reduced costs of bureaucracy and facilitate associated contributions to Target Operating Model and Fundamental Review savings. For instance, expedited processes will lead to a reduction in costs associated with delays to approvals; a lesser volume of time spent by officers in producing reports for low-level items and presenting them to multiple committees will also release capacity within the workforce. A reduced central administration burden (through devolving support responsibilities in certain areas) will also provide for flexibility within the Committee & Member Services team to realign service output and requirements
- **Legal implications** – the changes proposed in this report, if agreed by the Court of Common Council, will legally change internal organisational administrative procedures and regulate the conduct of meetings at the City of London Corporation.
- **Risk implications** – as with any process of significant change, there are risks associated with implementation and unforeseen challenges as the new system embeds. The approval of a post-implementation review, to identify and address any such issues, will be an important mitigating factor.
- **Equalities implications** – Under the Equality Act 2010, all public bodies have a duty to ensure that when exercising their functions they have due regard to the need to advance equality of opportunity between people who share a protected characteristic and to take steps to meet the needs of people with certain protected characteristics where these are different from the needs of other people and encourage people with certain protected characteristics to participate in public life or in other activities where their participation is disproportionately low. The proposals contained in this report do not have any potential negative impact on a particular group of people based on their protected characteristics.
- **Climate implications** - The proposals included in this paper do not carry any significant implications for the Climate Action programme.
- **Security implications** – None

Conclusion

13. It is recommended that the your Committee endorses the various consequential meetings as set out, in order that a substantial part of the Governance Review recommendations can be progressed and delivered. Members are also invited to consider wider changes to the Standing Orders, in keeping with suggestions made either by Lord Lisvane or throughout the Governance Review process more generally.

Appendices

Appendix 1 – Standing Orders with tracked changes

Background Papers

[Governance Review](#) (Report to the Court of Common Council – December 2021)

[Scheme of Delegations](#) (Report to the Court of Common Council – December 2021)

Standing Orders of the Court of Common Council

Contents

PART 1 – Introduction	3
1. Application and Interpretation.....	3
2. Suspension.....	3
3. Amendment.....	3
PART 2 – Court of Common Council Meetings	4
4. Access to Meetings	4
5. Notice of Meetings.....	4
6. Summons	4
7. Quorum	5
8. Attendance	5
9. Reports.....	6
10. Ballots	6
11. Conduct of Debate	7
12. Motions	9
13. Questions	10
14. Divisions	11
15. Disorder	12
16. Duration.....	12
17. Minutes.....	12
18. Chief Commoner	13
19. Decisions between Meetings	14
20. Petitions	15
PART 3 – Committees and Sub-Committees	15
21. Appointment	15
22. Committee Limit.....	15
23. Ward Committees.....	15
24. Non-Ward Committees	17
25. Vacancies.....	17
26. Terms of Reference.....	17
27. Sub-Committees	17
28. Joint Committee.....	18
29. Chairs/Chairmen	18
30. Deputy Chairs/Chairmen	20
31. Ward Reception Committees.....	22
32. Access to Meetings	23
33. Notice of Meetings.....	23
34. Summons	24
35. Attendance	24
36. Quorum	24
37. Conduct of Debate.....	25
38. Decisions.....	25
39. Disorder.....	25
40. Duration.....	26
41. Decisions between Meetings.....	26

42. Conferences	26
43. Outside Bodies	27
PART 4 – Interests	27
44. Interests.....	27
PART 5 – Access to Documents	28
45. Access to Documents.....	28
PART 6 – Acts of Common Council	29
46. Bills and Acts	29
PART 7 – Parliamentary Legislation.....	29
47. Bills and Acts	29
PART 8 – Finance	29
48. Resource Allocation, Revenue Estimates and Capital Budgets	29
49. Financial Regulations	32
50. Project Management.....	32
51. Procurement and Contract Letting.....	33
52. Writing-Off Debts	33
PART 9 – Property	35
53. Corporate Plans and Strategies.....	35
54. Policy and Resources Committee (Capital Buildings CommitteeBoard)	35
55. Acquisitions	36
56. Identification of Property Assets Surplus to Departmental Requirements	38
57. Freehold Disposals.....	38
58. Leasehold Disposals/Surrenders.....	40
59. Variations.....	41
60. Disposals Subject to Planning Agreements	42
PART 10 – Staff	42
61. Employee Handbook	42
62. Officers	42
63. Appointments	43
PART 11 – The City Seal	46
65. Affixing the Seal	46
66. Register of Documents Sealed.....	46

PART 1 – Introduction

1. Application and Interpretation

1. Unless otherwise specified, these Standing Orders shall govern the proceedings of:-
 - (a) the Court of Common Council;
 - (b) Committees and Sub-Committees
2. The person presiding at a meeting of the Court of Common Council (the Lord Mayor) or of a Committee or Sub-Committee (the Chair/Chairman) is the final authority as to the interpretation of Standing Orders.
3. For the purposes of these Standing Orders:-
 - (a) the term “Lord Mayor”, in the absence of the Lord Mayor, applies to the Locum Tenens;
 - (b) the term “Chair” or “Chairman”, in the absence of the elected Chair/Chairman, applies to the person taking the Chair of a Committee, Sub-Committee or Working Party meeting;
 - (c) the term “Member” refers to an elected Member of the Court of Common Council (including Aldermen);
 - (d) references to Committees include Sub-Committees;
 - (e) where there are references to “the Town Clerk”, the Deputy or Assistant Town Clerks or other properly appointed Officer shall be authorised to act in the absence of the Town Clerk or where there is a vacancy in the office of Town Clerk.

2. Suspension

1. The Court shall have the power to suspend, alter or abrogate Standing Orders by resolution carried by a majority of the Members present and voting.
2. No Committee or Officer may suspend, alter or abrogate a Standing Order unless given authority by the Court to do so.

3. Amendment

1. Any proposal to amend these Standing Orders shall be considered by the Policy & Resources Committee whose recommendations shall be reported to the Court

for approval. Thereafter, the Town Clerk is authorised to make the necessary amendments.

2. The Town Clerk is authorised, after consultation with the Chamberlain,
 - (a) to adjust the financial limits specified in these Standing Orders in line with changes in the value of money, and must do so on an annual basis;
 - (b) to make any consequential amendments to the relevant Standing Orders and report such amendments to the Policy & Resources Committee.

PART 2 – Court of Common Council Meetings

4. Access to Meetings

All meetings are open to the public unless:-

- (a) confidential information as defined in Section 100A(3) of the Local Government Act 1972 is to be discussed; or,
- (b) a resolution has been passed to exclude the public as there is likely to be disclosure of exempt information as defined in Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972;

In respect of non-local authority and non-police authority functions this Standing Order is not applied unless the Court of Common Council determines otherwise.

5. Notice of Meetings

Public notice of the time and place of meetings of the Court of Common Council shall be posted in an appropriate place at least five working days before the meeting, or if a meeting is convened at shorter notice, then at the time it is convened.

6. Summons

1. The Town Clerk will issue a Summons, on behalf of the Lord Mayor, for each meeting stating the time at which the Court will meet and the time at which, or after which, any ballots will be conducted.
2. Except in cases of urgency or where circumstances make it impracticable, the Summons and accompanying papers will be sent to Members five clear working days in advance of the meeting.
3. The Town Clerk has discretion, having regard to the convenience of the Court, to settle the order in which items of business appear on the Summons and, if

necessary, during a meeting with the consent of the Lord Mayor and the agreement of the Court to amend the published order of business.

4. When an Address, Memorial, Petition or Remonstrance to the Throne, or to any Member of the Royal Family, is to be considered, on the advice of the Policy & Resources Committee when appropriate, the item shall be taken immediately after the opening of the Court, following the confirmation of the Minutes and the introduction of any new Members, unless the matter is to be considered with the public excluded when it shall be considered at an appropriate time. No such Address, Memorial, Petition or Remonstrance shall be reconsidered or altered after having been agreed to by the Court.
5. On the occasion of the Lord Mayor taking his seat for the first time, an instruction to Members to wear their gowns will be included in the Summons.

7. Quorum

1. The quorum for meetings of the Court is 40 Members, one of whom must be the Lord Mayor and two of whom must be Aldermen.
2. If a quorum is not established within five minutes of the time stated on the Summons, those present may depart.
3. If, during a meeting of the Court, it is the opinion of the Lord Mayor that a quorum has ceased to exist, business will be suspended whilst the number of Members present is counted and the result announced.
 - (a) If a quorum exists the business will proceed.
 - (b) If a quorum does not exist, the meeting will be dissolved and all remaining business will be adjourned to the next meeting.

8. Attendance

1. The names of Members attending the Court shall be recorded as they enter the Court and printed in the Minutes of the meeting.
2. A Member attending the Court for the first time shall:
 - (a) before taking their seat, be called formally into the Court by the Town Clerk and introduced to the Lord Mayor by the Deputy or another Member of their Ward;
 - (b) be clothed in a mazarine gown by the Remembrancer's representative and conducted to their seat.

9. Reports

1. When submitting any proposal to the Court, Committees have discretion to circulate a printed report to every Member of the Court as part of the agenda for the meeting at which it is to be considered.
2. A Sub-Committee or Working Party is not entitled to submit a report to the Court unless it has Terms of Reference approved by the Court which confer the requisite authority on it to do so.
3. A minority of either a Committee or Sub-Committee is not entitled to submit a report to the Court.
4.
 - (a) A report or decision of a Committee or Sub-Committee may be referred to the Court providing that notice of the referral by not less than 20 Members of the Court is submitted to the Town Clerk by no later than 12 noon, nine working days before the meeting of the Court for inclusion in the Summons.
 - (b) A Member seeking to submit a referral on grounds of urgency, notice of which has not been included in the Summons, must inform the Town Clerk of the terms of that referral not less than 60 minutes before the time scheduled for the start of the Court so that the Lord Mayor may rule on the need for urgency.
 - (c) No action shall be taken to implement any decision pertaining to the subject of the referral until such time as the Court shall have considered the matter, subject to the proviso that such referral would not preclude a decision being taken and/or implemented that in the opinion of the Town Clerk was necessary for legal reasons or for the efficient conduct of the City Corporation's business.

10. Ballots

1. Ballots will be held when:-
 - (a) there is more than one Member seeking appointment to a vacancy on a Committee or to represent the City of London Corporation on an outside body. Members may nominate themselves. Members nominated by others shall be advised by the Town Clerk and requested to confirm or not such nomination. If no response is received, such Member(s) will be considered to be in nomination.
 - (b) a recommendation is made to appoint an Officer whose appointment is in the gift of the Court;
2. Before the votes on a matter to be decided by ballot are counted, the Lord Mayor will nominate two Scrutineers who will supervise the counting of votes.

