



Policy and Resources Committee

Date: THURSDAY, 12 DECEMBER 2024
Time: 1.45 pm
Venue: COMMITTEE ROOMS, 2ND FLOOR, WEST WING, GUILDHALL

Members:

Deputy Christopher Hayward (Chairman)	Deputy Shravan Joshi MBE
Deputy Keith Bottomley (Deputy Chairman)	Alderman Vincent Keaveny, CBE
Tijs Broeke (Vice-Chair)	The Rt. Hon. The Lord Mayor Ald. Alastair King DL (Ex-Officio Member)
Caroline Haines (Vice-Chair)	Alderwoman Dame Susan Langley, DBE
Munsur Ali	Deputy Paul Martinelli
Deputy Randall Anderson (Ex-Officio Member)	Deputy Andrien Meyers
Deputy Henry Colthurst (Ex-Officio Member)	Deputy Brian Mooney BEM
Deputy Peter Dunphy (Ex-Officio Member)	Deputy Alastair Moss
Mary Durcan (Ex-Officio Member)	Benjamin Murphy
Helen Fentimen OBE JP	Alderman Sir William Russell
Steve Goodman OBE	Deputy Sir Michael Snyder
Jason Groves	Deputy James Thomson
Alderman Timothy Hailes JP	James Tumbridge
Jaspreet Hodgson	Philip Woodhouse
Deputy Ann Holmes	

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<https://www.youtube.com/@CityofLondonCorporation/streams>

A recording of the public meeting will be available via the above link following the end of the public meeting for up to one civic year. Please note: Online meeting recordings do not constitute the formal minutes of the meeting; minutes are written and are available on the

City of London Corporation's website. Recordings may be edited, at the discretion of the proper officer, to remove any inappropriate material.

Whilst we endeavour to livestream all of our public meetings, this is not always possible due to technical difficulties. In these instances, if possible, a recording will be uploaded following the end of the meeting.

Ian Thomas CBE
Town Clerk and Chief Executive

AGENDA

NB: Certain items presented for information have been marked * and will be taken without discussion, unless the Committee Clerk has been informed that a Member has questions or comments prior to the start of the meeting. These for information items have been collated into a supplementary agenda pack and circulated separately.

Part 1 - Public Agenda

1. APOLOGIES

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

3. MINUTES

To consider minutes as follows:-

- a) To agree the public minutes of the Policy and Resources Committee meeting on 7 November 2024 (Pages 9 - 18)
- b) * To note the public minutes of the Capital Buildings Board meeting on 25 September 2024
- c) * To note the public minutes of the Member Development and Standards Sub-Committee on 24 October 2024
- d) * To note the public minutes of the Resource Allocation Sub-Committee meeting on 30 October 2024
- e) * To note the public minutes of the Capital Buildings Board meeting on 30 October 2024
- f) * To note a public summary of the Competitiveness Advisory Board meeting on 11 November 2024

4. COMMISSION RESEARCH INTO THE CITY OF LONDON CORPORATION'S LINKS TO THE HISTORICAL TRADE IN ENSLAVED AFRICAN PEOPLE

Report of the Deputy Town Clerk.

For Decision
(Pages 19 - 28)

5. CIRCULAR ECONOMY FRAMEWORK FOR THE CITY OF LONDON CORPORATION

Report of the Executive Director Environment.

For Decision

(Pages 29 - 56)

6. **CAPITAL FUNDING UPDATE**

Report of the Chamberlain.

For Decision
(Pages 57 - 66)

7. **COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE LEVY AND ON-STREET PARKING RESERVES
CAPITAL BIDS (QUARTER 2 - 2024/25)**

Joint report of the Executive Director, Environment and Chamberlain.

For Decision
(Pages 67 - 92)

8. **GOVERNMENT CONSULTATION ON ENABLING REMOTE ATTENDANCE AND
PROXY VOTING AT LOCAL AUTHORITY MEETINGS**

Report of the Town Clerk.

For Decision
(Pages 93 - 100)

9. *** POLICY AND RESOURCES CONTINGENCY/DISCRETIONARY FUNDS**

Report of the Chamberlain.

For Information

10. *** TERRORISM (PROTECTION OF PREMISES) BILL - 'MARTYN'S LAW'**

Report of the City Remembrancer.

For Information

11. *** DECISIONS TAKEN UNDER DELEGATED AUTHORITY OR URGENCY
POWERS**

Report of the Town Clerk.

For Information

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

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

14. **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 - Non-Public Agenda

15. **NON-PUBLIC MINUTES**

To consider non-public minutes of meetings as follows:-

- a) To agree the non-public minutes of the Policy and Resources Committee meeting on 7 November 2024 (Pages 101 - 108)
- b) * To note the non-public minutes of the Capital Buildings Board meeting on 25 September 2024
- c) * To note the non-public minutes of the Resource Allocation Sub-Committee meeting on 30 October 2024
- d) * To note the public minutes of the Capital Buildings Board meeting on 30 October 2024

16. **PROCESS FOR APPOINTMENT OF REPRESENTATIVE MEMBERS TO UK CARBON MARKETS FORUM AND TO UK-CHINA GREEN FINANCE TASKFORCE**

Report of the Executive Director of Innovation and Growth.

For Decision
(Pages 109 - 132)

17. **CITIGEN AND HEAT NETWORK ZONING – INITIAL DECISIONS**

Report of the City Surveyor.

For Decision
(Pages 133 - 208)

18. **GRESHAM COLLEGE FUNDING ARRANGEMENTS**

Report of the Town Clerk.

For Decision
(Pages 209 - 220)

19. **REVIEW OF CITY RATE DISCOUNT OF GUILDHALL HIRE CHARGE**

Report of the Remembrancer.

For Decision
(Pages 221 - 230)

20. **UPDATE ON COMMISSION**

Report of the Remembrancer.

For Decision
(Pages 231 - 236)

21. *** LOCAL GOVERNMENT PENSION SCHEME - CASUAL WORKERS**

Joint report of the Executive Director of HR & Chief People Officer and Chamberlain.

For Information

22. *** DECISIONS TAKEN UNDER DELEGATED AUTHORITY OR URGENCY POWERS**

Report of the Town Clerk.

For Information

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

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

Part 3 - Confidential Agenda

25. **MINUTES**

To consider minutes as follows:

- a) To agree the confidential minutes of the Policy and Resources Committee meeting on 7 November 2024

26. **CITY OF LONDON PAY AWARD 2024/25 - UPDATE FOLLOWING TRADE UNION ENGAGEMENT**

Joint report of the Chief People Officer and Chamberlain.

For Information

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POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE

Thursday, 7 November 2024

Minutes of the meeting of the Policy and Resources Committee held at Committee Rooms, 2nd Floor, West Wing, Guildhall on Thursday, 7 November 2024 at 10.00 am

Present

Members:

Deputy Christopher Hayward (Chairman)
Deputy Keith Bottomley (Deputy Chairman)
Tijs Broeke (Vice-Chair)
Caroline Haines (Vice-Chair)
Munsur Ali
Deputy Randall Anderson (Ex-Officio Member)
Deputy Henry Colthurst (Ex-Officio Member)
Deputy Peter Dunphy (Ex-Officio Member)
Mary Durcan (Ex-Officio Member)
Helen Fentimen OBE JP
Steve Goodman OBE
Jason Groves
Alderman Timothy Hailes JP
Jaspreet Hodgson
Deputy Ann Holmes
Deputy Shravan Joshi MBE
Alderman Vincent Keaveny, CBE
Deputy Andrien Meyers
Deputy Brian Mooney BEM
Deputy Alastair Moss
Alderman Sir William Russell
Deputy Sir Michael Snyder
Deputy James Thomson
James Tumbridge
Philip Woodhouse

In attendance (in Guildhall)

Deputy Marianne Fredericks
Oliver Sells
Madush Gupta

In attendance (Observing online)

Alderwoman Elizabeth King
Deputy Edward Lord
Benjamin Murphy
Henry Pollard

Officers:

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| Ian Thomas CBE | - Town Clerk & Chief Executive |
| Gregory Moore | - Deputy Town Clerk |
| Polly Dunn | - Assistant Town Clerk and Executive Director of Governance and Member Services |
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| Jen Beckermann | - Executive Director and Private Secretary to the Chairman of Policy and Resources Committee |
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| Benjamin Dixon | - Town Clerk's Department |
| Sam Hutchings | - Town Clerk's Department |
| Gemma Stokley | - Town Clerk's Department |
| Emma Markiewicz | - Town Clerk's Department |
| David Mendoza Wolfson | - Town Clerk's Department |
| Chris Rumbles | - Town Clerk's Department |
| Kristy Sandino | - Town Clerk's Department |
| Emily Slatter | - Town Clerk's Department |
| Lisa Ward | - Town Clerk's Department |
| Michael Cogher | - Comptroller and City Solicitor, Deputy Town Clerk |
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| Caroline Al-Beyerty | - Chamberlain |
| Sonia Sharma | - Chamberlain's Department |
| Sonia Virdee | - Chamberlain's Department |
| Alessia Ursini | - Chamberlains' Department |
| Genine Whitehorn | - Chamberlain's Department |
| Dionne Corradine | - Chief Strategy Officer |
| Judith Finlay | - Executive Director of Community and Children's Services |
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| Damian Nussbaum | - Director of Innovation & Growth |
| Doris Chan | - Innovation & Growth |
| Omkar Chana | - Innovation & Growth |
| Daniel O'Byrne | - Innovation & Growth |
| Katie Stewart | - Executive Director, Environment Department |
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| Paul Wright | - Remembrancer |
| Peter Young | - City Surveyor's Department |
| Robert Murphy | - City Surveyor's Department |

The Chairman referred to the substantial agenda before Members today, with there being significant items due for consideration during the confidential and non-public parts of the agenda. The Chairman proposed a re-ordering of the agenda to allow for consideration of the confidential and non-public items during the first part of the meeting and then moving to the public agenda for consideration during the final part of the meeting, with Members offering their agreement to this approach.

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from The Rt Hon. The Lord Mayor, Benjamin Murphy and Paul Martinelli.

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

Caroline Haines declared an interest in respect of item 18 as a Director of the Financial Services Skills Commission.

Alderman Vincent Keaveny declared an interest in items 6 and 18 as Chair of Progress together.

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At this point in the meeting, the Town Clerk referred to the agreement of Members to take the confidential and non-public agenda items during the first part of the meeting.

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15. EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC

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

25. CONFIDENTIAL MINUTES

- a) The confidential minutes of the Capital Buildings Board meeting on 23 July 2024 were noted.
- b) The draft confidential minutes of the Freedom Applications Sub-Committee meeting on 17 September 2024 were noted.

26. MARKETS CO-LOCATION PROGRAMME

The Committee considered a report of the Comptroller and City Solicitor, Deputy Chief Executive relating to the future of the Markets Co-Location Programme.

16. NON-PUBLIC MINUTES

- a) The non-public minutes of the Policy and Resources Committee meeting on 17 October 2024 were approved as an accurate record.
- b) The non-public minutes of the Capital Buildings Board meeting on 23 July 2024 were noted.
- c) The draft non-public minutes of the Equality, Diversity & Inclusion Sub-Committee meeting on 4 September 2024 were noted.

17. BARBICAN CENTRE RENEWAL

The Committee considered a joint report of the Chief Executive Officer, Barbican, City Surveyor and Chamberlain relating to Barbican Centre renewal.

At this point in the meeting, in accordance with Standing Order 40, a decision was taken to extend the length of the meeting.