3. For the purpose of casting their votes, Members must be present in Court when a ballot is called.
4. When one vacancy has to be filled and there are more than two candidates, voters shall mark numbers against candidates' names on ballot papers in order of preference.
 - (a) Upon the absence of any candidate achieving 50% of first preference votes, the candidate with the fewest first preference votes will be eliminated and their votes reallocated according to their second preference therein.
 - (b) Procedure in 10.4(a) is repeated until one candidate has obtained 50% of the votes cast.
 - (c) Without prejudice to the foregoing 10.4(a) and (b), the successful candidate will be the first candidate to obtain 50% of the votes cast in the ballot.
5. When two or more vacancies have to be filled, the candidates with the highest number of votes shall be declared to be elected. Where the available terms are of differing lengths, the longest term shall be awarded to the candidate with the highest number of votes, the next longest term to the candidate with the second highest number of votes, and so on. In the event of an equality of votes, terms shall be allocated according to seniority (the longer term to the more senior Member).

11. Conduct of Debate

1. Members must stand in their places (if able to do so) to indicate clearly their wish to speak and if two or more Members rise, the Lord Mayor may select one of them to speak, in which case all other Members must be seated.
2. No Member may speak more than twice on the same question other than the Chair/Chairman of the Policy & Resources Committee (or, in their absence, the Deputy Chair/Chairman) to provide a clarification of policy if such be required.
3. The Mover of a Motion may not speak for longer than ten minutes, plus a further ten minutes in reply to the debate, and any subsequent speaker must not speak for more than five minutes on the first occasion and two minutes on the second occasion except with the consent of the Court (such times to include the putting of the Motion or Amendment).
4. Any Amendment so moved shall relate to the subject matter of the Motion and shall not have the effect of negating the Motion.
5. Should the Mover of an Amendment to a Motion choose to speak for a second time on the Amendment, they shall be the penultimate speaker (the Mover of the original Motion being the final speaker on the Amendment). In such circumstances, the Mover of the Amendment must not speak for more than five minutes and the Mover of the original Motion must not speak for more than ten

minutes.

6. Every Member must confine their speech strictly to the Motion or Amendment under discussion or to a point of order or explanation, and must not be repetitious. The ruling of the Lord Mayor on issues of relevance or repetition is final.
7. At any time, a Member may raise a point of order or make a personal explanation necessitated by the statement of another Member. Any Member speaking at the time must give way when a point of order or personal explanation is made. The ruling of the Lord Mayor on a point of order or the admissibility of a personal explanation is final.
8. Discussion will not be allowed on:-
 - (a) a Motion to extend the time allowed for the:-
 - i) length of the meeting of the Court;
 - ii) length of time allowed for consideration of Motions;
 - (b) the Mover and Seconder of a Motion or Amendment seeking permission to withdraw or amend that Motion or Amendment;
 - (c) a Motion to adjourn a debate in progress.
9. At any time other than when a Motion in the name of a committee is under discussion, a Member who has not spoken on the original Motion may move '*That the Court proceed to the next item of business*'. If this is seconded, the Motion to proceed to the next item of business shall be put forthwith and without debate unless the Lord Mayor is of the opinion that the Motion is premature or is in any sense an abuse of the rules of the Court. If the Motion is carried, the item of business which was before the Court when the Motion was moved shall not be re-introduced during the same meeting without the consent of the Court.
10. If a Member stands (if able) or otherwise indicates, either while another Member is addressing the Court or, if there is a Motion before the Court, at the conclusion of a speech and moves '*That the question be now put*', and this is seconded and carried, that question shall be put forthwith and without debate unless the Lord Mayor is of the opinion that the Motion is premature or in any sense is an abuse of the rules of the Court. In no case shall the Mover be precluded from a right to reply should they elect to exercise it.
11. A debate may take place upon a Motion for adjournment of the Court, but will be confined to that subject.
12. No Member shall make derogatory personal references or use offensive expressions or improper language to any other Member of the Court or Officers.

12. Motions

1. All Motions must relate to matters that are within the powers or duties of the City of London Corporation.
2. All Notices of Motion (other than procedural, those relating to changes of membership of Committees and those to which Standing Order Number 12 (7) applies) must be signed by no fewer than ten Members and be submitted to the Town Clerk by no later than 12 noon, nine working days before the meeting of the Court for inclusion in the Summons.
3. Notices of Motions set out in the Summons shall include the names of the signatories thereto.
4. A Member seeking to move a Motion (other than procedural, those relating to changes of membership of Committees and those to which Standing Order Number 12 (7) applies) on grounds of urgency, notice of which has not been included in the Summons, must inform the Town Clerk, in writing, of the terms of that Motion not less than 60 minutes before the time scheduled for the start of the Court so that the Lord Mayor may rule on the need for urgency.
5. The Mover may, with the consent of the Seconder, at any time, withdraw a Motion of which they have given notice, at which time discussion of that Motion shall cease.
6. A time limit of not more than 60 minutes will be allowed for the discussion of Motions put forward by Members. After 45 minutes, when a Mover rises to move a Motion at the commencement of a debate they shall be asked whether they wish to proceed or to have the debate adjourned and carried over to the next meeting. Any Motion so adjourned will be placed first under the item for Motions included on the Summons for the next meeting after any procedural Motions and preceding any Motions not reached within the allotted time.
7.
 - (a) No Motion to rescind or amend any resolution passed within the preceding six months, and no Motion or Amendment to the same effect as one that has been rejected in the preceding six months, or any Motion or Amendment that has been passed over by virtue of Standing Order Number 11 (9), can be proposed unless notice thereof appears on the Summons and bears the names of at least 40 Members.
 - (b) Once a Motion proposed under Standing Order Number 12 (7)(a) has been dealt with by the Court, it shall not be open to any Member to propose a similar Motion or Amendment within a further period of six months.
 - (c) However, these provisions of Standing Orders 7(a) and 7(b) will not apply to Motions or Amendments appearing on the Summons in pursuance of a recommendation of a Committee nor to resolutions made under the urgency procedures in Standing Order Number 19.

13. Questions

1. A Member may ask the Chair/Chairman of a Committee any question:-
 - (a) on an item of the Committee's business that is included in the Summons;
 - (b) on a matter that is not included in the Summons but in relation to which the Court has powers or duties and which affects the City or the City of London Corporation provided that, except in cases of urgency, notice of the question has been given to the Town Clerk in writing not later than 12 noon, two working days before the meeting.
2. A Member seeking to ask a question without due notice as a matter of urgency must inform the Town Clerk in writing of the terms of the question not less than 60 minutes before the time scheduled for the start of the meeting so that the Lord Mayor may rule on the need for urgency.
3. Every question shall be put and answered without discussion, although Chair/Chairmen may decline to answer. Questions will normally only be answered if the Member giving notice is present to put their question in person. In exceptional circumstances, the Lord Mayor may direct that the Town Clerk puts the question on behalf of a Member who is unavoidably absent and where they consider it would be in the interests of the Corporation that the Court hear the Chair/Chairman's answer.
4. A Chair/Chairman (including the Chairs/Chairmen of any sub-committees which are empowered to report directly to the Court ~~the three Investment Boards of the Investment Committee~~) may not speak for longer than five minutes in response to any question or supplementary question except with the consent of the Court.
5. A Member may ask no more than three questions (excluding supplementaries) at any meeting of the Court.
6. A Member asking a question may ask one supplementary question, and three other Members may each ask two supplementary questions provided that the supplementary questions arise naturally out of the original question and the answer to it.
7. Any questions that the Town Clerk considers do not relate to matters in which the Court has powers or duties and which do not affect the City or the City of London Corporation will not be allowed.
8. The Town Clerk will, with the consent of the questioner, re-direct a question if they consider it to have been addressed to the Chair/Chairman of an inappropriate Committee.
9. A time limit of not more than 40 minutes will be allowed for the putting and answering of questions, including supplementary questions, and it shall not be in order to move for an extension of that time.

10. Questions not dealt with owing to the expiration of the 40 minutes time limit shall be deferred for consideration at the following meeting and shall be put in advance of other questions, or may, with the consent of the questioner, be answered in writing within two working days, a copy of the answer being placed in the Members' Reading Room.
11. The Chair/Chairman of the Policy & Resources Committee shall be given the opportunity to provide the Court with a brief statement at each meeting concerning the key policy and strategic issues affecting the City and the work of the City of London Corporation. A maximum of three Members may ask one question in direct response to the Chair/Chairman's statement.

14. Divisions

1. A Member demanding a Division must stand for that purpose (if able to do so). A Division will not be allowed unless another 11 Members (i.e. 12 in total) stand in their places (if able to do so) to support the demand.
2. If a Division is allowed, the Lord Mayor will ensure that two Tellers for the affirmative and two for the negative are appointed. If there are insufficient Members of the Court willing to act as Tellers, no Division will take place.
3. If a Division is allowed, the Town Clerk will ring the Division bell and at the expiration of three minutes they will ascertain whether a Division is still demanded. If so, the Bar of the Court will be closed after which no Member may enter or leave the Court except for the purpose of recording their vote until the Division has been declared closed.
4. The Town Clerk will repeat the Motion and every Member then present and wishing to vote will cast their vote either for the affirmative or the negative (the Lord Mayor voting without leaving the Chair and having the right to a second, casting vote). The Ayes for the question will go through the Bar of the Court to the right of the Lord Mayor and the Noes through the Bar to the left, the votes being recorded at the respective exits.
5. Members wishing to abstain should remain seated and the Lord Mayor will seek confirmation of their intention before accepting a declaration from the Tellers that every Member wishing to vote has done so, after which the Bar of the Court will be re-opened and Members will return to their seats through the central entrance.
6. The Town Clerk will call for the Tellers' reports and declare the result.

15. Disorder

1. In the event of disorder or a persistent disregard of the authority of the Chair, and if they consider it necessary in the interests of the Court and the City of London Corporation, the Lord Mayor will ask that there be no further interruption. If the interruption continues, they may:-
 - (a) direct the Member(s) of the Court they consider to be abusing the Court to retire for the remainder of the sitting or for such lesser period as they may decide, any such decision to be final;
 - (b) require that a member(s) of the public be removed from the public gallery;
 - (c) at any time if they consider it desirable in the interest of order, suspend a sitting or adjourn a meeting of the Court for such time as they may decide.

16. Duration

If, after three hours from the time appointed for the start of the meeting, the business has not been concluded, the meeting will close, any debate being suspended, and all unfinished business will stand adjourned to the next meeting unless a two-thirds majority of the Members present wish the meeting to continue, and subject to there being a quorum. Items that are so adjourned and which, in the opinion of the Town Clerk, require a decision before the next meeting will be considered in accordance with Standing Order Number 19.

17. Minutes

1. The minutes of the Court will be printed and circulated and will include:-
 - (a) All Motions and Amendments together with the names of the Movers and Seconders and including the names of Movers of reports.
 - (b) The results of any Ballot (pursuant to Standing Order Number 10).
 - (c) The results of any Division (pursuant to Standing Order Number 14).
 - (d) The names of any Members presented to Royal and other Distinguished Persons received at Guildhall.
2. The correctness of the minutes will be verified at the beginning of the following regular meeting of the Court. No discussion shall take place upon the minutes, except upon their accuracy and any question of their accuracy shall be raised by motion.

18. Chief Commoner

1. The holder of the Office of Chief Commoner shall be a Common Councillor ~~Member of the Court of Common Council.~~
2. The Chief Commoner shall be elected by the Court of Common Council at the October meeting each year.
3. The term of office of the Chief Commoner shall be for a period commencing and ending on the date of the first Court of Common Council after the wardmotes each year.
4. A Member is ineligible to seek election as Chief Commoner if they have previously served the Office of Chief Commoner.
5. Candidates for election to the Office of Chief Commoner shall be nominated by exactly 10 other Members, nominations to be submitted to the Town Clerk by no later than nine working days before the meeting of the Court for inclusion in the Summons. Submissions must be made in writing and accompanied by the signatures of the 10 Members supporting the candidate's nomination.
6. The Chief Commoner shall be:
 - (a) an ex-officio Member of the Policy & Resources Committee.
 - ~~(b) Chair/Chairman of all Sub-Committees and Working Parties of the Policy & Resources Committee that are responsible for the provision of City Corporation Hospitality, Members' privileges, Members' facilities (other than Guildhall Club), and Members' training and development.~~
 - ~~(c) (b) ineligible to chair any City Corporation Committee other than the Sub-Committees and Working Parties referred to in Standing Order Number 18 (6) (b).~~

19. Decisions between Meetings

1. Between regular meetings of the Court of Common Council, if, in the opinion of the Town Clerk, it is urgently necessary for a decision to be made, then the powers of the Court may, where lawfully possible, be exercised by the Town Clerk. Before exercising this power, they must obtain the comments of:-
 - the Lord Mayor
 - the Chief Commoner
 - the Chair/Chairman of the Policy & Resources Committee
 - the Chair/Chairman of the Finance Committee

or a nominee of each who shall be, respectively,

 - an Alderman
 - a Past Chief Commoner still in Common Council
 - a Member of the Policy & Resources Committee
 - a Member of the Finance Committee
2. Where the recommendation is made by the Policy & Resources Committee or the Finance Committee then the fourth person shall be the Chair/Chairman of the Planning & Transportation Committee or their nominee from that Committee.
3. Where the recommendation is made jointly by two of the aforementioned committees, then the fourth person shall be the Chair/Chairman of the Port Health and Environmental Services Committee or, if they are also conflicted, another senior Chair/Chairman.
4. The Town Clerk's powers only extend to the approval or non-approval of the recommendation placed before them, not its amendment.
5. Each decision of approval shall be reported to the next regular meeting of the Court with an explanation of the need for the use of this procedure.
6. Each decision of non-approval shall be submitted to the next meeting of the Committee or Sub-Committee making the recommendation and that Committee or Sub-Committee may submit the matter for decision by the full Court if this is still feasible. Where a decision of non-approval is in prospect, the Chair/Chairman of the recommending Committee or their representative shall be informed and allowed to make representations in support of their Committee's decision.

20. Petitions

1. Any Petition (other than for grants of money) intended to be presented to the Court must be lodged at the Town Clerk's office, duly endorsed by the Member presenting, not later than 12 noon ten working days before the meeting of the Court at which it is proposed to present the Petition, which from the time of being lodged shall remain in the custody of the Town Clerk. The wording of the Petition or a summary thereof shall be printed on the Summons for the Court.
2. No Petitioner shall be permitted to address the Court except in reply to questions.

PART 3 – Committees and Sub-Committees

21. Appointment

The annual appointment of Committees of the City of London Corporation will take place at the first regular meeting of the Court of the municipal year, which will normally follow the annual Wardmotes and be held in April.

22. Committee Limit

1. Subject to (3) below no Member shall serve on more than ~~eight~~six Committees, be they Ward or Non-Ward Committees;
2. For the purposes of this Standing Order, the Open Spaces and City Gardens Committee and the West Ham Park Committee shall count as one Committee.
3. This limit shall not apply:
 - ~~a. To membership of the Capital Buildings Committee;~~
 - ~~b. To membership of the Standards Appeals Committee;~~
 - (a) ~~(c)~~If a vacancy on a committee has been advertised on at least two occasions and remains unfilled. In such circumstances, a Member may serve on that committee even though it may cause the limit to be exceeded for the remainder of the municipal year.
 - (b) ~~(d)~~Where service on Committees is in an ex-officio capacity ~~does not count for the purpose of this Standing Order.~~

23. Ward Committees

1. Ward Committees comprise at least two Aldermen together with a number of Commoners as detailed in Standing Order No. 23(3).
2. The Aldermen shall be appointed on the basis of nominations by the Court of Aldermen (notwithstanding SO 23(5)).

3. The Commoners shall be appointed on the basis of:-
 - (a) one Member from each Ward (regardless of whether the Ward has sides) having five or fewer Members;
 - (b) two Members from each Ward (regardless of whether the Ward has sides) having six or more Members;
 - (c) one Member representing a Ward or Side of Ward that has agreed to pair with another Ward, which is geographically nearby, for the purpose of representation on one or more Ward Committees;
 - (d) up to two Members on the Community and Children's Services Committee from Wards with 200 or more residents.
4. Wards shall choose whether to nominate a Member(s) to serve on each of the several Ward Committees.
5. In the event that a Ward's Common Councillor/s does not wish, for whatever reason, to be nominated to serve on a Ward Committee, the appointment can, if the Ward so chooses and the Alderman is in agreement, be taken by the Alderman of the Ward.
6. After consultation with the Members of their Wards, the Deputies of the Ward shall submit the nominations to the Town Clerk subject to the following:-
 - (a) the term of office of a Member on a Ward Committee is one year;
 - (b) a Member who has served four terms on a Ward Committee, separately or consecutively, is not eligible for appointment for a further term whilst there is a Member of the Ward who has not served and wishes to do so, unless the majority of the Members of the Ward so decide.
7. If a Ward chooses not to nominate a Member(s) (Common Councillors or the Alderman of the Ward) to serve on a Ward Committee, the Town Clerk shall notify the vacancy to all Members and seek nominations prior to the appointment being made by the Court.

24. Non-Ward Committees

1. Non-Ward Committees comprise Members elected by the Court for either:-
 - (a) a specific term at the end of which, if eligible, the Member must seek re-election; or,
 - (b) an indefinite term subject to annual re-appointment by the Court.
2. Any Member wishing to serve must notify the Town Clerk in writing and all applications received will be listed on the Summons for the meeting of the Court at which the appointment is to be made. If necessary, a ballot will take place in accordance with Standing Order Number 10.

25. Vacancies

1. When a vacancy occurs in any Committee, the Member elected to fill it will continue for the remainder of the term of the Member creating the vacancy, and such part of the term will count as a full term for the purposes of Standing Orders Numbers 23 (5).
2. Prior to the expiry of a completed term of office on a Non-Ward Committee, or when vacancies arise, all Members will be notified by the Town Clerk.

26. Terms of Reference

Each Committee will have Terms of Reference approved by the Court.

27. Sub-Committees

1. The Committees of the City of London Corporation may at any time:-
 - (a) constitute, dissolve, or alter the membership of a Sub-Committee set up by them;
 - (b) within its terms of reference from the Court, authorise a Sub-Committee to act on behalf of the main Committee;
 - (c) appoint a Working Party to consider and report on particular matters but such Working Party shall have no delegated powers.

N.B. The constitution of any Sub-Committee or Working Party shall be subject to the approval of the Policy & Resources Committee.

2. The quorum for a Sub-Committee shall be any three of its Members, unless otherwise specified by the appointing Committee or the Court.

28. Joint Committee

In the event of a reference to a Joint Committee of any of the Committees of the Court, the quorum shall be nine, comprising no fewer than three Members of each participating Committee.

29. Chairs/Chairmen

1. Each Committee shall have a Chair/Chairman who will:-

- (a) preside at every meeting of the relevant Committee at which they are present;
- (b) sign the minutes of proceedings of the previous meeting when approved as a correct record;
- (c) in case of an equality of votes, have a second casting or casting vote. If the Chair/Chairman is unwilling to exercise a second or casting vote the decision shall be taken by lot;
- (d) determine all questions of order;
- (e) have power, after consultation with the Deputy Chair/Chairman, to,
 - convene an additional meeting;
 - vary the date and/or time and/or place of a scheduled meeting;
 - cancel a meeting if, in their opinion, there is insufficient business to warrant the holding of such a meeting or for other reasons.

2. The term of service of Chairs/Chairmen, subject to annual re-election, is limited as follows:-

Policy & Resources Committee	5 years*
Finance Committee	5 years*
Police Committee <u>City of London Police Authority Board</u>	4 years*
Other Committees	3 years*

*The years to run consecutively.

(For the purpose of this Standing Order, if a Member is elected to the Chair during the course of the year, a period of service commencing before 1 October shall count as one year; a period of service commencing on or after 1 October shall not count as one year).