18. **FUTURE SKILLS AND TALENT - STRENGTHENING INNOVATION AND GROWTH SUPPORT FOR CITY COMPETITIVENESS, AND SUPPORTING PROGRESS TOGETHER AND FINANCIAL SERVICES SKILLS COMMISSION**
The Committee considered a report of the Executive Director of Innovation and Growth relating to future skills and talent.
19. **STRATEGIC PROPERTY ESTATE STRATEGY**
The Committee considered a report of the City Surveyor relating a Strategic Property Estate Strategy.
20. **APPOINTMENTS TO DESTINATION ADVISORY BOARD**
The Committee considered a report of the Deputy Town Clerk relating to appointments to Destination Advisory Board.
21. **NEW LONDON MUSEUM CLAIMS**
The Committee considered a joint report of the Town Clerk & Chief Executive and the City Surveyor relating to New London Museum claims.
22. **ASIAN INFRASTRUCTURE INVESTMENT BANK (AIIB) IN LONDON**
The Committee considered a report of the Executive Director of Innovation and Growth relating to Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank in London.
23. **QUESTIONS ON MATTERS RELATING TO THE WORK OF THE COMMITTEE**
There were no questions.
24. **ANY OTHER BUSINESS THAT THE CHAIRMAN CONSIDERS URGENT AND WHICH THE COMMITTEE AGREE SHOULD BE CONSIDERED WHILST THE PUBLIC ARE EXCLUDED.**
There were no additional items of business.

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At this point in the meeting, the Town Clerk confirmed the conclusion of the confidential and non-public sections of the agenda and sought Members' agreement to move to the public agenda and to re-admit Members of the public for its consideration, with Members agreeing to this.

For the benefit of the public viewing the meeting, the Town Clerk confirmed that the committee had already considered item 1 where apologies were received; item 2 there had been two declarations of interest.

3. **MINUTES**
 - a) The public minutes of the Policy and Resources Committee meeting on 17 October 2024 were approved as an accurate record.

- b) The public minutes of the Capital Buildings Board meeting on 23 July 2024 were noted.
- c) The draft public minutes of the Equality, Diversity & Inclusion Sub-Committee meeting on 4 September 2024 were noted.

4. **TERMS OF REFERENCE: ANNUAL REVIEW**

The Committee considered a report of the Town Clerk presenting terms of reference for the Committee as part of an annual review.

RESOLVED: That Members:-

- Approved the terms of reference of the Committee, subject to any changes proposed being incorporated, for onward submission to Court of Common Council in April 2025; and,
- Agreed that should any amendments be required, Delegated Authority be granted to the Town Clerk in consultation with the Chair and Deputy Chair, to consider the final wording of the revised terms of reference, for onward recommendation to Court of Common Council.

5. **REVIEW OF POLLING DISTRICTS AND POLLING PLACES**

The Committee considered a report of the Comptroller and City Solicitor providing an update relating to future arrangements for polling stations and polling places in the City to be used in National and London-wide elections.

RESOLVED: That Members: -

- Agreed the recommendations in the (Acting) Returning Officer's Report (set out in Appendix 1), that no change should be made to the boundaries of the polling districts, and that no change should be made to the location of the polling places within the polling districts.
- Approved any changes to Polling Places to be made under Delegated Authority by the Comptroller and City Solicitor, in consultation with the chair and deputy chairman, where a venue was unavailable, and an election was called at short notice.

6. **UN GLOBAL COMPACT AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS (SDGS) - COMMUNICATION ON ENGAGEMENT 2024**

The Sub-Committee considered a report of the Chief Strategy Officer relating to the City Corporation as a participant in the United Nations Global Compact (UNGC), being required to produce a Communication on Engagement every two years and seeking approval of its 2024 submission.

RESOLVED: That Members; -

- Approved the UN Global Compact and Sustainable Development Goals Communication on Engagement 2024 at Appendix 1.
- Authorised the Chief Strategy Officer, in consultation with the Chair and Deputy Chair, to approve any final changes which may be required

following Committee and once approved, authorise the Chief Strategy Officer to submit the Communication on Engagement 2024 for publication on the UNGC website, in accordance with the deadline of 19 December 2024.

- Noted the annual £550 + VAT membership fee to the UNGC, and that Officers would review our membership and the requirement for future reports, prioritising the value added to the City of London Corporation in doing our business.
- Noted that commitment to the UN SDGs was sustained through our policy and ongoing activities in the three themes previously agreed by members of the Policy and Resources Committee.

7. **PAN-LONDON SEXUAL HEALTH E-SERVICES PROGRAMME - CITY OF LONDON CORPORATION ROLE**

The Committee considered a joint report of the Director of Community and Children's Services and Chamberlain seeking approval to the City Corporation continuing to act as Lead Authority and the accountable body and host of the London Sexual Health Programme.

RESOLVED: That Members: -

- a. Approved that the City Corporation continues to act as the Lead Authority and accountable body for the procurement of a new Pan-London Sexual Health E-services contract and the host of the programme management service under an inter-authority agreement subject to:
 - i. those terms being satisfactorily agreed by all the participating authorities (including the City Corporation in the discharge of those functions acting through the Health and Wellbeing Board), and
 - ii. the City Corporation being satisfied that the arrangements adequately protect the City Corporation acting as the Lead Authority; and
- b. Agreed that the Executive Director of Community and Children's Services in consultation with the Chamberlain and Comptroller and City Solicitor be authorised to settle the terms of a new inter-authority agreement for the City Corporation as Lead Authority.
- c. Noted that once agreed in principle and terms were agreed including sign off of the new IAA, the procurement would proceed with adherence to the procurement code, via CoLC authorisation process.

8. **SUPPORT OF THE DEVELOPMENT OF A NEW CULTURE STRATEGY FOR THE CITY OF LONDON CORPORATION**

The Committee considered a report of the Town Clerk highlighting a need to support the development of a Cultural Strategy for the City of London Corporation and seeking approval of funding in support of its development.

RESOLVED: That Members: -

- Approved an application to the Policy and Resources Committee's 2024/25 Policy Initiatives Fund for £45,000 to support the development of a Culture Strategy for the City of London Corporation.

9. **RESEARCH INTO THE CITY OF LONDON CORPORATION'S LINKS TO THE HISTORICAL TRADE IN ENSLAVED AFRICAN PEOPLE**

The Committee were presented with a report relating to commissioning of independent research into the City of London Corporation's links to the historical trade in enslaved African people.

A question was raised regarding the impact of the research and whether the funds could be better used supporting disadvantaged people. It was suggested better value could be achieved through spending money on university students to explore the consequences of slavery and its modern implications. A question was also raised regarding the process for appointing the Professor to undertake the research.

The Deputy Town Clerk responded confirming the Director of the London Archives had departed the meeting owing to an urgent private appointment. Given the item was not time critical, the Deputy Town Clerk proposed holding it over to the next Policy and Resources Committee meeting in December to allow an opportunity for the Director to be able to respond to the points raised, with Members offering their agreement to this approach.

RESOLVED: That Members: -

- Agreed to the withdrawal of the item.

10. **INNOVATION AND GROWTH QUARTERLY REPORT**

The Committee received a report of the Executive Director of Innovation & Growth presenting the impact of the City of London Corporation's work in support of UK Financial and Professional Services between July and September 2024.

RESOLVED: That Members: -

- Received the report and noted its content.

11. **POLICY AND RESOURCES CONTINGENCY/DISCRETIONARY FUNDS**

The Committee received a report providing a schedule of projects and activities which have received funding from the Policy Initiatives Fund and the Policy and Resources Committee's Contingency Fund.

RESOLVED: That Members: -

- Received the report and noted its content.

12. **DELIVERING THE SQUARE MILE SPORT STRATEGY (2023-30) – UPDATE REPORT**

The Committee received a report of the Remembrancer setting out work that has taken place to deliver the City Corporation's new Sport Strategy – A Global City of Sport.

RESOLVED: That Members: -

- Received the report and noted its content.

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

One question was received from Jaspreet Hodgson as follows:

Representation to Government since autumn budget was presented.

A number of City businesses and workers have expressed concern and dismay at the negative impact that last week's Autumn Budget would have on their businesses, on the wider City economy, and on the attractiveness of the City as a place to invest. The independent Office for Budget Responsibility forecasts the budget would result in higher public debt, lower growth, and fewer jobs. What representations has the City Corporation made to the Chancellor of the Exchequer and/or HM Treasury on behalf of concerned businesses and workers since the Autumn Budget was presented?

The Chairman responded confirming that, as had been noted in his response to the budget, as the Government has taken the decision to raise taxes, and thus increasing the cost of doing business in the UK, it was vital these changes were balanced with measures to enhance our competitiveness. A coherent, stable, predictable and internationally competitive tax regime was essential; therefore, a *tax roadmap and the capping of corporation tax were positive steps in that direction.*

The City Corporation engages regularly with the Chancellor and wider Treasury team, representing the views of City businesses and the Financial and Professional Services (FPS) sector. The Chairman confirmed that he was shortly due to see the City Minister as well as officials at the Department for Business and Trade and had engaged with many Ministers across Cabinet while they were at Guildhall recently for the International Investment Summit, always representing the views of business and industry. As part of the City Corporation's convening role, the Chancellor would be hosted at the Financial and Professional Services dinner next Thursday where she can set in further detail her plans for maintaining the competitiveness of the UK FPS sector and businesses in the Square Mile.

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

Members noted that there was one additional item of business from the Chairman relating to EDI Sub-Committee.

EDI Sub-Committee

The Chairman referred to those Members being present at the last Court of Common Council meeting recalling that he raised the referral of a matter concerning a particular email, to the EDI Sub-Committee.

Sub-section e of the EDI Sub-Committee Terms of Reference sets out its responsibility to assess what the City of London Corporation does to tackle prejudice in all its forms and assess any further action that can be undertaken to promote inclusion.

On that basis, the Chairman confirmed that he would like to invite the Sub-Committee to consider this matter at their next meeting on 22 November. Although this had been suggested at Court of Common Council, to adhere to the City Corporation's governance process, formal referral was required via Policy and Resources Committee, with it being raised today for approval for onward referral to EDI Sub-Committee.

RESOLVED: That Members: -

- Agreed to referral of the item to EDI Sub-Committee.

The meeting ended at 12.17pm

Chairman

Contact Officer: Polly Dunn
polly.dunn@cityoflondon.gov.uk

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Agenda Item 4

Committee(s): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Culture, Heritage and Libraries – For Information • EDI Sub-Committee – For Information • Corporate Services Committee – For information • Education Committee – For information • Policy and Resources Committee – For Decision 	Dated: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 04/11/2024 • 22/11/2024 • 27/11/2024 • 02/12/2024 • 12/12/2024
Subject: Commission research into the City of London Corporation’s links to the historical trade in enslaved African people	Public
This proposal: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • delivers Corporate Plan 2024-29 outcomes 	Diverse, Engaged Communities
Does this proposal require extra revenue and/or capital spending?	Y
If so, how much?	£34,400
What is the source of Funding?	PIF
Has this Funding Source been agreed with the Chamberlain’s Department?	Y
Report of: Greg Moore, Deputy Town Clerk	For Decision
Report author: Emma Markiewicz, Director of The London Archives, Town Clerk’s Department	

Summary

The City Corporation’s commitment to equity, diversity and inclusion is integral to delivering our Corporate Plan and is fundamental to everything we do. As part of this, it is vital that we better understand and make transparent the history of the City Corporation, and this would include its historic connections to the Transatlantic Trade in Enslaved African People.

Recommendation(s)

Members are asked to approve an application to the Policy and Resources Committee’s 2024/25 Policy Initiatives Fund for £34,400 to commission a piece of independent research into the City of London Corporation’s links to the historical trade in enslaved African people (detailed further as option 2).

Main Report

Background

1. The University of Lancaster has recently completed a long-term research programme funded by UK Research and Innovation called The Register of British Slave Traders. They aim to publish their research in 2026, a key output of which will be a name-searchable database showing legacies, donations and any direct financial connections of individuals and institutions to the trade in enslaved African people.