3. A Member is ineligible to seek election as Chair/Chairman of a Ward or Non-Ward Committee (other than a specifically appointed Reception Committee) in the following circumstances:-
 - (a) If they are already a Chair/Chairman of another Committee (Ward or non-Ward), other than in the case of the following Committees:-
 - ~~Capital Buildings Committee~~
 - Gresham (City Side)
 - Health & Social Care Scrutiny Committee
 - Health & Wellbeing Board
 - ~~Investment Committee~~
 - Local Government Pensions Board
 - ~~Standards Appeals Committee~~
 - Open Spaces and City Gardens Committee
 - West Ham Park Committee
 - (b) If they are resident in, or a tenant of, any property owned by the City of London Corporation they may not be Chair/Chairman of the Committee or Sub-Committee having control of such property (with the exception of the Community & Children's Services Committee);
 - (c) If they are an ex-officio Member of a Committee;
 - (d) If they are the Deputy Chair/Chairman of the Audit & Risk Management Committee for the time being.
4. At the first meeting of each Committee following the annual appointment, the Town Clerk will seek expressions of interest from Members who are willing and eligible to take the Chair.
5. A Member unable to be present may previously express in writing to the Town Clerk their willingness to serve.
6. The names of those who are willing to serve will be voted on by Ballot. The successful candidate will require a majority of the votes cast. In the absence of any candidate achieving a majority of votes in the first round of voting:
 - (a) the candidate with the fewest votes will be eliminated;
 - (b) if there is more than one candidate securing the fewest but identical number of votes, then a ballot will be held between those candidates to determine which will drop out;
 - (c) candidates may also elect to withdraw at this stage;
 - (d) a further ballot will be held amongst the remaining candidates and the procedure in (a) to (c) repeated until one candidate has obtained a majority of the votes cast.
7. Ex-officio Members of a Committee are not eligible to vote in the election of

Chair/Chairman of that Committee other than in the case of the Policy & Resources Committees:-

- ~~Policy & Resources~~
- ~~Investment (such right being restricted to the Chair/Chairman and Deputy/Vice Chairs/Chairmen of the Policy & Resources and Finance Committees who have ex-officio places on the Committee)~~
- ~~Capital Buildings Committee (such right being restricted to the Chairs/Chairmen and Deputy/Vice Chairs/Chairmen of the Policy & Resources and Finance Committees who have ex-officio places on the Committee)~~

30. Deputy Chairs/Chairmen

1. Each Committee, ~~with the exception of the Policy and Resources Committee~~, shall have a Deputy Chair/Chairman who will, in the absence of the Chair/Chairman, have the powers, duties and rights of the Chair/Chairman.
2. ~~With the exception of the first and fifth year of a chairmanship, the Policy and Resources Committee shall have three Deputies, one of whom shall be designated the Deputy Chair/Chairman to exercise the formal responsibilities of that role, with the remaining two Vice Chairs/Chairmen.~~
3. In the case of all Committees:-
 - (a) the immediate past Chair/Chairman, if in Common Council and if willing to serve, will be eligible to serve as Deputy Chair/Chairman for the first year upon the election of a new Chair/Chairman, subject to election by the Committee in the usual way;
 - (b) if the immediate past Chair/Chairman is not in Common Council or is not willing to serve in the office, the Deputy Chair/Chairman (~~or Deputy/Vice Chairs/Chairmen in the case of the Policy and Resources Committee~~) will be elected in accordance with Standing Order Number 30 (5);
 - (c) when the immediate past Chair/Chairman has completed their year of office as Deputy Chair/Chairman, all the Members of the Committee with the exception of the said Deputy Chair/Chairman and those who are ineligible by virtue of Standing Order Number 30 (4), are eligible to seek election as Deputy Chair/Chairman.
4. A Member is ineligible to seek election as Deputy Chair/Chairman of a Ward or Non-Ward Committee (other than a specially appointed Reception Committee) in the following circumstances:-
 - (a) if they are resident in, or a tenant of, any property owned by the City of London Corporation they may not be Deputy Chair/Chairman of the Committee or Sub-Committee having control of such property;

- (b) if they are an ex-officio Member of a Committee they may not be Deputy Chair/Chairman of that Committee except in the case of the immediate past Chair/Chairman for the first year upon election of a new Chair/Chairman.
5. At the first meeting of each Committee following the annual appointment, the Town Clerk will seek expressions of interest from Members eligible for election as Deputy Chair/Chairman ~~(or Deputy/Vice Chairs/Chairmen in the case of the Policy and Resources Committee)~~ and who are willing to serve.
6. A Member unable to be present may previously express in writing to the Town Clerk their willingness to serve.
7. The names of those who are willing to serve will be voted on by ballot, ~~with the exception of the Policy and Resources Committee.~~ The successful candidate will require a majority of the votes cast. In the absence of any candidate achieving a majority of votes in the first round of voting:
- (a) the candidate with the fewest votes will be eliminated;
 - (b) if there is more than one candidate securing the fewest but identical number of votes, then a ballot will be held between those candidates to determine which will drop out;
 - (c) candidates may also elect to withdraw at this stage;
 - (d) a further ballot will be held amongst the remaining candidates and the procedure in (a) to (c) repeated until one candidate has obtained a majority of the votes cast.
8. ~~The election of the three Deputy/Vice Chairs/Chairmen of the Policy and Resources Committee shall be undertaken as follows:-~~
- ~~• Where the number of candidates is less than or matches the number of vacancies (i.e. three) the candidates will automatically be treated as being elected to office.~~
 - ~~• Where there are more candidates than vacancies, a ballot will be undertaken with Members indicating their preferred candidate(s). Members can choose not to vote for the maximum number of candidates.~~
 - ~~• Once votes have been cast and counted, any candidate having 50% or more of the number of votes will be elected.~~
 - ~~• Unless the candidates each secure 50% of the vote, the candidate with the least number of votes will drop out automatically. If there is more than one candidate securing the least but identical number of votes then a ballot will be held between those candidates to determine which one will drop out. Other candidates may also elect to withdraw at this stage.~~

- ~~A further ballot will be held amongst the remaining candidates and any candidate securing 50% or more of the vote will be elected. This process will be repeated until all vacancies are filled.~~

~~There may come a point in the process where a candidate or candidates with the least number of votes drops out, leaving a number of candidates that matches the number of vacancies. In those circumstances, no further ballot is necessary as the candidates will automatically be treated as being elected to office (without having to secure 50% of the vote).~~

~~The Chair/Chairman of the Committee, in consultation with the three elected to office, shall decide which of them will be designated as the formal Deputy Chair/Chairman with the remaining two being Vice Chairs/Chairmen.~~

9. Ex-officio Members of a Committee are not eligible to vote in the election of Deputy Chair/Chairman of that Committee other than in the case of the Policy & Resources following Committees:-
- ~~Policy and Resources~~
 - ~~Investment (such right being restricted to the Chair/Chairman and Deputy/Vice Chairs/Chairmen of the Policy & Resources and Finance Committees who have ex-officio places on the Committee)~~
 - ~~Capital Buildings Committee (such right being restricted to the Chairs/Chairmen and Deputy/Vice Chairs/Chairmen of the Policy & Resources and Finance Committees who have ex-officio places on the Committee)~~

31. Ward Reception Committees

1. Unless there are specific reasons for the arrangements for any hospitality relating to a visiting Head of Government or State (or other guest of the sovereign to whom official hospitality is to be extended) being referred to a Standing Committee, responsibility will be referred to a Ward Reception Committee appointed by the Court.
2. The Town Clerk is authorised to summon the first meeting of the Committee.
3. The appointment of Commoners shall be by rotation within the total membership of the Common Council, and before the appointment of a Ward Reception Committee, the Town Clerk shall notify each Member next on the rota for appointment. If a Member does not wish to serve on the next Ward Reception Committee, the Town Clerk shall liaise with the next Member on the rota to fill the vacancy.
4. The appointment of Aldermen shall also be by rotation, comprising two Aldermen above the Chair and four Aldermen below the Chair.
5. In the event of an entertainment for which a Ward Reception Committee has been appointed, not taking place, the Aldermen and Commoners serving on that Committee shall be re-appointed on the next available Ward Reception Committee.

- ~~6. If a Member of a Ward Reception Committee is absent from the Committee when the privileges of Members are being determined by Ballot, the Chair/Chairman or the Senior Alderman present shall select for the absent Member.~~
7. A Member is eligible to seek election as Chair/Chairman of a Ward Reception Committee in the following circumstances:-
- (a) provided they have completed two years' service on the Court;
 - (b) provided they are not an ex-officio Member of the Committee;
8. A Member may chair one Royal or State Ward Reception Committee and one Non-Royal or Non-State Ward Reception Committee, in either order.
9. The provisions of Standing Order Number 29 as regards the election of a Chair/Chairman shall be applied at the first meeting of the Committee. Thereafter, the Member elected as Chair/Chairman will, subject to being in Common Council, continue in that office until the function has taken place.
10. If, after the list of Members eligible to serve as Chair/Chairman of a Ward Reception Committee has been read, no Member has sought election, a second list shall be read in which all Members of the Committee are eligible.
11. The Chief Commoner for the time being will serve as the Deputy Chair/Chairman.

32. Access to Meetings

1. All meetings of Committees and Sub-Committees are open to the public unless:-
- (a) confidential information as defined in Section 100A(3) of the Local Government Act 1972 is to be discussed; or,
 - (b) a resolution has been passed to exclude the public as there is likely to be disclosure of exempt information as defined in Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972;

In respect of non-local authority and non-police authority functions this Standing Order is not applied unless a Committee or Sub-Committee determines otherwise.

2. The filming, photographing or making of audio recordings of meetings will be allowed in accordance with the City of London Protocol on the filming/recording of meetings adopted by the Court in May 2014.

33. Notice of Meetings

Public notice of the time and place of meetings of Committees and Sub-Committees will be posted in an appropriate place at least five clear working days before the meeting, or if a meeting is convened at shorter notice, then at the time it is convened.

34. Summons

1. The Town Clerk will issue a Summons for each meeting stating the time and place at which the Committee or Sub-Committee will meet and setting out the order of business.
2. Any Committee may be summoned upon the written requisition of a number of its Members not less than the quorum of the Committee, provided they have business to lay before the Committee. Such business will be set out in detail together with the reason(s) why the matter(s) to be raised could not wait until the next regular meeting.
3. A special meeting of a Committee shall not, except in the case of absolute necessity, be called on the same morning or afternoon as that appointed for the regular meeting or another Committee, and under any circumstances the special meeting shall be called at a different time from that of the other Committee.
4. Except in cases of urgency or where circumstances make it impracticable, the Summons and accompanying papers will be sent to Members five clear working days in advance of the meeting.

35. Attendance

1. Members are entitled to attend meetings of Committees and Sub-Committees of which they are not Members, but must not vote or, without the permission of the Chair/Chairman of the meeting, speak on any matter.
2. If a question is referred by the Court to any Committee to examine and report, the Member moving the reference shall be invited to attend the Committee in the event that they are not a Member of that Committee and shall be permitted to take part in any discussion that may arise therefrom, but not vote on the matter.
3. If the Independent Appeals Panel ~~Standards Committee or the Standards Appeal Committee, or Sub-Committees thereof~~, are considering the conduct of a Member of the Court or an co-opted Member in relation to the City of London Corporation's Code of Conduct for Members in non-public session, no Member or co-opted Member who is not a Member of that Committee or Sub-Committee is permitted to attend the proceedings other than those who have been requested or allowed to attend by the Panel ~~Committee or Sub-Committee~~.