2. This is a groundbreaking research project, which will open new avenues of historical research and enable new discourses about how our society is structured, and the foundations on which it was built.
3. The research will highlight a great many connections with the City of London, its institutions and individuals. It will also highlight how far the financial connections of individuals across the social spectrum benefitted from the trade, and how much of their investments in our key foundational systems and institutions (such as schools) came from financial rewards gained from the trade.
4. Other institutions which have been shown to have significantly benefitted from the trade in African enslaved people, such as the Bank of England and the Church of England have been proactively [explaining their connections to the historic trade in enslaved African people](#).
5. We have the opportunity to delve deeper into the University of Lancaster's research through conducting a bespoke and detailed piece of research specifically into the Corporation's own connections to the historic trade in enslaved African people. The institutional and individual links between the trade and the City Corporation will be significant. Proactively commissioning research to uncover and be open about the extent of this will enable the City Corporation to develop its own approach to communicating and owning its past.
6. This project will use the University of Lancaster's existing research and publicly available materials in The London Archives to identify all Lord Mayors, Sheriffs, Aldermen and Common Councillors of the Corporation of London who had direct financial connection between 1640 and 1807.
7. **Rationale:** Better understanding the connections of the City Corporation with the trade in enslaved African people will enable us to understand and own our past. It will enable us to develop our narrative to address our history and to devise a communication plan for our staff, members and the wider public. We can, if we wish, promote the work through various positive promotional activities and ensure that a narrative of transparency and understanding can be woven through our corporate story.
8. The project to 'retain and explain' the statues of Beckford and Cass in the Great Hall is ongoing. Whilst this project is a first for the City Corporation, we do not consider it to be in isolation and are seeking to build out from this starting point.
9. **Outcomes:** The research will provide a summary and report into the background history on the transatlantic trade in enslaved African people as well as the established connections between philanthropy and investment in the transatlantic trade in enslaved African people with a focus on the City of London. On approval, there would also be a set of promotional and engagement activities on completion of the research such as a meeting with affected Livery Companies, briefings to staff and Members, headteachers and governors at the relevant City schools; and a walking tour to place findings into their spatial contexts. For a more detailed set of outputs please see the attached report.

- 10. Strategic/Priority Link:** This work cuts across the Corporate Plan and the work of all Committees but particularly Policy and Resources, Culture, Heritage and Libraries, Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Sub Committee, Education Committee and the Corporate Services Committee in defining the story of our organisation and addressing its difficult past. This research will be the first milestone in developing our understanding and setting out a roadmap for how that history can be addressed, as has been done successfully in cities such as Amsterdam.
- 11. Economy:** None identified.
- 12. Delivery:** The report will be delivered to the project manager, the Director of The London Archives, who will work with colleagues in the Town Clerk's Department including the Communications team to develop a set of options for the next steps.
- 13. Evaluation:** The Director of The London Archives will work closely with the University of Lancaster during the research to evaluate and monitor progress.
- 14. Reporting:** The report will be shared with Policy and Resources Committee, Culture, Heritage and Libraries Committee, Corporate Services Committee, Education Committee, and the Equality, Diversity and Inclusion sub-committee.
- 15. Expenditure:** A fee of £34,400 for the University of Lancaster to undertake the research and delivery of engagement outputs (see Appendix 1). Further expenditure may be required to develop the next steps, such as a programme of events and activities to share the story.
- 16. Benefits:** The Corporation will have early understanding of a piece of research which will heavily associate it with the Trade in African enslaved people.

17. Options

There are two options which have been considered to date:

a. Option 1:

18. Do nothing. There is a considerable risk to the reputation of the City Corporation if we are unable to show engagement with this topic, and to show transparency and understanding of our past. There is considerable press interest in the topic of the trade in enslaved African people, particularly in its connection with the key government, financial and church institutions which have played a big role in shaping the history of our country.

b. Option 2:

19. Engage the University of Lancaster to undertake a piece of research using the data they have already collected, and the archives held by the City Corporation at The London Archives.
20. The outcome will be a greater understanding of the depth and breadth of the City Corporation's connections. This piece of research can be used in conjunction with

a report into the origin of the funds of the City Bridge Trust which is nearing completion.

21. The proposed research brief is attached at Appendix 1.

22. Option 2 is the recommended option. Once the report is completed it will be taken to Policy and Resources Committee to be agreed, and to approve next steps.

Corporate & Strategic Implications

23. Strategic implications – The City Corporation’s commitment to equity, diversity and inclusion is integral to delivering our Corporate Plan and is fundamental to everything we do.

24. Financial implications – It is requested that an allocation of up to £34,400 be drawn from your 2024/25 Policy Initiative Fund, categorised as ‘Research into the City of London Corporation’s links to the historical trade in enslaved people’ and charged to City’s Estate. The current uncommitted balance in the 2024/25 PIF is £1,048,846 prior to any allowances being made for any other proposals on this agenda.

25. Resource implications – The research project will be managed by the Director of The London Archives.

26. Legal implications – Not identified for this project. All contractors to be subject to the Corporation’s standard terms and conditions.

27. Risk implications

- a. Doing nothing will put the Corporation at reputational risk if it is not seen to openly and positively engage with this topic. There will be national and international press interest when the University of Lancaster publishes its findings in 2026.
- b. Engaging the University of Lancaster to undertake a piece of research may present some divergent views, which could affect the proposed promotional activity on this project. The mitigation is to use the delivery of a presentation to the Senior Leadership Team (SLT) as a project checkpoint when moving from the factfinding phase to the promotion/engagement phase. This would enable SLT to make an informed decision (based on the facts presented) to shape the promotion/engagement piece (i.e. the last four bullet points in the Course of Work, Appendix 1) within the available budget.

28. Equalities implications – none identified

29. Climate implications – none identified.

30. Security implications – none identified.

Conclusion

31. Option 2 is the recommended option. Once the research report is completed it will be taken to Policy and Resources Committee, Culture, Heritage and Libraries and Corporate Services Committees to be agreed, and to approve the next steps.

Appendices

- Appendix 1 – Proposal for research project investigating historic connections between the Corporation of London and the Transatlantic Trade in Enslaved African People

Background Papers

- None

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Proposal for Research Project Investigating the Historic Connections between the Corporation of London and the Transatlantic Trade in Enslaved African People (TTEAP)

The Project will:

1. Identify all Lord Mayors, Sheriffs, Aldermen, Common Councillors of the Corporation of London who had a direct financial connection to the TTEAP across 1640 to 1807 (the period in which Britain was active in the transatlantic trade in enslaved African people) by crosschecking names of Lord Mayors, Sheriffs, Aldermen, and Common Councillors against the list of confirmed traders in enslaved African people collated as part of the *Register of British Slave Traders* project.
2. Identify all Lord Mayors, Sheriffs, Aldermen, Common Councillors of the Corporation of London who promoted the TTEAP across 1640 to 1807
3. Identify legacies and donations from those in [1] and [2] to the City's Cash across 1640 to 1807
4. Track any institutional investments by funds managed by the Corporation of London into joint-stock trading companies active in the transatlantic trade in enslaved African people
5. Provide evidence of the connections between donations and legacies from those in [1] and [2] to the funds that later facilitated the purchase of open spaces now managed by the Corporation of London
6. Document connections between those in [1] and [2] to material culture (paintings, sculpture, silver etc.) in Corporation of London collections.

The work could commence in January 2025 and draft conclusions will be offered to the Board by the end of July 2025. It will be completed in dialogue with a related study commissioned by the City Bridge Foundation.

Leadership and competence

This work will be completed solely by Professor William Pettigrew who will act as a consultant to the Corporation of London and will work part time on this project alongside his other commitments. As Principal Investigator for and Editor of the *Register of British Slave Traders* project, is a leading historian of British slave traders, slave trading corporations, investment, and merchant philanthropy in the seventeenth, eighteenth, and nineteenth centuries. He has led similar research projects for several other foundations (including Oxbridge colleges, City of London livery companies, *Trust for London*, hospital foundations, and the *City Bridge Foundation* as well as private sector and arts organisations). This work has focussed on writing reports summarising each organisation's connection to the history of the transatlantic trade in enslaved African people for non-experts and framing this research in an accessible, credible, and sensitive fashion for diverse audiences and according to each organisation's requirements. In every case, this work has helped each organisation deepen its commitment to Equity,

Diversity, and Inclusion through expert and transparent engagement with history. Professor Pettigrew has broad expertise and experience in/of completing research projects of this kind, writing reports, and communicating the results to stakeholders from all backgrounds.

Course of Work and Budget

- Identification of relevant materials at the London Archives to finalise lists of Lord Mayors, Sheriffs, Aldermen, and Common Councillors and establish relevant financial and administrative records [2 days]
- Generating and crosschecking these lists of Lord Mayors, Sheriffs, Aldermen, and Common Councillors against lists of names from the *Register of British Slave Traders* database, which establishes direct financial links between individuals and the TTEAP [9 days]
- Establishing which Lord Mayors, Sheriffs, Aldermen, and Common Councillors promoted the TTEAP through cross-checking of names against administrative records of the Corporation of London, parliamentary records, petitions, and Board of Trade minutes [various archives, 5 days]
- Checking financial records for evidence of institutional investment by the Corporation of London in joint-stock trading companies active in the transatlantic trade in enslaved African people (note: these may have been held in the personal name/s of corporation officials) [3 days]
- Recording any benefactions and donations from the list of Lord Mayors, Sheriffs, Alderman, and Common Councillors to the City's Cash who were either/and financially connected to or promoted the TTEAP [4 days]
- Provide evidence of the connections between donations and legacies from confirmed traders in enslaved African people to the funds that facilitated the purchase of open spaces now managed by the Corporation of London (based on research completed for Trust for London). [2 days]
- Document connections between confirmed traders in enslaved African people who were also members of the Corporation of London to material culture (paintings, sculpture, silver, and other material culture in Corporation of London collections. [3 days]
- Writing project report [7 days]

This report will contain:

- An executive summary of the research findings
- A summary of relevant background history on the transatlantic trade in enslaved African people and the established connections between philanthropy and investment in the transatlantic trade in enslaved African people, with a focus on the City of London
- A tabulated list of Lord Mayors, Sheriffs, Alderman, and Common Councillors who had a direct financial connection with the TTEAP and/or promoted TTEAP listing also any donations and legacies to the City's Cash, listing donor, year, and amount.

- A list of any institutional investments by the Corporation of London in the transatlantic trade in enslaved African people.
 - A directory Lord Mayors, Sheriffs, Alderman, and Common Councillors with especially significant financial connections to or promotions of the TTEAP explaining their connection to and role in the history of the transatlantic trade in enslaved African people.
 - A section on connections between the research and schools and open spaces managed by the Corporation of London
 - An inventory of material culture owned by the Corporation of London and connected to the transatlantic trade in enslaved African people
 - A bibliography
-
- Submission of draft report to the Emma Markiewicz for initial feedback and preparation and delivery of a presentation of research findings to the Senior Leadership Team at the Corporation of London [1 day]
 - Promotion of work and findings within the Corporation of London through briefings to staff/members [2 days]
 - Promotion of work and findings through briefings with headteachers/governors/students at schools managed by the Corporation of London [3 days]
 - Promotion of work and findings within the Corporation through preparation and delivery of walking tour of the City of London to place research findings into their spatial contexts [1 day]
 - Responding to queries and suggestions from the Corporation of London and making any alterations to final report [1 day]

Budget

Forty-three days at £800 per day.

Total projected cost: £34,400

Professor William A. Pettigrew, FRHS, 27 September 2024

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Agenda Item 5

<p>Committee(s):</p> <p>Port Health and Environmental Services Committee – For decision</p> <p>Policy and Resources Committee – For decision</p> <p>Court of Common Council</p>	<p>Dated:</p> <p>19 November 2024</p> <p>12 December 2024</p> <p>09 January 2025</p>
<p>Subject:</p> <p>Circular Economy Framework for the City of London Corporation</p>	<p>Public report:</p> <p>For Decision</p>
<p>This proposal:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • delivers Corporate Plan 2024-29 outcomes 	<p>Dynamic Economic Growth Leading Sustainable Environment</p>
<p>Does this proposal require extra revenue and/or capital spending?</p>	<p>No</p>
<p>If so, how much?</p>	<p>n/a</p>
<p>What is the source of Funding?</p>	<p>n/a</p>
<p>Has this Funding Source been agreed with the Chamberlain’s Department?</p>	<p>n/a</p>
<p>Report of: Katie Stewart, Executive Director Environment</p>	
<p>Report author: Joanna Leyden, Waste Strategy and Biodiversity Group Manager</p>	

Summary

The Circular Economy is a system where materials never become waste and nature is regenerated. In a circular economy, products and materials are kept in circulation through processes like maintenance, reuse, refurbishment, remanufacture, recycling, and composting. A key objective of the Corporate Plan 2024-2029 is to ‘Implement a Circular Economy Strategy and embed circular economy principles into our building projects’.

This report outlines the City of London’s Circular Economy Framework which sets the foundation to achieve this objective. The framework outlines the vision: *The City of London Corporation as a circular organisation exemplifies, drives and innovates circular practices, leading the Square Mile as a circular city by 2040*, this aligns with the Climate Action Net Zero commitment.

This will be achieved by focusing firstly on our own operations and the changes we can make to be more circular, and secondly by leveraging the influence we have on the square mile to make this transition. The framework sets out an action plan to 2027 covering the key topics of:

- Waste and resources
- Portfolio and capital projects
- Procurement
- Built environment
- Food and beverage
- Training, communication and engagement

The circular economy is already a consideration across the organisation with work being undertaken by the Embodied Carbon Action Plan, Sustainable Procurement and the Sustainability Supplementary Planning Document (SPD). However, there is significant opportunity, both environmentally and economically, to be realised by having a clear and defined framework to benchmark, measure and monitor these disparate work streams.

The circular economy plays an integral part in the transition to a Net Zero future and in turn helps deliver the City Corporations Climate Action Strategy and its commitments to be net zero by 2040. Creating a circular economy in the Square Mile will help support existing businesses on their own sustainability journeys, whilst also creating space for new sustainable businesses to emerge.

Recommendation

Members are asked to:

- Approve the implementation of the Circular Economy Framework and the associated Action Plan 2024-2027.

Main Report

Background

1. All Waste Disposal Authorities in England, under the Waste and Emissions Trading Act 2003, must have a strategy for managing municipal waste. Long-term strategic planning is crucial for ensuring sustainable waste management and securing necessary infrastructure and service developments
2. The City Corporation's Waste strategy 2013 - 2020 is now out of date. This strategy solely focussed on the domestic waste produced by residents and visitors in the City of London. As a key action of the 'Leading Sustainable Environment' outcome of the Corporate Plan 2024-2029, the City Corporation has committed to: Implement a Circular Economy Strategy and embed circular economy principles into our building projects. This aligns with the Climate Action Strategy's Net Zero target for the City Corporation and supporting the Square Mile achieve Net Zero by 2040.

3. For the purposes of this report the City Corporation defines a circular organisation as an organisation that has embedded circular practices into all areas of operation and supply chain, makes decisions with circularity as a key focus, and continues to find new and innovative ways of working to drive greater circularity.
4. For the purposes of this report the City Corporation defines a circular city as a city that has made a systemic shift to prioritise the sharing of materials and resources for the greater benefit of society through more circular education, collaboration, and investment.
5. The Circular Economy Frameworks vision is to ensure the City of London Corporation exemplifies, drives and innovates circular economy practices, leading the Square Mile to become a circular city by 2040. It is intended to support and educate everyone who lives, works, learns and visits here to adopt circularity.

Current Position

6. The City of London consumes a significant number of resources and materials each year. From residents and workers to construction and demolition, there is significant potential for the circular economy to shift how the City of London operates for the better in its approach to resource use and waste generation.
 - a) The City Corporation FY22/23 spent circa £275,000,000 on purchased goods and services (excluding construction) which equates to a large volume of “stuff”.
 - b) In 2022 the Square Mile produced circa 287,000 tonnes of waste. Of that waste around 193,000 tonnes was inert, construction, and demolition waste making up around 67% of the total waste produced that year.
 - c) In the financial year 2022/23 there was 541,420m² of office floorspace under construction with 431,300m² permitted. This requires a huge amount of material not only to construct but also to furnish these spaces.
 - d) If on average there are 500,000 people entering the city Mon-Fri and if 2/3s of them use 1 disposable coffee cup each day, that equates to 83,820,000 cups a year.
7. Extensive internal engagement has been conducted to ensure the deliverability of this framework. As well as the Climate Action Team, officers have held comprehensive discussions with key departments including Planning, City Surveyors, and other relevant internal stakeholders. These discussions have been crucial in ensuring that the vision outlined in this framework is both practical and achievable and have helped shape a robust and deliverable framework that aligns with the City's broader objectives.
8. There is already a large amount of work being carried out within the Corporation across a number of departments to drive towards circularity. The emerging City Plan 2040 and recent Sustainability SPD outline a “retrofit first” approach to development in the city; the CAS are in the process of creating an embodied carbon action plan; and procurement are actively working with suppliers to

ensure the products we buy reduce waste and are moving up the waste hierarchy.

9. There is work that is needed to be done to bring our own internal waste practices in line with circularity which will require the training and engagement of our colleagues across the organisation as we currently do not have a view of the total amount of waste generated by the City Corporation.
10. The transition to a circular economy comes with many benefits:
 - a) For our residents it means greater support to repair and reuse items and greater access to recycling.
 - b) For our staff it provides a work environment that puts sustainable practices first and cuts waste from our operations.
 - c) For construction in the City of London it allows for creative, cutting-edge reuse techniques to be put in practice providing first class facilities.
 - d) For businesses in the City of London, it means office space will be sustainably designed, with better capacity for retrofit or built with material passports documenting material details to enable future reuse.
 - e) For our visitors it keeps the City of London as a thought leading place to be and visit.

Options

11. Do nothing. **Not Recommended.**
11. Approve the implementation of the Circular Economy Framework and the associated Action Plan 2024-2027. **Recommended.**

Proposals

12. If this Committee approves the implementation of the Circular Economy Framework, officers will start to deliver the actions outlined in the Action Plan 2024-27, a summary of which can be found in the Circular Economy Framework (Appendix A). The Action Plan will be a live document which will be updated on a 3 yearly basis running to 2040.
13. Whilst there will need to be a cross departmental approach from all areas of the City Corporation, the overall responsibility for its implementation will sit with the Gardens and Cleansing Team in City Operations, Environment Department. This is because it replaces the existing Statutory Waste Strategy, and the relevant expertise, experience, operational and strategic understanding (e.g. Chartered Waste Management with explicit Circular Economy training from the Circular Economy Institute) already exists within the team.
14. The first Action Plan running to 2027 will focus on establishing the baseline for a number of key circular indicators to understand the current performance of the City Corporation. It will also focus on creating a template framework for each major department to implement changes to support the transition required. This will require a level of accountability of from all departments.

15. The scope of the framework is split into two action plans, one for the City of London Corporation to ensure we are working towards circularity in our own operations, and one for the Square Mile which outlines how we can use our influence to support the transition of the Square Mile to become circular.
16. The 2024-2027 key focuses for the Corporation are:
- Waste and Resources
 - Portfolio and Capital Projects
 - Supply Chain
 - Training, Communication and Engagement
17. The 2024-2027 key focus areas for the Square Mile are:
- Built Environment
 - Food and Beverage
 - Training, Communication and Engagement
18. To ensure the action plans goals are achieved it will require input from all parts of the City Corporation. All departments will need to review how they operate and the changes they can make to improve, this will be supported by the Cleansing team. The aim of the framework is to provide an umbrella strategy, consolidating all the circular economy efforts across the business to ensure alignment in approach.

Key Data

19. An initial objective of the CE Framework is to establish a comprehensive baseline of a range of key data metrics. This includes waste figures, encompassing both domestic and commercial waste within the City of London but also non-traditional waste metrics such as reuse % and retro-fit vs new build.
20. It is important to note that there is no universally defined metric for the circular economy, so the corporation will focus on key data that we have at our disposal to measure and track progress as well as working closely with local and regional government agencies to ensure we are in alignment with best practice.

Corporate & Strategic Implications

21. **Strategic implications** – The CE Framework directly contributes to achieving an action of the Corporate Plan 2024-2029 along with supporting the ambitions of the Climate Action Strategy.
22. **Financial implications** - There is a small dedicated local risk budget assigned to the delivery of the framework. Officers will look to identify opportunities for external and internal funding to support the delivery of specific elements and projects, working with other departments and stakeholders on Climate Actions Strategy projects that have aligned priorities. It is envisaged that some of the work streams will identify potential savings and efficiencies.
23. **Resource implications** - There is an existing post in place to manage the delivery of the framework, with sufficient officer support within the Gardens and

Cleansing Team. Because of the proposed delivery methodology this will not be onerous on other teams/depts. There will be actions to complete, and some time commitment required from across the organisation to deliver but also long-term benefits to realise.

24. **Legal implications** - There are no direct legal implications at this stage and recommendations are compliant with legislation, including the City Corporation's obligations under the UK Climate Change Act (revised 2019), which has enshrined in law both a target of net zero emissions by 2050 and requirements for measures for climate adaptation (improved resilience). There are also a number of legislative changes that are coming into force such as Simpler Recycling, Extended Producer Responsibility, Deposit Return Schemes and Emission Trading Scheme, which have an impact on how we manage waste and support a transition to a Circular Economy. The Circular Economy Framework aligns with these legislative changes as they support the wider shift to a circular economy.
25. **Risk implications** - On implementation of the framework a Risks, Assumptions, Issues, and Dependencies (RAID) exercise will be completed to track and mitigate risks throughout delivery.
26. **Equalities implications** - Tests of Relevance and, if shown necessary, Equalities Impact Assessments will be carried out for all projects associated with the Circular Economy Framework.
27. **Climate implications** - The climate implications of the Circular Economy framework are positive in that the actions will help to reduce carbon emissions (particularly within Scope 3) for both the City Corporation and the Square Mile.
28. **Security implications** - There are no security implications arising from the recommendations in this report.

Conclusion

29. The transition to a circular economy presents a significant opportunity for the City of London to achieve its environmental and economic goals. By embedding circular principles into all areas of operation and supply chain management, the City Corporation can ensure that materials are reused, refurbished, and recycled, reducing waste and supporting the Climate Action Strategy's commitment to achieving net zero emissions by 2040.
30. The Circular Economy Framework serves as a comprehensive guide to this transition, outlining strategic actions and mechanisms to support the Square Mile in becoming a leader in this area. By creating an environment conducive to innovation and collaboration, the framework not only aids in reducing waste but also promotes the growth of new, sustainable businesses and enhances the city's attractiveness as a place to live, work, and visit.
31. The successful implementation of the Circular Economy Framework will require a coordinated effort across all departments of the City Corporation. With a clear

action plan for 2024-2027 and dedicated resources within the Gardens and Cleansing Team, the City is well-positioned to lead this change.

32. Establishing a baseline for key circular indicators and creating templates for departmental transitions are crucial first steps. Additionally, continuous engagement and education of residents, businesses, and visitors will be essential in fostering a culture of circularity. Through these concerted efforts, the City of London can drive significant improvements in resource efficiency, waste management, and overall sustainability, setting a benchmark for other global financial centres to follow.

Appendices

- Appendix 1 – Circular Economy Framework

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Circular Economy Framework



Page 57

City of London Corporation | October 2024



Contents

Executive Summary	3
What is the Circular Economy?	4
Why is the circular economy important to the City Corporation and the Square Mile?	6
How does the Circular Economy Framework align with the City Corporation’s existing strategies?	7
What is our Vision and Mission?	8
How will the City achieve Circularity?	9
1. The City Corporation	9
2. The Square Mile	9
The City of London Corporation Action Plan 2024–2027	10
The City of London Corporation Action Plan 2024–2027	11
The Square Mile Action Plan 2024–2027	12
Key Focus Areas and Milestones for Circularity	14
Glossary and Useful Definitions	15
Contact	15

Appendix 1 – Where the circular economy is in practice within the City Corporation.	16
Planning	16
Capital Build.....	16
Procurement.....	16
Waste and Recycling.....	16
Public Realm and Highways	16
Facilities Management	17
City Gardens.....	17
Appendix 2 – Governance and Monitoring	18

Executive Summary

This document outlines the City of London Corporation's Circular Economy Framework 2040. The Circular economy is a system where materials never become waste and nature is regenerated.