36. Quorum

1. The quorum for each Committee shall be set annually by the Court when the Committees are appointed in accordance with Standing Order Number 21.
2. If the quorum is not established within five minutes of the time stated on the Summons, the formal meeting will be dissolved and formal consideration of the business adjourned to the next regular meeting unless, in the opinion of the Chair/Chairman, a special meeting should be called before that date.
3. If, during a meeting of a Committee or Sub-Committee, a quorum ceases to exist

the meeting shall adjourn until a quorum is re-established. If there is no reasonable likelihood that it will be re-established, the meeting will be dissolved and all remaining business adjourned to the next meeting. Any items that have not been considered by the meeting before its dissolution and which, in the opinion of the Chair/Chairman, require a decision before the next meeting will be considered in accordance with Standing Order Number 41.

37. Conduct of Debate

1. Every Member must confine their speech strictly to the Report, Motion or Amendment under discussion or to a point of order or explanation, and must not be repetitious. The ruling of the Chair/Chairman on issues of relevance or repetition is final.
2. At any time, a Member may raise a point of order or make a personal explanation necessitated by the statement of another Member. Any Member speaking at the time must give way when a point of order or personal explanation is made. A point of order shall relate only to an alleged breach of Standing Orders or statutory provision. A personal explanation shall be confined to some material part of a former speech by the Member at the same meeting, which may have been misunderstood. The ruling of the Chair/Chairman on a point of order or the admissibility of a personal explanation is final.
3. If a Member stands (or, if unable to do so, indicates otherwise) either while another Member is addressing the Committee or, if there is a Motion before the Committee, at the conclusion of a speech, and moves '*That the question be now put*', and this Motion is seconded and carried, that question shall be put forthwith and without debate unless the Chair/Chairman is of the opinion that the Motion is premature or in any sense is an abuse of the rules of the Committee. In no case shall the Mover be precluded from a right to reply should they elect to exercise it.

38. Decisions

Decisions made by Committees will be either unanimous or will represent the view of the majority of those Members present and eligible to vote. The Town Clerk will, if requested, record in the minutes of a meeting the name(s) of any Member(s) dissenting from a majority decision.

39. Disorder

In the event of disorder or a persistent disregard of the authority of the Chair, and if they consider it necessary in the interests of maintaining order, the Chair/Chairman will ask that there be no further interruption. If the interruption continues, they may:-

- (a) direct the Member(s) causing disorder or disregarding their authority to retire for the remainder of the meeting or for such shorter period as the Chair/Chairman may decide. In the event of non-compliance with that instruction, and with the consent of the majority of the Committee to be shown immediately on a show of hands, the Chair/Chairman shall take all reasonable steps for the removal of such Member(s) from the meeting;

- (b) require a member(s) of the public to be removed from the meeting.

40. Duration

If, after two hours from the appointed time for the start of the meeting, the business has not concluded, the meeting will close and any unfinished business will stand adjourned to the next meeting unless a two-thirds majority of the Members present wish the meeting to continue, and subject to there being a quorum.

41. Decisions between Meetings

Between scheduled meetings of each Committee or Sub-Committee, if:

- (a) in the opinion of the Town Clerk, it is urgently necessary for a decision to be made; or
- (b) the Committee or Sub-Committee have delegated power to the Town Clerk to make a decision.

then the powers of the Committee or Sub-Committee may, where lawfully possible, be exercised by the Town Clerk. Before exercising this power, they shall seek and obtain the comments of the Chair/Chairman and Deputy Chair/Chairman of the Committee or Sub-Committee or, failing either of them, their nominees. Other than where circumstances make it impracticable, the wider views of the committee or sub-committee membership shall also be sought. Each action or decision shall be reported to the next regular meeting of the Committee or Sub-Committee.

42. Conferences

1. Members and Officers are authorised to attend events (i.e. conferences, congresses, seminars, meetings, exhibitions etc.) on behalf of the City of London Corporation in accordance with the Business Travel Scheme.
2. The Business Travel Scheme:
 - (a) forms part of the Financial Regulations;
 - (b) defines the various categories of travel on official business;
 - (c) includes a schedule of recognised events attended by Members and/or Officers approved by the Policy & Resources Committee.

43. Outside Bodies

1. A Member ~~shall~~ may serve as a representative of the City Corporation on no more than six outside bodies at the same time.
2. Standing Order Number 43 (1) shall not apply to ex-officio appointments to outside bodies including those that apply to the Court of Aldermen.

PART 4 – Interests

44. Interests

1. If a matter for decision is under consideration by the Court, or any Committee thereof, in which a Member has an interest they must act in accordance with the provisions of the Localism Act 2011 and the Members' Code of Conduct.
2. If a matter for decision relating to the City of London Corporation's Housing or Barbican Residential Estates is under consideration by the Court, or any Committee thereof, which relates to land in which a Member has a beneficial interest they:-
 - (a) must declare the existence and nature of their interest;
 - (b) subject to the provisions of the Localism Act 2011 and the Members' Code of Conduct in relation to interests may speak but not vote thereon.

PART 5 – Access to Documents

45. Access to Documents

1. A Member of the Court is entitled to inspect, or be provided with a copy of, documents belonging to the City of London Corporation that it is reasonably necessary for them to see in order to carry out their duties as a Common Councilman or Alderman. Consistent with this presumption of a Member's entitlement to access documents, a Member has a right of access to all documents relating to business transacted or to be transacted at a meeting of the Court of Common Council, a Committee or Sub- Committee as set out in Standing Order Number 45 (2) and (3).
2. In respect of the City Corporation's local authority and police authority functions a Member has a right of access to all documents relating to business transacted or to be transacted at a meeting of the Court of Common Council, a Committee or Sub- Committee, although if it appears to the Town Clerk that information contained in the documents is exempt information by virtue of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972 they have a discretion to withhold the documents from inspection unless the information relates to the financial or business affairs of any particular person, including the City Corporation (except in respect of contract negotiations), or the information relates to any noticed imposing requirements on a person or direction the City Corporation proposes to make under any enactment, in which case the documents are required to be open to inspection.
3. Standing Order Number 45 (2) shall apply to the City Corporation's non-local authority and non-police authority functions and a Member shall have a right of access to all documents relating to business transacted or to be transacted at any relevant meeting of the Court of Common Council, a Committee or Sub-Committee, unless the Town Clerk determines otherwise.
4. Where a request for access to documents is declined by the Town Clerk, the Member may refer the matter to the Chair/Chairman and the Deputy Chair/Chairman of the appropriate Committee who will consider the advice of the Town Clerk before either granting or refusing the request.
5. A Member has the same right as a member of the public to request information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 and the Environmental Information Regulations 2004 and to have that information communicated to them subject to any exemptions on the disclosure of information properly kept confidential.
6. A Member must preserve the confidentiality of any document containing confidential or exempt information that is in their possession.

PART 6 – Acts of Common Council

46. Bills and Acts

1. A Bill for an Act of Common Council shall be printed and circulated to all Members of the Court before it is submitted to the Court.
2. Every Bill shall be submitted to the appropriate Committee(s) for approval and to the Recorder of London for settling before it is submitted to the Court of Common Council and the report of the appropriate Committee (if any) shall be printed and circulated with the Bill.
3. Unless otherwise ordered by the Court of Common Council, a Bill for an Act of Common Council shall be read a first and second time at one meeting of the Court and shall at the next or a subsequent meeting be read a third time and made an Act of Common Council.

PART 7 – Parliamentary Legislation

47. Bills and Acts

1. No active proceedings for or against any Bill in Parliament (beyond such steps in the case of a Private Bill as may be necessary to obtain or preserve a *locus standi*, or the delivery of formal professional retainers) shall be undertaken without the express authority of the Court, save in a case of emergency which shall be reported at the next ensuing Court.
2. It shall be an instruction to the Remembrancer that where in any Act of Parliament it is necessary to mention or describe the Local Authority for the City of London, such Authority shall be stated to be “The Mayor, Aldermen and Commons of the City of London in Common Council assembled”, or “the Common Council”.

PART 8 – Finance

48. Budgets: Resource Allocation, Revenue Estimates and Capital Budgets

1. Resource allocation plans, revenue estimates and five-year capital budgets shall be prepared annually in respect of the City Fund, City’s Cash and the Bridge House Estates.
2. Resource allocation plans for the subsequent financial year shall for:-
 - (a) City Fund and City’s Cash be approved by the Policy & Resources Committee, following previous consideration by the Efficiency & Performance Sub-Committee and the Resource Allocation Sub- Committee; and
 - (b) Bridge House Estates be approved by the Bridge House Estates Board.

3.
 - (a) The Policy & Resources Committee shall determine the basis and assumptions to be adopted in the preparation of detailed revenue estimates and capital budgets for City Fund and City's Cash, together with any provisional resource allocations for those Funds.
 - (b) The Bridge House Estates Board shall determine the basis and assumptions to be adopted in the preparation of detailed revenue estimates and capital budgets for Bridge House Estates, together with any provisional resource allocations subject to any overarching policy or budget set by the Court.
4. For City Fund and City's Cash the requirements of the Local Government Act 2003 and the CIPFA Prudential Code shall be complied with, as follows:-
 - (a) the Chamberlain, as Chief Financial Officer, shall:
 - i. report on the robustness of the estimates and the adequacy of the reserves allowed for in the budget proposals; and,
 - ii. prepare Prudential Indicators in accordance with the Code.
 - (b) Members shall:
 - i. approve the Prudential Indicators as part of the budget setting process by the Court of Common Council; and,
 - ii. have regard to the Chamberlain's advice regarding the robustness of the estimates and the adequacy of reserves.
5. For Bridge House Estates (and any other charity for which the City Corporation is the Trustee), the requirements of charity law, guidance provided by the Charity Commission on financial management, and relevant requirements of the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice shall be complied with as follows:-
 - (a) The Chamberlain as Chief Financial Officer, whether or not acting by and authorized delegate with responsibility for the charity], shall report on the robustness of the budgets and adequacy of the charity's free reserves and other contingency sums allowed for in the budget proposals; and
 - (b) Members shall have regard to the Chamberlain's advice regarding the robustness of the budgets and the adequacy of free reserves and other contingency sums.
6. The Chamberlain is required to monitor against the approved Prudential Indicators for City Fund and City's Cash and report, via the Finance Committee, to the Court of Common Council if they are to be breached.
7. All financial items shall be categorised in accordance with the City Corporation's Financial Regulations and final determination of any categorisation shall be the