The transition to a circular economy requires a large systematic shift both in processes and ways of working. It will also require a change of mindset to adopt new practices and significant collaboration to ensure its success.

The City Corporation plans to approach these challenges by firstly looking internally at how we can adopt circular practices within our own operations and then looking at how we can act as a facilitator to the Square Mile to support its transition.

There is huge opportunity to be gained from making the transition, both environmentally and economically. The circular economy plays an integral part in the transition to a net zero future and thus in turn helps deliver the City Corporation's Climate Action Strategy and its commitments to be net zero by 2040. It will help support existing businesses on their own sustainability journeys, whilst also creating space for new sustainable businesses to emerge.

This document outlines a framework to circularity that will guide the transition needed to be made by different areas of the City Corporation whilst also outlining the mechanisms the City Corporation will put in place to support the Square Mile as a whole to make this transition.

Shorter term action plans are to be developed throughout the course of the framework to 2040. This allows for flexibility in an ever-changing field to ensure that the best approach is being taken and the right factors are being prioritised.

The action plan for the City Corporation operations 2024–2027 has particular focus on:

- Waste and Resources
- Portfolio and Capital Projects
- Supply Chain
- Training, Communication and Engagement

The action plan for the Square Mile 2024–2027 key focus areas for The Square Mile are:

- Built Environment
- Food and Beverage
- Training, Communication and Engagement

These areas were identified as having the most potential impact if circularity was embedded. City Corporation colleagues across many teams within the organisation will be required to collaborate to deliver the actions required. Performance measures have been set within these key areas which will be monitored on an ongoing basis with annual reporting of progress to the relevant committees.



What is the Circular Economy?

The Ellen MacArthur Foundation¹ defines the circular economy as “a system where materials never become waste and nature is regenerated. In a circular economy, products and materials are kept in circulation through processes like maintenance, reuse, refurbishment, remanufacture, recycling, and composting”.

This is wider than just looking at domestic waste recycling and even just waste minimisation. It is a system wide approach to resource management which recognises that there is a finite amount of resource which need to be managed in a more sustainable way.

The City Corporation recognises the need to make this transition and has included as a key action in its Corporate Plan 2024-2029 to:

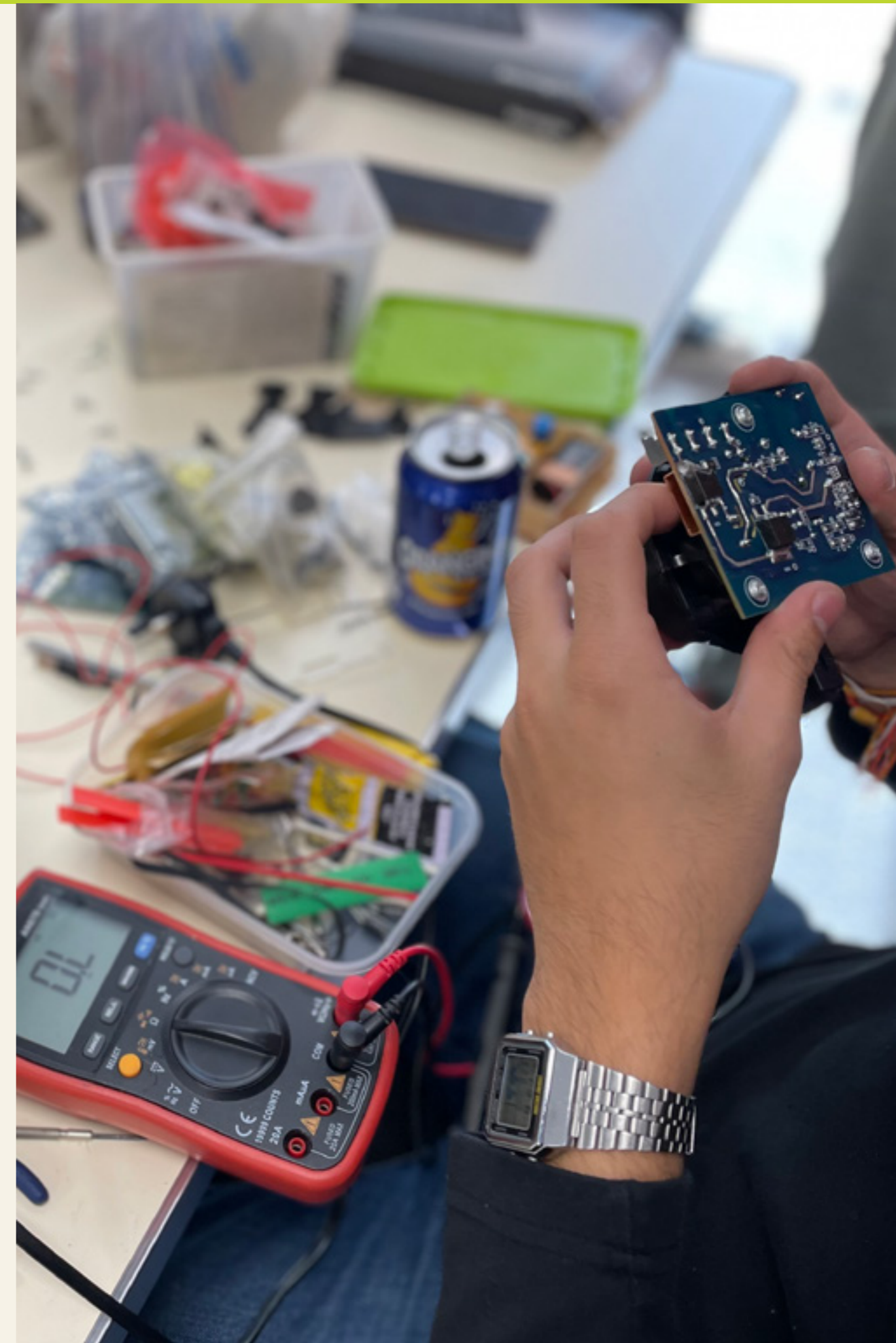
‘Implement a Circular Economy Strategy and embed circular economy principles into our building projects’.

The Corporate Plan also highlights the need to drive “dynamic economic growth”. The adoption of a circular economy framework supports the sustainability of this growth and has the potential to deliver demonstrable savings whilst also creating new opportunity in a greener more sustainable economy, such as through the generation of green jobs and technologies. The increase in reuse, repair, remanufacture and recycling creates huge opportunity for new and more efficient business practice.

Progress of the circular economy is already being made in many areas of the City Corporation:

- Circular economy guidance is being included in the Net Zero Design Standard from the Climate Action Strategy.
- [Planning for Sustainability SPD](#) introduces a number of key actions and measures to embed circular economy in development proposals.
- Increasing number of clothes, bikes and electrical repair sessions, and “Give and Take” opportunities for residents.
- Significant progress with regards to building a more sustainable supply chain through exploring refurb and reuse platforms. (see Appendix 1 for further detail).

However, it is clear a more focused and structured approach is required to educate both internal teams and occupiers of the Square Mile as to what the circular economy is and how best to work collaboratively to achieve it.



¹ How to Build a Circular Economy | Ellen MacArthur Foundation



Prolong: To support our residents prolong the life of their items we run Repair Workshops ranging from textiles to electricals and woodwork to both support with repair and teach repair techniques.

Reuse: Many items are thrown away when still in a usable condition. To avoid this, Give and Take days are run to provide the opportunity for residents to give away items they no longer need and take things they may have a use for.

Refurb: The emerging City Plan and Sustainability SPD requires development to take a 'retrofit first' approach, prioritising the retention and retrofit of existing buildings.

Recycle: Our household recycling rate 22/23 was 29.8 % with work ongoing to improve the opportunities for our residents to recycle in the Square Mile.

Why is the circular economy important to the City Corporation and the Square Mile?

The City is a leader on the world's stage for financial and professional services and so is uniquely placed to lead and support the transition to a circular, more sustainable economy.

The City consumes a huge amount of resources and materials each year. From residents and workers to construction and demolition, there is significant potential for the circular economy to shift how the City operates for the better.

- In 2022 the Square Mile produced circa 287,000 tonnes of waste.
- Of that waste around 193,000 tonnes was inert, construction, and demolition waste making up around 67% of the total waste produced that year.
- FY22/23 The City Corporation spent circa £274,000,000 on purchased goods and services equating to millions of items which have the potential to generate waste.

The transition to a circular economy comes with many benefits.

- For our residents it means greater support to repair and reuse items and greater access to recycling.
- For construction in the City it allows for creative, cutting-edge reuse techniques to be put into practice providing first class facilities.
- For businesses in the City, it means office space will be sustainably designed, with better capacity for retrofit or built with material passports documenting every material to enable future reuse.
- For our visitors the City of London becomes a more sustainable place to visit with facilities in place to make it easier to spend time here being circular as possible.

These elements will make the Square Mile a more sustainable and attractive place to live, work and explore.



How does the Circular Economy Framework align with the City Corporation's existing strategies?

The circular economy is already an integral concept for the City Corporation and is incorporated within several existing strategies and documents across a range of departments. This Circular Economy Framework is key to forwarding this ambition as it enables the consolidation of the data produced and progress made by all of these strategies to provide a holistic overview of the City Corporation's transition to a circular economy.

The City Corporation has published the [Corporate Plan 2024-2029](#). The implementation of a Circular Economy Strategy is highlighted under the 'Leading Sustainable Environment' outcome section in which it outlines a key action to 'Implement a Circular Economy Strategy and embed circular economy principles into our building projects'.

The City Corporation has set out its [Climate Action Strategy \(CAS\)](#) to achieve net zero across its operations by 2027 (Scope 1 and 2), across its full value chain and investments by 2040 (Scope 3) and support the achievement of net zero for the whole of the Square Mile by 2040. The circular economy impacts the Climate Action Strategy in a number of areas, namely: purchased goods and services; waste generated in operation; and embodied carbon, therefore playing a critical part in the City Corporation achieving net zero. There are a number of ongoing projects through the Climate Action Strategy that the Circular Economy Framework will closely align to such as the Sustainable Supply Chain project, Net Zero Design Standards and the Embodied Carbon Action Plan.

The City of London emerging City Plan 2040 highlights the importance of delivering world class sustainable buildings that are adaptable and informed by circular economy principles and treat materials as a resource. Further guidance can be found in the [Sustainability SPD](#).

In addition to environmental sustainability, this framework recognises the potential human impact of the production and manufacturing of goods, therefore reuse of materials already in existence helps to deliver on the City Corporation's [Ethical Policy and Modern Slavery Statement](#).



What is our Vision and Mission?

Vision

The City of London Corporation exemplifies, drives and innovates circular practices, leading the Square Mile as a circular city by 2040.



Mission

To support and educate everyone who lives, works, learns and explores here to adopt circularity.



Page 44

The City of London Corporation's definition of a circular organisation:

An organisation that has embedded circular practices into all areas of operation and supply chain, makes decisions with circularity as a key focus, and continues to find new and innovative ways of working to drive greater circularity.

The City of London Corporation's definition of a circular city:

A city that has made a systemic shift to prioritise the sharing and reuse of materials and resources for the greater benefit of society through more circular education, collaboration, and investment.

How will the City achieve Circularity?

The City Corporation and Square Mile aim to operate within a circular economy by 2040 which requires a systematic shift in how business and life operates to make it a reality. **The City Corporation is committed to making this shift.**

The circular economy is a constantly changing landscape with exciting developments occurring all the time whilst also being incredibly complex and impacting on a wide spread of operations.

To tackle this challenge an overarching framework to 2040 has been set out along with two accompanying action plans for the shorter term. This approach has been taken to ensure there is firstly, a **clear overarching strategic direction**, secondly, that **immediate progress** is being made and tracked, and also, that there is **flexibility of approach** to allow for changes in technology, legislation, and culture which will undoubtedly have an impact on the delivery of the circular economy.

The two action plans focus on the two key areas of scope:

1. The City Corporation

This encompasses all aspects that are under direct control of the City Corporation, including all local authority functions, green spaces, markets and institutions.

The key focus areas for The City Corporation are:

- Waste and Resources
- Portfolio and Capital Projects
- Supply Chain
- Training, Communication and Engagement

2. The Square Mile

This incorporates all activity within the boundaries of the City.

The key focus areas for The Square Mile are:

- Built Environment
- Food and Beverage
- Training, Communication and Engagement

Many of the actions that make up these plans are already underway and will run to March 2027 where their progressed will be reviewed. They consist of key performance measures for each focus area and sitting under those are detailed actions as to how these performance measures will be progressed and achieved.

From 2027 a new action plan will be created to continue work started and to add any new and relevant performance measures that need to be taken into account. This will repeat till we reach the goal of a circular city and organisation in 2040.



The City of London Corporation Action Plan 2024–2027

In this framework the City Corporation refers to all buildings owned and run by the corporation along with its local authority functions (i.e. residential waste).

Focus Area	Performance Measure	Key Actions and Comments	Key Stakeholders
Waste and Resources	Achieve recycling rate of 40% across the City Corporation.	<p>Provide more recycling services to all residents.</p> <p>Achieve all targets set out as part of the Reduction and Recycling Plan (RRP).</p> <p>Create a zero-waste framework for Corporation operational properties.</p> <p>Communication and engagement campaigns.</p>	<p>Waste Strategy Team</p> <p>Waste Strategy Team</p> <p>City Surveyors</p> <p>Corporate Coms with Waste Strategy Team Support</p>
	Achieve a reuse rate of 10%.	<p>Identify where reuse is already happening and create a baseline.</p> <p>Ensure processes are in place to help facilitate reuse within the organisation.</p> <p>Continue to support residential reuse.</p>	<p>Waste Strategy Team with FM/Building manager support</p> <p>FM/Building manager with Waste Strategy Team and Procurement support</p> <p>Waste Strategy Team</p>
	Reduce waste by 10% per employee based on a 2022 baseline.	<p>Calculate the 2022 baseline.</p> <p>Work with facilities management/building management teams to highlight reduction opportunities.</p>	<p>Waste Strategy Team</p> <p>Waste Strategy Team and FM</p>
	Monitor and reduce associated carbon emissions.	<p>Work with the CAS team to collect and monitor this data for the Square Mile and the City Corporation.</p>	<p>Waste Strategy Team and CAS team</p>
Portfolio and Capital Projects	Increased incorporation of the Net Zero Design Standards for City Corporation Projects.	<p>Understand the baseline for current project uptake of the Design Standards.</p> <p>Use the Design Standard tracker to monitor uptake.</p>	<p>Resilience and Sustainable Design Coordinator</p>
	Project standardisation to include CE standards.	<p>Circular economy standards to be included in new standardisation programme for all projects.</p>	<p>Commercial Director</p> <p>Portfolio Management Implementation Lead</p>
	Inclusion of Green Leasing Clauses in all new contracts for leased properties.	<p>Circular economy requirements to be included in Green Leasing clauses.</p>	<p>City Surveyors</p>

The City of London Corporation Action Plan 2024–2027

Focus Area	Performance Measure	Key Actions and Comments	Key Stakeholders
Supply Chain	The number of contracts that include the climate and CE metric: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 75% new contracts by April 2027 Overall 40% of contracts by 2027 	Specific circular economy requirements included in the climate metric.	Responsible Procurement Team
	Collect and share 5 case studies per year from across the supply chain demonstrating best practice in the circular economy.	This should include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Split of material tonnage per treatment type Carbon savings Cost saving 	Responsible Procurement Team
	Baseline the financial impact of the circular economy.	Baseline current spend on circular products and services. Begin to understand the cost implications associated with circular solutions vs traditional disposal. Work with purchasing team to see if circular activities could be added as a product category	Waste Strategy Lead and Responsible Procurement Team
Training and Engagement	65% of City Corporation employees trained on circular economy.	Set up an online training module within City Learning.	Waste Strategy Lead, CAS and Climate Champions
	Annually host 4 events for residents, 2 events for colleagues and 2 public facing campaigns.	Events to both educate on and facilitate the circular economy.	Waste Strategy Team
	Trial 2 new circular innovations.	Ensure the City is staying up to date with new circular market trends through new innovations and technologies.	Waste Strategy Team

The Square Mile Action Plan 2024–2027

The City Corporation will act as facilitator in the transition of The Square Mile to a circular economy.

Focus Area	Performance Measure	Key Actions and Comments	Key Stakeholders
Built Environment	Increase reuse and retention % in construction.	<p>Work with applications and large construction companies to create a baseline of current reuse using post completion circular economy statements.</p> <p>Support the standardisation of how circular economy is reported in pre-redevelopment and pre-deconstruction audits.</p> <p>Ongoing monitoring of reuse and retention data collected in post-construction reporting.</p> <p>Measure the percentage of retained structure, facades and other elements.</p> <p>Identify and encourage cross-business collaboration actions which increase the reuse of materials in construction.</p>	<p>Planning and Development Teams, Waste Strategy Lead</p> <p>Collaboration with Local Authority network</p>
	Reduction of embodied carbon in the Square Mile.	<p>Baseline to be created through the Embodied Carbon Action Plan.</p> <p>Value-Based assessment of material consumption as it is important to ensure the retainment of high value materials.</p> <p>Work with and align with the Embodied Carbon Action Plan.</p> <p>Support in the education and engagement of developers operating in the Square Mile.</p> <p>Ongoing monitoring of post-completion whole life-cycle carbon assessments.</p>	<p>Planning and Development Teams</p> <p>Square Mile Partnership Group</p> <p>Support from Waste Strategy Lead</p>
	Increase in uptake of material passports	<p>Track the number of projects that are utilising material passports in construction to better support their future reuse.</p> <p>Track the number of projects that are utilising material passports pre-demolition in order to plan for the materials next use.</p>	<p>Planning and Development Teams</p>

The Square Mile Action Plan 2024–2027:

Focus Area	Performance Measure	Key Actions and Comments	Key Stakeholders
Food and Drink	Increase the number of food and drink outlets that promote reusables.	<p>Run a city-wide campaign to promote reuse.</p> <p>Engage with businesses through environmental health, licensing, and Clean City Award Scheme.</p> <p>Trial a cup club within the City to promote the use of reusables.</p>	Waste Strategy team
	Food waste monitoring.	<p>Monitor the diversion of food waste from general waste by tracking volumes against each other.</p> <p>Work with Veolia and Clean City Award Scheme members to gather data.</p> <p>Work with Eat Like a Londoner to continue campaign work across the City.</p>	Waste Strategy team
Training and Engagement	Increase the number of businesses with a Circular Economy Strategy by 10% year on year.	<p>Engage with businesses in the Square Mile and create a baseline.</p> <p>Hold training and engagement sessions, best practice meetings and run campaigns to increase awareness of the circular economy.</p>	Waste Strategy Team
	Facilitate greater collaboration with businesses in the city around the circular economy.	<p>Host a hackathon to drive innovation and idea sharing with key businesses within the City.</p> <p>Ensure the City Corporation is an active participant of circular working groups and facilitate these working groups.</p>	Waste Strategy Team
	Training offered to 50 businesses within the City.	Work with Heart of the City to raise the profile of the circular economy.	Waste Strategy Lead and HoTC

Key Focus Areas and Milestones for Circularity

2024 – 2027

Baselining different circularity indicators to understand current performance.

Training and engagement of both City Corporation employees and residents of the Square Mile about the circular economy.

Embedding circular practices within both internally and externally facing policy.



How this will help us to achieve a circular economy

Baselining the data allows for the progress of the framework to be continuously tracked.

By building education and awareness of the circular economy it allows for changes to be more easily embedded and accepted.

Policy is a great way to provide guidance of best practice and supports industry to make bold changes.

2027 – 2030

Ensure suppliers are helping to facilitate the City to operate in a circular manner.

City wide commitment to a circular economy.



Suppliers are a critical part of the circular economy and it is important to bring them along on the journey in order to jointly benefit from the changes they implement.

Having key businesses and organisations committing to a circular economy provides momentum behind the drive to change.

2030 – 2035

Circular construction is becoming standard practice.

Sharing economy becomes an easily accessible reality for residents and businesses within the Square Mile.



Circular practices in construction ensures the continued attraction of new business and development to the Square Mile and ensures the sustainability of office space for generations to come.

A sharing economy prioritises reuse as opposed to purchasing new, a key element of the circular economy.

2035 – 2040

Creation of circular jobs within the square mile and within the City Corporation's supply chain.

Circularity is a key criterion for all decision making with in the City Corporation.



Circular jobs are a key indicator that new sustainable employment has been created as a result of a transition to a circular economy.

By having circularity as a key consideration for all decisions ensures that progress will continue to be made into the future.

2040

The City of London Corporation will be a net zero and circular organisation and the Square Mile will operate as a net zero and circular city.

Glossary and Useful Definitions

Deep retrofit: A retrofit involving significant works to the building fabric and results in a fundamental change to the building structure and/or services. Deep retrofits retain 50% or more of the existing building (by mass) and should aim to retain the existing super-structure and substructure, the most carbon-intensive elements. It may include changes to the building envelope including glazing, openings, façade and roof elements, central MEP upgrades.

Fit-out: The process of making a building or space suitable for occupation, either the first fit-out of a new build or re-fitting an existing building. Works, generally internal, can include services, finishes, fixtures, and furnishings.

Light retrofit: A retrofit involving relatively minor interventions, basic fabric improvements, replacement or adaptation of existing building elements to improve performance. Light retrofit is usually minimally invasive. It may include upgrades to the heat source and ventilation systems, loft insulation, cavity wall insulation.

New build: Developments where more than 50% of the building is demolished, the building will be classified as a new build.

Refurbishment: A range of improvement works, including repair, cleaning, refinishing and re-equipping to improve the condition, function, or performance of an existing building. Refurbishment works may form part of a retrofit strategy, contributing to an improvement in energy efficient and sustainability.

Retrofit: The upgrading of a building in relation to the installation of new building systems or building fabric to improve efficiency, reduce environmental impacts and/or adapt for climate change.

Retrofit with new build: Developments where less than 50% of the existing slab area is demolished, and the building is extended.

Reuse: The direct reuse of a product or materials for the purpose for which it was originally intended without significant modification. (Small adjustments and cleaning of the component or product may be necessary to prepare for the next use).

Substantial demolition: Development consisting of the removal, deconstruction, or demolition of 50% or more of the existing super and sub structure.

Total Demolition: Development consisting of the removal, deconstruction, or demolition of an existing building. Façade retention is not considered to be a carbon reduction measure due to the carbon impact of temporary works.

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Appendix 1 – Where the circular economy is in practice within the City Corporation.

Planning

Circular economy within current planning policy:

- Strategic Policy S16: Circular Economy and Waste: Co-operation with other Waste Planning Authorities to manage the City's residual waste, apportionment targets, safeguarding the wharf to provide riparian access for sustainable transport of waste
- Policy CE1 Zero Waste City: Developments designed to promote CE principles throughout the life cycle of a building, developments should incorporate waste facilities
- Policy CE2: Sustainable Waste Transport

Planning for Sustainability SPD: An SPD has been developed as part of a suite of wider policies and strategies to support sustainable development within the City. The SPD will help to bridge the gap between the Circular Economy Statement requirements for large referable schemes and the other schemes requesting planning permission within the City as well as providing wider sustainability advice to developers.

London Plan: All planning applications referred to the Mayor must include a [Circular Economy Statement](#) as required by draft London Plan Policy S17 and prepared in accordance with the Mayors guidance document. [Policy S17](#) also covers resource efficiency in the construction process and in the design, use and end-of-life of buildings.

Capital Build

Net Zero Design Guide: The Net Zero Design Guide provides standards to which new developments and major refurbishments can be designed, constructed and operated to support the City Corporation's net zero Commitments. The Design Guide will be a mandatory document that will impact RIBA Stages 1 and 2 of design and construction.