responsibility of the Chamberlain and generally applied as follows:-

- (a) recurrent revenue items – analysed between central risk, local risk and recharges;
 - (b) one-off revenue projects – analysed between routine revenue projects financed from within existing local risk budgets; ~~and~~ supplementary revenue projects financed from one-off augmentations of local risk resources; and,
 - (c) capital projects.
8. Detailed revenue estimates for the subsequent financial year, including all recurrent revenue items and routine revenue projects, shall for City Fund and City's Cash be submitted to each Spending Committee in accordance with the Policy & Resources Committee determination, and for Bridge House Estates the relevant budgets, analysis of projected movements on reserves and proposed allocation of funding to the charity's primary and ancillary object shall be submitted to the Bridge House Estates Board. Concurrently, schedules of supplementary revenue projects, along with five-year capital budgets, shall for City's Fund and City's Cash also be presented to each Spending Committee, and for Bridge House Estates to the Bridge House Estates Board.
9. The Finance Committee for City Fund and City's Cash, and the Bridge House Estates Board for Bridge House Estates, shall as relevant present to the Court of Common Council in March of each year the following:-
- (a) the revenue estimates for City Fund and City's Cash;
 - (b) the five-year capital budgets and summaries of supplementary revenue projects;
 - (c) the annual budget reports in respect of all revenue and capital proposals for the City Fund, and City's Cash and the Bridge House Estates, including recommendations as to the Non-Domestic Rate and Council Tax to be levied in the following financial year and the Prudential Code Indicators to apply to the City Fund.
 - (d) The annual budget reports in respect of all revenue and capital proposals for Bridge House Estates, alongside analysis of projected movements on all reserves held over the next three years, including an annual review of the reserves policy and proposed allocation of income to the charity's ancillary object which is surplus to that required for the primary object in that year.
10. No Committee or Officer shall commit the City Corporation to expenditure without the approval of the Court of Common Council, unless otherwise provided for in these Standing Orders. ~~Similar principles shall operate, as appropriate, for income items.~~
11. Similar principles to those stated in Standing Order 48(9) shall operate, as appropriate, for income items, such that: where income is received outside the City Fund and City's Cash budget set for the relevant year, or outside the annual

budget for a charity for which the City Corporation is charity trustee, the relevant Service Committee (for Bridge House Estates this is the Bridge House Estates Board) shall be required to authorise acceptance of those funds which must be in accordance with the strategies and plans set for each fund.

12. No proposal (other than the grant or renewal of a lease) shall be carried out, or submitted to the Court of Common Council, until the estimated financial effect has as relevant first been submitted to and approved by the Finance Committee for City Fund and City's Cash, and to the Bridge House Estates Board for Bridge House Estates, unless otherwise provided for in these Standing Orders or authorised under existing officer delegated authority.
13. Where expenditure is necessary for which no provision has been made by the Court of Common Council but which will be wholly reimbursed by a person or organisation separate from the City Corporation, the Chamberlain may authorise such expenditure from a holding account.

49. Financial Regulations

1. The Financial Regulations form part of the City Corporation's overall system of financial management, accountability and control and shall be complied with by all City of London Corporation staff.
2. The Financial Regulations are maintained by the Finance Committee.

50. Project Management

1. Save for Bridge House Estates projects where these responsibilities lie with the Bridge House Estates Board unless reserved to the Court of Common Council:-
 - (a) Approval of the City of London Corporation's programme of projects is the responsibility of the Policy and Resources Committee and Finance Committee through its ~~Projects Sub-Committee,~~ the joint Operational Property and Projects Sub-Committee which scrutinises individual projects, and the Resource Allocation Sub-Committee, which considers the overall programme of project activity and its funding.
 - (b) Decisions about projects are made in conjunction with Spending Committees and the ~~Finance Committee~~ Operational Property and Projects Sub-Committee and the Court of Common Council for high value projects; and
2. Officers shall ensure that all routine revenue, supplementary revenue and capital projects shall comply with the provisions contained within the City of London Corporation's agreed Project Procedure.
3. The Operational Property and Projects Sub-Committee will periodically review the Project Procedure. Technical adjustments and changes to the Procedure may be authorised by the Policy and Resources Committee.
4. The Town Clerk, in consultation with the Operational Property and Projects

Sub-Committee for City Fund and City's Cash or with the Bridge House Estates Board for Bridge House Estates, or the relevant Chair/Chairman and Deputy Chair/Chairman thereof as appropriate, may vary the Project Procedure in relation to individual projects in cases when it is deemed appropriate to do so, with the exception of:-

i. Approval of schemes for refurbishment or re-development or reinstatement of up to £1,5,000,000 per scheme / per property, for investment properties, with funding either from the relevant sales pool, providing the sales pool is in credit with sufficient funds to cover the total cost of the scheme, or from other appropriate sources will be granted, as provided for within the Scheme of Delegations to Officers.

5. The Town Clerk will produce and keep up to date guidance for Officers, in the form of a Project Toolkit, to ensure that the Project Procedure is followed.

51. Procurement and Contract Letting

1. All procurement and contracts activity will be undertaken by Officers in accordance with the City of London Corporation's agreed Procurement Regulations.
2. The ~~Finance~~ Operational Property and Projects Sub Committee will periodically review the Procurement Regulations and may authorise any technical adjustments. Significant changes to the Regulations require the approval of the Court of Common Council. The Bridge House Estates Board shall be consulted in advance of any changes adopted which will have an impact upon the charity.
3. The Chamberlain will produce and keep up to date guidance for Officers to ensure the Procurement Regulations are followed.

52. Writing-Off Debts

1. Any Committee appointed by the Court of Common Council may agree, with the concurrence of the Chamberlain, to the writing-off of a debt due to the Corporation if satisfied that:-
 - (a) the debt is no longer recoverable at law; or,
 - (b) the cost to the City of ~~London~~ Corporation of commencing or continuing recovery at law is likely to exceed the amount of the debt or the balance uncollected; or,
 - (c) there are reasonable grounds for writing-off the debt subject to the amounts in excess of £500,000 for investment property debt, and £100,000 for all other City Fund and City's Cash being approved by the Finance Committee and for Bridge House Estates being approved by the Bridge House Estates Board.

(NB. 1. Standing Order Number 52 (1) (c) shall not apply to the

Barbican Centre Board

N.B. 2. The financial limit for writing-off school fees shall be £3,500 per term).

2. Each Committee's powers under (1) above are delegated to specific the relevant Chief Officers ~~where the amount of the debt does not exceed £5,000~~ in accordance with the relevant sections of the Scheme of Delegations.

PART 9 – Property

53. Corporate Plans and Strategies

1. The City of London Corporation shall develop and adopt ~~corporate~~ plans and strategies for the management and investment of its property assets as follows:-
 - (a) Corporate Asset Management Strategy Plans which shall be subject to ~~annual~~regular review (not less than every five years) by
 - the ~~Corporate Asset Operational Property and Projects Sub-Committee~~ and approval by the Policy & Resources Committee for City Fund and City's Cash; and
 - The Bridge House Estates Board for Bridge House Estates;
 - (b) Investment Property Strategies which shall be subject to annual reports and regular review (not less than every three years) by
 - the Property Investment Board, Finance and Policy & Resources Committees for City Fund and City's Cash, and
 - the Bridge House Estates Board for Bridge House Estates.
2. The ~~corporate~~ plans and strategies referred to in Standing Order Number 53 (1) shall be based on assumption that all property transactions are on open market terms.
3. All property transactions shall be made in accordance with the ~~corporate~~ plans and strategies referred to in Standing Order Number 53 (1).
4. Any proposed property transactions, including transactions which together form part of a series of transactions, that are not in accordance with the ~~corporate~~ plans and strategies referred to in Standing Order Number 53 (1) or are not based on open market terms shall be subject to the approval of,
 - (a) the originating Committee and the ~~Finance Operational and Property Sub-Committee~~ (for non-investment property) and the Property Investment Board (for investment Property) Committee for City Fund and City's Cash, and the Bridge House Estates Board for Bridge House Estates; and
 - (b) the Court of Common Council if required by the parameters set out in Standing Orders Numbers 55, 57 (2), 58 and 59.

54. ~~Capital Buildings Committee~~ Capital Buildings Board (Policy & Resources Committee)

Where projects have been referred to, or are within the remit of, the Capital Buildings ~~Committee~~Board, decisions in relation to the acquisition and disposal of properties related to the project, including disposal or alternative use of current operational properties to be vacated on completion of the project, shall sit outside of the normal Standing Orders (53-60) governing acquisitions and disposals.

55. Acquisitions

1. For the purpose of this Standing Order, the following definitions shall apply:-

City Fund & City's Cash:-

“investment property assets” - properties within the remit of the Property Investment Board that are managed by the City Surveyor as investments yielding capital and/or revenue returns.

“operational property assets” - properties within the day to day control of committees that are held primarily for the provision of operational services by or on behalf of the City of London.

Bridge House Estates:-

“investment property assets” properties, whether endowment or invested income funds, which are managed by the City Surveyor as investments yielding capital and/or revenue in accordance with the investment strategies and policies set for the charity.

“operational property assets” properties which are held for use by the charity.

2. Acquisitions of interests in investment property assets shall follow the City Corporation’s agreed Investment Property Acquisition Procedure adopted for each Fund and require the following approvals:-

City Fund:-

Total Acquisition Costs	Approval by
Less than £5,000,000	Property Investment Board and Finance Committee
£5,000,000 and above	Property Investment Board, Finance Committee and Court of Common Council

City's Cash and Bridge House Estates:-

Total Acquisition Costs	Approval by
Less than £5,000,000 (subject to funding being available in the relevant Designated Sales Pool)*	Property Investment Board and Finance Committee
£5,000,000 and above	Property Investment Board, Finance Committee and Court of Common Council

Bridge House Estates:-

<u>Total Acquisition Costs</u>	<u>Approval by</u>
<u>Less than £5,000,000 (subject to funding being available in the relevant Designated Sales Pool)*</u>	<u>Bridge House Estates Board</u>
<u>£5,000,000 and above</u>	<u>Bridge House Estates Board and Court of Common Council</u>

**If funding is not available in the relevant Designated Sales Pool the approval of the Court of Common Council shall also be required.*

3. Acquisitions of interests in operational property assets, and for Bridge House Estates this includes a decision to re-purpose investment property as an operational property asset, shall require the following approvals:-

City Fund & City's Cash:-

Total Acquisition Costs	Approval by
Less than £2,500,000	<u>Spending Committee and Finance Operational Property and Projects Sub Committees</u>
£2,500,000 and above	<u>Spending Committee and Finance Operational Property and Projects Sub Committees and Court of Common Council</u>

Bridge House Estates:-

<u>Total Acquisition Costs</u>	<u>Approval by</u>
<u>Less than £2,500,000</u>	<u>Bridge House Estates Board</u>
<u>£2,500,000 and above</u>	<u>Bridge House Estates Board and Court of Common Council</u>

56. Identification of Property Assets Surplus to Departmental and/or Operational Requirements

1. Committees are required to consider the effective and efficient use of all operational property assets within their management and control. For City Fund and City's Cash property ~~For this will be monitored by the Corporate Asset~~ Operational Property and Projects Sub-Committee. For Bridge House Estates property this will be monitored by the Bridge House Estates Board.