The Standard provides designers and developers with consistency in the definition of good practice and greater clarity on the delivery of environmentally sound and cost-efficient buildings, facilities, and overall high sustainability performance across the asset life cycle.

Procurement

Using procurement to reduce the use of Single Use

Plastics: The City Corporation has been incorporating circular economy clauses into a number of different service contracts including Education, and Cleaning. It's also focussed on the use of Single Use Plastics (SUP) and through the adoption of an SUP Policy the City Corporation has influenced suppliers and contractors to minimise the use of single-use plastics in their service provision and find sustainable alternatives (where practicable), or biodegradable and/or recyclable where unavoidable. This has also included working with suppliers to restrict the purchasing of SUPs through online catalogues .

Leading by example the City Corporation developed a Plastic Free City Scheme which has supported 106 City businesses to eradicate tens of millions of single-use plastic items , including over 620,000 plastic straws, 19 million cups, and 12 million items of cutlery.

Waste and Recycling

Tech Takeback: The City Corporation working with Tech Takeback have run a number of popup events encouraging anyone with unwanted tech to donate them for reuse and refurbishment. The items (once data is erased) are donated directly to people in need or via reuse site Freegle.

Supporting reuse: General goods with a value of less than £5,000 can be uploaded to WarpIT – the reuse platform on the intranet. This allows all City Corporation staff to view what's available and transfer goods between departments, reducing procurement costs and benefiting the environment. IT equipment can be logged with the IS Service Desk for reuse, donation, re-sale to staff or recycling.

Recycling: Each site has access to recycling and food waste recycling facilities where staff can recycling paper and card, bottles and cans, plastic pots tubs and trays and cartons as well as food waste.

Public Realm and Highways

City Public Realm Materials Review – Sustainability in

Public Realm Design: For the City Corporation the materials selected for use within the public realm need to serve both aesthetic and practical purposes as well as meeting social and environmental conditions. The Public Realm team commissioned the development of a material selection tool, to support decision making. The guide, developed by Hawkins Brown, takes into consideration ten commonly used materials within the square mile and assesses them against a range of 14 principles including embodied carbon, ethical sourcing, climate resilience and heat absorption, lifespan, maintenance impacts, recyclability/ reuse, aesthetics, cost, flooding, water stress, overheating, biodiversity loss, pests and diseases, and disruption to infrastructure. The tool prompts users to consider important questions connected with the need for specific materials and these prompts guide the user down a process of material selection. From a circular economy perspective a number of principles are embedded within the process from lifespan and longevity, need for maintenance and cleaning and end of life options.

Facilities Management

Reuse of floor panels – saving money and supporting a circular economy: One of the City Corporation's minor works contractors – Sykes – were able to reuse 110 raised access floor panels. During a refurbishment of 15–17 Eldon Street the contractor spotted an item that could potentially be reused elsewhere – floor tiles and tried to identify a circular solution.

Another CAT A refurbishment was underway at 4–7 Chiswell Street and the existing raised floors were due to be retained but, required a large number of raised floor tile replacements. The flooring was an obsolete Tate Flooring system which the contractor was unable to source any replacements replacement for. As the raised floor tiles stripped out of 15–17 Eldon St. were also from an obsolete Tate system, and the contractor had been unable to find a taker for them the senior commercial manager on site took one to Chiswell St. to see if it was a match. Fortunately, it turned out that they were an exact match, so they were able to re-use 110 tiles that would otherwise have gone to a recycling scheme or potentially disposal.

City Gardens

Top Soil reuse: Topsoil is the uppermost layer of soil and is rich in nutrients and organic matter. It's vital for food production but also in supporting biodiversity and globally we're at risk of losing it. The City Corporation's Climate Action Strategy funding helped to pay for soil testing for the Jubilee Gardens redevelopment. During site works topsoil was removed and stored ready to be re-used when it was time for soft landscaping work. The benefits of this approach was that the soil scientist could provide a view on whether the organic content was too high or low for the site. The challenges of this approach in general can be high costs but also identifying suitable storage if there isn't capacity on-site. Although the majority of sub-soils can be reused or mixed for reuse top soil can present larger challenges. This approach will be considered again.



Appendix 2 – Governance and Monitoring

The progress on the transition to a circular economy will be under constant review and monitoring.

The first action plan running to 2027 will focus on establishing the baseline for a number of key circular indicators to understand the current performance of the City Corporation. It will also focus on creating a template framework for each major department to implement to support the transition required from each team.

There is a small, dedicated budget devoted to embedding circularity managed through the Gardens and Cleansing team. However, there is a large emphasis on collaboration from every department as all have a key part to play in adapting their work in order to progress the circular economy.

There are a number of key projects that are underway that are funded by the Climate Action Strategy which are key pillars of the circular economy such as the Sustainable Supply Chain project carried out by Responsible Procurement and the Embodied Carbon Action Plan being carried out by Planning. The Circular Economy Framework will align closely with these projects and ensure that data and findings are shared.

It is the responsibility of the Waste Strategy and Biodiversity Group Manager in the Gardens and Cleansing Team to lead the framework and manage progress. This will be done with the support of key stakeholders and through reporting into the following groups:

- Monthly meetings with Circular Economy Working Group made up of stakeholders from across the organisation who own and are working on actions.
- Meetings every 6 months with a Circular Economy Partnership Group made up of internal and external stakeholders who will help to advise on best practice and the development of the framework.
- Annually progress will be reported to the Port Health committee providing an update on the transition to a circular economy.



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Agenda Item 6

Committee(s): Resource Allocation Sub Committee Policy & Resources Committee	Date(s): 11 th December 2024 12 th December 2024
Subject: Capital Funding Update	Public
Which outcomes in the City Corporation's Corporate Plan does this proposal aim to impact directly?	The schemes for which funding is now requested span across a range of corporate outcomes
For City Bridge Foundation (CBF), which outcomes in the BHE Bridging London 2020 – 2045 Strategy does this proposal aim to support?	
Does this proposal require extra revenue and/or capital spending?	Yes
If so, how much?	£2.1m
What is the source of Funding?	£2.1m - City Fund
Has this Funding Source been agreed with the Chamberlain's Department?	Yes
Report of: The Chamberlain	For Decision
Report author: Yasin Razaq, Capital and Projects Manager	

Summary

The purpose of this report is for Members to consider release (following gateway approvals) to allow schemes to progress.

Members are reminded of the two-step funding mechanism for capital funding

- Firstly, within available funding, 'in principle' approval to the highest priority bids is sought and appropriate provisions are set aside in the annual capital and revenue budgets within the MTFPs.
- Secondly, following scrutiny via the gateway process to provide assurance of robust option appraisal, project management and value for money, Members are asked to confirm that these schemes remain a priority for which funding should be released at this time.

Members need to consider release (following gateway approvals) to allow schemes to progress.

Release of £2.1m to allow progression of four schemes summarised in Table 1 'Project Funding Requests' is now requested.

Recommendations

Resource Allocation Sub Committee Members and Policy & Resources Committee are requested:

- (i) To review the schemes summarised in Table 1 and, particularly in the context of the current financial climate, to confirm their continued essential priority for release of funding at this time and accordingly:
- (ii) To agree the release of up to £2.1m for the schemes progressing to the next Gateway in Table 1 from City Fund £2.1m (including £0.4m for OSPR and £0.6m from CIL)

Main Report

Background

1. Schemes have been approved in principle through the annual capital budget setting process and the CIL and OSPR quarterly approvals but they are to subject a drawdown approval when the funding is required to progress
2. The scope of this prioritisation relates only to those funded from central sources, which include the On-Street Parking Reserve, Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL), flexible external contributions and allocations from the general reserves of City Fund, City's Cash or CBF¹. This means that projects funded from most ring-fenced funds, such as the Housing Revenue Account, Designated Sales Pools and Cyclical Works Programmes *are excluded*, as well as schemes wholly funded from external grants, and tenant/developer contributions e.g. under S278 agreements and S106 deposits.
3. Members are reminded of the two-step funding mechanism via the annual capital bid process:
 - Firstly, 'in principle' approval to the highest priority bids within available funding is sought and appropriate provisions are set aside in the annual capital and revenue budgets and the MTFPs.
 - Secondly, following scrutiny via the gateway process to provide assurance of robust option appraisal, project management and value for money, RASC is asked to confirm that these schemes remain a priority for which funding should be released at this time.

Current Position

4. The total amount of funding available to draw down for approved schemes is shown in Appendix 1.

¹ Contributions from City Bridge Foundation are limited to its share of corporate schemes such as works to the Guildhall Complex or corporate IT systems and are subject to the specific approval of the City Bridge Foundation

Current Requests for the Release of Funding

5. There are four schemes with 'in principle' funding approved as part of the capital bids that have progressed through the gateways, for which release of up to £2.1m is requested:

Table 1 Project Funding Requests

Table 2: Project Funding Requests	Gateway	CIL/OSP R	City Fund £m	City's Estate £m	City Bridge Foundat ion £m	Total £m
Funding to progress to the next gateway						
Vision Zero Programme	GW2	OSPR	0.115			0.115
Enhancing Cheapside	GW2	OSPR	0.330			0.330
Transforming Fleet Street	GW2	CIL	0.565			0.565
Replacement of the Foreshore River Defences	GW5		1.060			1.060
			2.070	-	-	2.070

6. Further details of the individual schemes are provided in Appendix 2 attached.
7. In accordance with step two of the capital funding mechanism, Members will wish to confirm that these schemes remain a priority for funding to be released at this time particularly in the context of the current financial climate.
8. Funding for these schemes can be met from the provisions set aside from City Fund £2.1m.

Conclusion

9. Members are requested to:

1) review the above and consider in the context of the completion of the capital review and the current financial climate their continued support for the schemes requesting internal resources to proceed, and;

2) Approve the associated release of funding in Table 1.

Appendices

Appendix 1 - Approved Bids

Appendix 2 - Requests for Release of Funding – Scheme Details

Background Papers

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Project Name	City Fund £'m	City's Cash £'m	CBF £'m	Total Funding Allocatio n £'m	Release of Funding Previously agreed	Release of Funding now requeste d
Barbican Replacement of Art Gallery Chiller	0.300	0.000	0.000	0.300	0.018	
Car Park - London Wall Joints and Waterproofing	2.000	0.000	0.000	2.000	0.783	
Guildhall event spaces - Audio & Visual replacement / upgrade	0.000	0.330	0.000	0.330	0.045	
Guildhall Yard - Refurbishment/ Replacement of Paviments	0.000	3.000	0.000	3.000	-	
I.T - Rationalisation of Financials, HR & Payroll Systems (ERP project)	14.800	11.700	1.300	27.800	19.100	
LMA : Replacement of Fire Alarm, Chillers and Landlords Lighting and Power	1.397	0.000	0.000	1.397	0.145	
Structural - Lindsey Street Bridge Strengthening	5.000	0.000	0.000	5.000	0.030	
Structural - West Ham Park Playground Refurbishment	0.000	1.279	0.000	1.279	0.863	
Barbican Exhibition Halls	5.000	0.000	0.000	5.000	1.548	
Barbican Podium Waterproofing, Drainage and Landscaping Works (Ben Jonson, Breton & Cromwell Highwalk) Phase 2 – 1st Priority	13.827	0.000	0.000	13.827	2.417	
Guildhall - Great Hall - Internal Stonework Overhaul	0.000	2.000	0.000	2.000	1.740	
Guildhall - Installation of Public Address & Voice Alarm (PAVA) and lockdown system at the Guildhall (Security Recommendation)	0.930	0.495	0.075	1.500	0.118	
I.T - GDPR and Data Protection Compliance in addition saving money in being able to share and find information quickly	0.090	0.100	0.010	0.200	-	
Spitalfields Flats Fire Door Safety	0.146	0.000	0.000	0.146	-	
Energy programme of lighting and M&E upgrade works (Phase 1)****	0.440	0.489	0.049	0.978	0.165	
SVY - Smithfield Condenser Pipework Replacement		0.564		0.564	-	
CHB - IT LAN Support to Replace Freedom Contract	0.096	0.043	0.011	0.150	-	
CHB - Libraries IT Refresh	0.220			0.220	-	
BBC - Barbican Centre - Catering Block Extraction	0.400			0.400	0.024	
SVY - St Lawrence Jewry Church - Essential works (Top-Up Funding)		2.565		2.565	2.136	
SVY - Denton Pier and Pontoon Overhaul Works	1.000			1.000	0.050	
DBE - Public Realm Security Programme	1.238			1.238	0.027	
DBE - Beech Street Transportation and Public Realm project (Top-Up Bid)	0.900			0.900	0.191	
MAN - Central Criminal Courts, Fire Safety and associated public address system (Top-up bid)	0.683			0.683	-	