2.
 - (a) For City Fund and City's Cash operational property, Wwhere assets are no longer required, in whole or in part, for the provision of operational services for which they are currently held, a report on the circumstances must be made to the ~~Corporate Asset~~ Operational Property and Projects Sub-Committee. This does not apply where lettings are an integral part of the service e.g. market or housing tenancies.

 - (b) For Bridge House Estates operational property, where assets are no longer required for use by the charity, a report on the circumstances must be made to the Bridge House Estates Board.

57. Freehold Disposals

1. Disposals of freeholds subject to 2000 year leases and of former freehold highway land shall for City Fund and City's Cash be subject to the approval of the Property Investment Board (investment property assets) or the ~~Finance Committee~~ Operational Property and Projects Sub-Committee (for non-investment property assets), and for Bridge House Estates be subject to the approval of the Bridge House Estates Board.

2. All other freehold disposals shall require the following approvals:-

City Fund and City's Cash:-

Anticipated Receipt	Approval By	
	<u>Investment Property Asset</u>	<u>Non-Investment Property Asset</u>
Less than £1,000,000	Property Investment Board	Finance Committee* <u>Officer Delegation</u>
£1,000,000 to less than £5,000,000	Property Investment Board and Finance Committee	Finance Committee <u>Officer Delegation</u>
£5,000,000 and above	Property Investment Board, Finance Committee and Court of Common Council	Finance Committee <u>Operational Property and Projects Sub-Committee and Court of Common Council</u>

**Or a Sub-Committee of the Finance Committee, if so delegated*

Bridge House Estates:-

Anticipated Receipt	Approval By	
	<u>Investment Property Asset</u>	<u>Non-Investment Property Asset</u>
<u>Less than £5,000,000</u>	<u>Bridge House Estates Board</u>	Bridge House Estates Board <u>Officer Delegation</u>
<u>£5,000,000 and above</u>	<u>Bridge House Estates Board and Court of Common Council</u>	<u>Bridge House Estates Board and Court of Common Council</u>

58. Leasehold Disposals/Surrenders

1. All lettings shall be subject to the following:-

- (a) lettings for a period of 25-30 years or less, including lease renewals and the grant of easements, wayleaves and similar arrangements as well as all rent reviews, shall be solely subject to the approval of the Committee having control of such property or any properly authorised Officer (under the scheme of delegations):-

- (b) for City Fund and City's Cash the grant of any lease at less than full rack rental value for a period of 175 years or less (including optional extensions of term) shall require the approval of the Property Investment Board (investment property assets) or the Finance Committee Operational Property and Projects Sub-Committee (for non-investment property assets), any premium being subject to the following approvals:-

City Fund and City's Cash:-

Anticipated Premium Receipt (1),(2)	Approval By	
	<u>Investment Property Asset</u>	<u>Non-Investment Property Asset</u>
Less than £ <u>42,5000,000</u>	Property Investment Board- <u>Officer Delegation</u>	Finance Committee* <u>Officer Delegation</u>
£ <u>42,000500,000</u> to less than £5,000,000	Property Investment Board and Finance Committee	<u>Finance Committee Operational Property and Projects Sub-Committee</u>
£5,000,000 and above	Property Investment Board, Finance Committee and Court of Common Council	<u>Finance Operational Property and Projects Sub-Committee</u> and Court of Common Council

**Or a Sub-Committee of the Finance Committee, if so delegated*

- (c) for Bridge House Estates the grant of any lease at less than full rack rental value for a period of 175 years or less (including optional extensions of term) shall require the approval of the Bridge House Estates Board, any premium being subject to the following approvals:-

Bridge House Estates:-

Anticipated Premium Receipt (1) (2)	Approval By	
	<u>Investment Property Asset</u>	<u>Non-Investment Property Asset</u>
<u>Less than £5,000,000</u>	<u>Bridge House Estates Board</u>	<u>Bridge House Estates Board</u>
<u>£5,000,000 and above</u>	<u>Bridge House Estates Board and Court of Common Council</u>	<u>Bridge House Estates Board and Court of Common Council</u>

(1) For the purpose of these Standing Orders 'receipt' means receipt by the City of London Corporation.

(2) And where the rent is no more than £1,000,000

- (d) the granting of long leases for a peppercorn rent without a premium, where there are no additional financial implications, for example, leases for substations with UKPN, will be approved as per the Scheme of Delegations to officers.

59. Variations

- Minor variations (i.e. those which do not affect the open market value of the property) to the terms of ground lease restructurings, disposals, acquisitions and other transactions, or to leases being taken by the City of London Corporation as tenant (whether as trustee of Bridge House Estates or otherwise), and where the variations are necessary to complete the transaction expediently shall be subject solely to the approval of the Committee having control of such property or any properly authorised Officer.
- Other variations to the terms of an existing lease, tenancy, licence or other agreement relating to property shall be subject to the following approvals:

Variation to lease income*	Anticipated Premium Receipt*	For City Fund and City's Cash - Approval by	For Bridge House Estates – Approval by
Less than plus or minus 10-15%	Less than £100,000 12 months' income	Committee controlling the property Officer delegation	Bridge House Estates Board Officer Delegation
More than plus or minus 10-15%	Less More than 12 months' income £100,000 0	Committee controlling the property and Finance Committee.	Bridge House Estates Board
Less than plus or minus 10%	More than £100,000	Committee controlling the property and Finance Committee	Bridge House Estates Board
-	<u>Any premium More than £52,000 500,000</u>	<u>Committee controlling the property, Finance Committee and Court of Common Council</u>	<u>Bridge House Estates Board and Court of Common Council</u>

*Whichever is the higher value between the variation to lease income and anticipated premium receipt.

60. Disposals Subject to Planning Agreements

When land held by the City of London Corporation as freeholder (whether as trustee of Bridge House Estates or otherwise) is approved for redevelopment subject to a planning agreement under Section 106 of the Town & Country Planning Act 1990, the following shall be solely subject to the approval of the Committee having control of such property or any properly authorised Officer:-

- (a) the inclusion of a condition within any disposal that the freeholder or lease holder must adhere to the terms of the planning agreement; and,
- (b) consenting to the City Corporation's land being bound by the planning obligations in the planning agreement.

PART 10 – Staff

61. Employee Handbook

The City of London Corporation's employment terms and conditions and the Code of Conduct for employees are contained within the Employee Handbook which is maintained by the ~~Establishment~~ Corporate Services Committee.

62. Officers

1. No person shall be eligible to be appointed or elected by the Court to any paid office if that person:-
 - (a) is a Member of the Court;
 - (b) has been a Member of the Court within 12 calendar months of the election, unless the paid office or situation has become vacant since the person ceased to be a Member of the Court.
2. If any person holding any place of emolument in the gift or appointment of the Court accepts the office of Common Councilman of the City, their place shall be immediately vacated.
3. The creation of posts of Grade I or above requires the approval of the appropriate Chief Officer, the Corporate Services ~~Establishment~~ Committee and the Court of Common Council. The re-designation of posts of Grade I and above, where there are no grading implications, must be referred to the Town Clerk or the Service Committee where appropriate.

63. Appointments

1. All appointments for Chief Officer posts are subject to the City Corporation's Chief Officer Appointment Procedure, subject to the appointment of the following posts being made by the Court of Common Council:-
 - Town Clerk & Chief Executive
 - Chamberlain
 - Commissioner of the City of London Police
 - Comptroller & City Solicitor
 - Remembrancer
2. All appointments for designated Deputy Chief Officer posts are subject to the Chief Officer Appointment Procedure.
3. A Member of the Court shall not request for any person any appointment with the City of London Corporation, but this shall not preclude a Member from giving a written testimonial of a candidate's ability, experience or character to the City of London Corporation with or in connection with an application for appointment.
4. Each Member and senior employee of the City of London Corporation shall disclose to the Town Clerk any relationship known to them to exist between themselves and any person whom they know to be a candidate for an appointment with the City of London Corporation. The Town Clerk shall report to the Common Council, the Committee or the Chief Officer making the appointment any disclosure made to him under this Standing Order.

(N.B. For the purposes of this Standing Order, 'senior employee' means the Chief Officer, their deputy, or an employee making the particular appointment, and persons shall be deemed to be related if they are husband and wife or if either of them or the spouse of either of them is the son or daughter or grandson or granddaughter or brother or sister or nephew or niece of the other, or of the spouse of the other, including in each case step or adoptive relationships).

64. Disciplinary Action

1. In the following paragraphs:
 - (a) “Chief Finance Officer”, “Disciplinary Action”, “Head of the Authority’s Paid Service” and “Monitoring Officer” have the same meaning as in regulation 2 of the Local Authorities (Standing Orders) (England) Regulations 2001.
 - (b) “Relevant Officer” means the Head of Paid Service (Town Clerk), Chief Finance Officer (Chamberlain) or Monitoring Officer (Comptroller and City Solicitor), as the case may be.
 - (c) “Commissioning Chairs/Chairmen” means the Chairs/Chairmen of the Policy and Resources Committee, Finance Committee and Corporate Services Establishment Committee.
 - (d) “independent person” means a person appointed under section 28(7) of the Localism Act 2011.
 - (e) “the Panel” means a Committee appointed by the Court of Common Council under section 102(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 for the purposes of advising the Court of Common Council on matters relating to the dismissal of Relevant Officers of the City of London Corporation.
 - (f) “Relevant Meeting” means a meeting of the Court to consider whether or not to approve a proposal to dismiss a Relevant Officer.
 - (g) “The Regulations” mean the Local Authorities (Standing Orders) (England) (Amendments) Regulations 2015.
 - (h) “Local Government Elector” means a person registered as a local government elector in the register of electors for the City of London Corporation in accordance with the Representation of the People Acts.
2. A Relevant Officer may not be dismissed by the City of London Corporation unless the procedure set out in the following paragraphs is complied with.
3. Any complaints regarding a Relevant Officer will be considered by the Commissioning Chairs/Chairmen. The Commissioning Chairs/Chairmen will manage and oversee the investigation of these complaints and determine the appropriate action to take.
4. Where the Commissioning Chairs/Chairmen consider there is a case to be answered that could result in dismissal, a meeting of the Panel will be convened.
5. If the Commissioning Chairs/Chairmen then recommend the dismissal of a Relevant Officer, the Regulations require that the decision to dismiss is approved by the Court of Common Council. The Regulations require that the Court of Common Council considers:

- (a) any advice, views or recommendations of a properly appointed Panel (the Statutory Officer Review Panel);
- (b) the conclusions of any investigation into the proposed dismissal; and
- (c) any representations from the Relevant Officer.
6. The Court of Common Council must invite relevant independent persons to be considered for appointment to the Panel, with a view to appointing at least two such persons to the Panel. “Relevant independent person” means any independent person who has been appointed by the Court of Common Council or, where there are fewer than two such persons, such independent persons as have been appointed by another authority or authorities as the Court of Common Council considers appropriate. This role will be fulfilled by the Independent Persons appointed to advise the ~~Standards~~ Independent Appeals Panel Committee.
7. The Statutory Officer Review Panel comprises the following Members of the Court of Common Council:
- The Chief Commoner;
 - Chair/Chairman of Planning and Transportation Committee;
 - Chair/Chairman of Port Health and Environmental Services Committee;
 - Chair/Chairman of the Markets Committee;
 - Chair/Chairman of the ~~Police Committee~~ City of London Police Authority Board;
 - ~~two of the three~~ Independent Persons appointed to the Independent Appeals Panel ~~advise the Standards Committee~~.
8. The Regulations state that the Independent Persons must be appointed to the Panel in accordance with the following priority order (subject to such relevant independent persons accepting the invitation):
- (a) a relevant independent person who has been appointed by the Court of Common Council and who is a local government elector;
- (b) any other relevant independent person who has been appointed by the Court of Common Council;
- (c) a relevant independent person who has been appointed by another authority or authorities.
9. The Court of Common Council must appoint any Panel at least 20 working days before the relevant meeting. In the event that this requirement sets a deadline for appointment of the Panel which falls between the first meeting of the Court of Common Council in any municipal year and the election of the Chair/Chairman of any of the Committees specified at Standing Order 64(7) above, the Chair/Chairman of the Committee for the previous municipal year will be

considered to continue to serve as the Chair/Chairman of the Committee and therefore be appointed to the Panel.

10. The role of the Panel is to review the findings of the disciplinary investigation and report of the Commissioning Chairs/Chairmen including any representations made by the Relevant Officer. The Panel is then to provide its advice, views or recommendations to the Commissioning Chairs/Chairmen.
11. Any remuneration, allowances or fees paid by the City of London Corporation to an independent person appointed to the Panel must not exceed the level of remuneration, allowances or fees payable to that independent person in respect of that person's role as independent person under the Localism Act 2011.
12. If dismissal is proposed, the Commissioning Chairs/Chairmen will report to the Court of Common Council with the findings of the investigation and the advice, views or recommendations of the Panel. The Relevant Officer will have the opportunity to make representations. Any action to dismiss the officer must be agreed through a vote of the Court.
13. Officers shall ensure that consideration of any disciplinary action relating to a Statutory Officer, including possible dismissal, shall comply with the provisions contained within the City of London Corporation's Statutory Officer Disciplinary Procedure.

PART 11 – The City Seal

65. Affixing the Seal

1. The City Seal shall not be fixed to any document unless:-
 - (a) the document has been approved by one of the Law Officers;
 - (b) the sealing has been authorised by a resolution of the Court or of a Committee to which the Court has delegated its powers on its behalf.
2. A resolution of the Court (or of a Committee thereof where that Committee has the power) to authorise the acceptance of any tender, the purchase, sale, letting or taking of any property; the issue of any stock; the presentation of any petition, memorial, or address; the making of any rate or contract; or any other matter, shall be a sufficient authority for sealing any document necessary to give effect to the resolution.
3. The affixing of the City Seal shall be attested by the Town Clerk or by their duly appointed representative or by the Comptroller & City Solicitor or by their duly appointed representative.

66. Register of Documents Sealed

The Town Clerk shall keep a Register recording details of each sealing.

This page is intentionally left blank

Committee(s): Policy & Resources Committee	Dated: 17 February 2022
Subject: Digital Services Committee	Public
Which outcomes in the City Corporation's Corporate Plan does this proposal aim to impact directly?	9
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: The Town Clerk and Chief Executive	For Decision
Report author: Polly Dunn, Principal Committee and Member Services Manager	

Summary

This report proposes draft terms of reference for a new Digital Services Committee.

Recommendation(s)

Members are asked to:

- Approve the draft terms of reference for the new Digital Services Committee for consideration by the Court of Common Council.

Main Report

Background

1. At its meeting in December 2021, the Court of Common Council approved a series of recommendations in response to the Governance Review.
2. These recommendations largely featured proposals for the deletion and consolidation of many Committees and Sub-Committees of the City Corporation. There were, however, proposals for the creation of two new Committees: the Pensions Committee and Digital services Committee.
3. The Pensions Committee is required in order to address essential legislative and regulatory changes. A report on the Pensions Committee can be found elsewhere on the agenda.
4. On digital services, it was felt that this sub-committee needed to be elevated to 'Grand' Committee status due to the fundamental significance and impact of digital services on the City Corporation (the role of which will only grow over time)

and the need to have the capacity to engage effectively with the various stakeholders across the organisation and beyond. It was felt that the Committee could provide the requisite coordination in approach and purpose. The Committee would also take on board responsibility for information governance, giving it a more robust and cohesive remit.

5. This report presents terms of reference for the standalone Digital Services Committee.

Current Position

6. Draft terms of reference for the Digital Services Committee have been provided at appendix 1.
7. The total proposed Membership of the Committee consists of up to 14 Members, six of whom are ex-officio based on the relevance of the work to Policy & Resources Committee, Finance Committee, the Police Authority Board and Bridge House Estates Board. The remaining eight are to be elected by the Court of Common Council. This ensures that the Committee stays within the guideline 12-15 strong memberships approved under the Governance Review.
8. In the event that the Chairman and/or Deputy Chairman do not wish to exercise their right of membership, it will be for the Chairman to determine a nominee or the nominees from their respective Committee.
9. It is proposed that for the initial appointments terms are staggered as follows: three four-year terms; three three-year terms; two two-year terms. This will ensure a blended turnover of membership over the coming years.
10. Quorum shall be any five Members, which is just over one third of the total Membership and standard across other Committees.
11. In terms of responsibilities of the Committee, this has largely been lifted from the existing Sub-Committee, with a few notable additions in the form of paragraphs (g), (h), (i), (j) and (k), with the additional reference to the “delivery of major digital projects” at paragraph (f).
12. In summary these additions grant the Committee additional powers in relation to the management of a relevant budget, oversight of necessary culture change, oversight of relevant strategies, delivery of an information management programme and information governance.
13. The revisions have been consulted upon by the Chief Operating Officer and Director of IT.
14. This Committee will be subject to a wider review of Governance changes to take place in the 18-24 months after its establishment. However, should there be an urgent need to reconsider arrangements, then this would be brought back to the Policy & Resources Committee at an earlier stage.

Implications

Strategic implications – It was determined under the Governance Review that this Committee will better enable the delivery of the City Corporation’s Corporate strategy.

Financial and resource implications – the move towards more efficient processes will inevitably lead towards reduced costs of bureaucracy and facilitate associated contributions to Target Operating Model and Fundamental Review savings.

Legal implications – None

Risk implications – As stated within the Terms of Reference at appendix 1, this Committee will be responsible for the risk management and risk assessment of all digital services.

Equalities implications – Under the Equality Act 2010, all public bodies have a duty to ensure that when exercising their functions they have due regard to the need to advance equality of opportunity between people who share a protected characteristic and to take steps to meet the needs of people with certain protected characteristics where these are different from the needs of other people and encourage people with certain protected characteristics to participate in public life or in other activities where their participation is disproportionately low. The proposals contained in this report do not have any potential negative impact on a particular group of people based on their protected characteristics.

Climate implications – No direct implications.

Security implications – No direct implications but the revised governance structure should lead to changes to IT and Digital security across the City Corporation.

Conclusion

15. Members are invited to discuss the draft terms of reference and to suggest any amendments. These are to be approved for final consideration by the Court of Common Council

Appendices

- Appendix 1 – Draft Digital Services Committee Terms of Reference

Background Papers

[Governance Review: Report to the Court of Common Council \(December 2021\)](#)

Polly Dunn

Principal Committee and Member Services Manager

T: 020 7332 3726

E: polly.dunn@cityoflondon.gov.uk

This page is intentionally left blank

KEAVENY, Mayor	RESOLVED: That the Court of Common Council holden in the Guildhall of the City of London on Thursday 21 st April 2022, doth hereby appoint the following Committee until the first meeting of the Court in April, 2023.
----------------	---

DIGITAL SERVICES COMMITTEE

1. **Constitution**

A Committee consisting of,

- up to 8 Members of the Court of Common Council
- the Chairman and Deputy Chairman (or the Chairman's nominees) of the Policy & Resources Committee
- the Chairman and Deputy Chairman (or the Chairman's nominees) of the Finance Committee
- the Chairman (or their nominee) of the City of London Police Authority Board
- the Chairman (or their nominee) of the Bridge House Estates Board

2. **Quorum**

The quorum consists of any five Members.

3. **Membership 2022/23**

VACANCY

VACANCY

VACANCY

VACANCY *(for a three year term)*

VACANCY *(for a three year term)*

VACANCY *(for a three year term)*

VACANCY *(for a two year term)*

VACANCY *(for a two year term)*

Together with the nominated Members referred to in paragraph 1.

4. **Terms of Reference**

To be responsible for:-

- a) overseeing the risk management and risk assessment of all digital services to ensure that the services provided allow the effective delivering of the Corporation's and the Police's business operations;
- b) overseeing IT and both physical and computer based Data Protection compliance;
- c) ensuring the appropriateness and effectiveness of the Digital infrastructure and services for the City of London Corporation and the City of London Police;
- d) ensuring that all appropriate actions are taken to assure the security, resilience and sustainability of all Digital systems;
- e) operating as an intelligent client for all major IT outsourcing arrangements which have been contracted to third parties;
- f) overseeing effectiveness and value for money of the digital services provision in all departments and delivery of major digital projects;
- g) approving the annual budget and capital programme for IT and Digital projects;
- h) overseeing the delivery and progress of digital skills and culture change in the organisation;
- i) overseeing the review and implementation of Digital, Information and Technology Strategies;
- j) overseeing the delivery of the organisation's information management programme;
- k) overseeing arrangements in respect of information governance; and
- l) leading arrangements for cross-departmental informal workshops, designed to provide an opportunity to help identify departmental IT and Digital requirements and give in-depth scrutiny to IT and Digital Services projects.

This page is intentionally left blank