Project Name	City Fund £'m	City's Cash £'m	CBF £'m	Total Funding Allocatio n £'m	Release of Funding Previously agreed	Release of Funding now requeste d
SVY - Riverbank House, Swan Lane - repairs to foreshore river defence	1.500			1.500	0.440	1.060
GSMD - Guildhall School of Music & Drama Heating, Cooling & Ventilation		2.000		2.000	0.355	
GSMD - Guildhall School - Milton Court Correction of Mechanical Systems		0.600		0.600	-	
GSMD - Guildhall School - John Hosier Ventilation and Temperature Control		0.700		0.700	-	
SVY - Energy Reduction Programme – Phase 2	0.194	0.181		0.375	-	
OSD - Climate Action Strategy		2.120		2.120	0.795	
DBE - Embed climate resilience measures into Public Realm works (Cool Streets and Greening)	6.800			6.800	6.422	
SVY -Energy Efficiency / Net Zero Carbon - Investment Estate - City Fund	4.340			4.340	-	
SVY - Climate Resilience Measures	4.000	0.000		4.000	-	
SVY - Climate Action Strategy Projects CPG Operational Properties	11.723	7.138	0.649	19.510	0.109	
Mansion House - essential roof repairs	-	0.330	-	0.330	-	
Guildhall School - Repairs to roof, expansion joint repairs and drainage and water systems (subject to holistic approach for highwalks, Barbican and School)	-	1.750	-	1.750	-	
Fire Safety - Baynard House Car Park Sprinklers Replacement (remaining floors)	0.250	-	-	0.250	-	
Central Criminal Court: Cells Ventilation - Top-Up bid to meet full scope of statutory requirements. (£1m bid agreed in principle as part of the 2021/22 capital bid round.)	1.000	-	-	1.000	-	
OS Epping Forest - COVID-19 Path Restoration Project	-	0.250	-	0.250	-	
Barbican Centre - Replacement of Central Battery Units for Emergency Lighting system	0.280	-	-	0.280	-	
Guildhall School - Rigging infrastructures in Milton Court Concert Hall	-	0.460	-	0.460	-	
Guildhall School - Safe technical access and working at height - Silk Street Theatre	-	0.345	-	0.345	-	
Smithfield Market - Glass Canopy Overhaul	-	0.300	-	0.300	-	
Smithfield Market - East Poultry Avenue Canopy Repairs and Remedial Works	-	0.600	-	0.600	-	
Smithfield Car Park - Ceiling Coating and Damp Works		1.050		1.050	-	

Project Name	City Fund £'m	City's Cash £'m	CBF £'m	Total Funding Allocatio n £'m	Release of Funding Previously agreed	Release of Funding now requeste d
Beech Street Transportation and Public Realm project top-up to deliver permanent air quality and associated public realm improvements following successful experiment.	2.500	-	-	2.500	-	
DCCS - Social Care Case Management System	0.144	-	-	0.144	-	
Guildhall Complex Masterplan - Redevelopment of North and West Wing Offices (top-up)		1.150		1.150	0.250	
St Paul's Cathedral External Re-lighting	1.160	-	-	1.160	0.665	
St. Paul's Gyratory Transformation Project	13.900			13.900	2.226	
Network Contract - Support and Refresh	2.338	1.468	0.400	4.205	0.535	
Public Switched Telephone Network (PSTN) Replacement	1.375	0.925	0.200	2.500	0.250	
Smithfield Area Public Realm and Transportation	12.000			12.000	0.370	
Vision Zero Programme	2.400			2.400	0.160	0.115
Enhancing Cheapside	1.000			1.000		0.330
Transforming Fleet Street	9.000			9.000		0.565
	124.371	43.932	2.694	170.996	41.977	2.070

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Appendix 2

Requests for Release of Funding – Scheme Details

The following provides details of the four schemes for which approval to release funding of £2.1m is now sought, as summarised in Table 1 of the main report.

Vision Zero Programme, GW2, £115k

A programme to investigate and deliver safer streets proposals at priority locations as identified in the Vision Zero Plan 2023 – 2028.

£115K of OSPR for the review and refine designs and prepare detailed cost estimates. We need to commission consultants to undertake technical assessments including traffic modelling and prepare GW3/4 reports for individual projects and or programme update reports as necessary.

The total estimate for the project is between £2.8m to £6.4m, £2.4m of OSPR has been secured but additional funding will be required.

Enhancing Cheapside release of £330k of CIL funding to progress the scheme GW2.

The Enhancing Cheapside Programme aims to improve the Cheapside area to create a greener and more welcoming environment for residents, workers, businesses, and visitors.

Improvements are being delivered in Bow Churchyard, on Cheapside in the vicinity of the traffic restriction (east of Bread Street) as well minor improvements along the length of Cheapside.

Progress with the design development of the whole project and implementation of the first phase as described above; The additional budget £330k is approved to develop the project to reach the next Gateway.

There is currently £1m overall estimate from OSPR for this scheme

Transforming Fleet Street release of £565k of CIL funding to progress the scheme GW2.

The Transforming Fleet Street project will deliver change along the length of Fleet Street, with a focus on improving the experience for people walking, wheeling, cycling and spending time on the street. To enable this, changes to traffic movements will be necessary to allow for wider pavements, crossing improvements and public realm improvements. These transformative changes will accommodate the changing needs of the Fleet Street area and better accommodate the expected increase in people working in and visiting the area.

£565,285 for the project to reach the next Gateway 3, funded from CIL.

Costs include project management time, work to determine traffic and design options, stakeholder engagement with internal CoL stakeholders, coordination across various projects/developments within the Fleet Street area, and report writing. Time and costs also reflect Highways engineering time.

The total estimated cost of the project at £9.5m – 10.5m (excluding risk).

Refurbishment or Replacement of the Foreshore River Defences fronting Riverbank House, release of £1.06m for completion of project at GW5

This is for Refurbishment, replacement or removal of the camp shed in front of the river wall at Riverbank House, Thames Path West. The Environment Agency have notified the City that repairs are required to this structure

The project total cost is £1.31m with a costed risk of £0.19m

Previously £0.44m, has been released, so need to release the balance of £1.06m. The additional projecting funding is residual budgets from completed City Fund schemes, allocated through the MTFP process.

12/12/2024

P&R Delegated Authority

Agenda Item 7

Committee(s): Resource Allocation Sub Committee - For Decision / Recommendations Policy and Resources Committee- For Decision	Dated: 30/10/2024 07/12/2024
Subject: Community Infrastructure Levy and On-Street Parking Reserves Capital Bids (Quarter 2 - 2024/25)	Public
This proposal: Delivers Corporate Plan 2024/29 outcomes Provides statutory duties	Providing Excellent Services Flourishing Public Spaces The City Corporation has a statutory duty to administer Community Infrastructure Levy and On Street Parking Reserve in line with relevant legislation
Does this proposal require extra revenue and/or capital spending?	Yes - subject to decisions agreed, ring-fenced monies held will be committed to future approvals
If so, how much?	OSPR: £90,500 CIL: £10,466,000
What is the source of Funding?	City Fund (OSPR and CIL)
Has this Funding Source been agreed with the Chamberlain's Department?	Yes
Report of: Katie Stewart, Executive Director, Environment Caroline Al-Beyerty, Chamberlain	For Decision
Report authors: Rob McNicol, Assistant Director – planning policy & Strategy Yasin Razaaq, Capital and Projects Manager	

Summary

The Priorities Board met on 19th September 2024 to consider four bids for allocation from the City's Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) and On-Street Parking Reserves (OSPR). The Priorities Board recommend to the Resource Allocation Sub-Committee and the Policy and Resources Committee that CIL funding is allocated to the Golden Lane Leisure Centre and Sculpture in the City projects, and that OSPR funding is allocated to the installation of outdoor fitness equipment at Old Watermen's Walk. The Priorities Board do not recommend CIL funding is allocated to works to the London Underground below Brandon Mews, as it is not considered to be eligible for CIL funding.

The Committee's attention is also drawn to the future funding profile for CIL. Given likely income from development, if the Committee agree to allocate funding as recommended in this report it is unlikely that there would be any surplus CIL funding for further projects until the 2026/27 financial year. An assessment of the projects that could otherwise have sought CIL funding is set out in this report.

Recommendation(s)

Members are asked to:

- To recommend (RASC) and approve (Policy & Resources Committee) the following allocations:
 - Golden Lane Leisure Centre: £10.35m from Community Infrastructure Levy
 - Sculpture in the City: £116,000 from Community Infrastructure Levy, pending exploration of options for external funding by officers
 - Outdoor fitness equipment at Old Watermen's Walk: £90,500 from On Street Parking Reserve
- Note the financial position for CIL funding in future years resulting from the above allocations and the implications for other potential infrastructure projects.
- Note the capital review on existing projects being undertaken as part of the 25/26 budget and medium-term-financial plan.

Main Report

Background

CIL funding criteria and prioritisation

1. The Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) Regulations 2010 require the City Corporation (as a CIL charging authority) to apply CIL to funding the provision, improvement, replacement, operation or maintenance of infrastructure to support the development of its area. National Planning Practice Guidance provides that "Local authorities must spend the levy on infrastructure needed to support the development of their area and they will decide what infrastructure is needed. The Levy can be used to increase the capacity of existing infrastructure or to repair failing existing infrastructure, if that is necessary to support the development."
2. "Infrastructure" is defined by Section 216 of the Planning Act 2008 to include:
 - roads and other transport facilities;
 - flood defences;
 - schools and other educational facilities;
 - medical facilities;

- sporting and recreational facilities; and
 - open spaces.
3. To be allocated funding, CIL bids will therefore need to fund projects that are (a) a type of infrastructure, and (b) needed to support the wider development of the Square Mile. Projects are categorised into one of three priorities:
- **Critical:**
Lack of infrastructure is a physical constraint to growth; development cannot come forward if the infrastructure is not provided.
 - **Essential:**
Development cannot come forward in a sustainable and acceptable way if the infrastructure is not provided.
 - **Important:**
Development can come forward if the infrastructure is not delivered, but some sustainability goals will need to be compromised and some adverse impacts accepted.
4. These criteria do not relate to the necessity for funding of a particular project, but rather the degree to which that project is necessary to support the wider development of the area and development coming forward.
5. For OSPR funding, bids will need to demonstrate that they meet one of the following criteria as set out in Section 55(3A) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 (as amended) and the London Local Authorities and Transport for London Act 2003:
- Revenue funding for highway and cleansing maintenance operations;
 - Investment in off-street car parks;
 - Projects which are aligned to the outcomes of the Transport Strategy, with additional priority given to projects necessary for the delivery of Vision Zero by reducing serious and fatal collisions and improve accessibility.
6. Recommended prioritisation of CIL/OSPR will also take account of the extent to which projects support delivery of other strategies and initiatives, including the Climate Action Strategy and Destination City.

Quarterly bids received

7. Bids for the City CIL and OSPR were invited from departments in August 2024. Four bids were received which are detailed in this report and summarised in Table 3 below.
8. In July 2024, the Policy and Resources Committee agreed to temporarily limit the quarterly allocation of CIL to those projects that are critical for supporting the City's

development needs whilst the City's Infrastructure Delivery Plan (IDP) is refreshed. This work is ongoing; however, the bid received for the Golden Lane Leisure Centre has a pressing timeline and it is therefore considered important to give consideration to this prior to the completion of the IDP review.

Current Position – CIL

9. As of September 2024, the City Corporation held an opening balance of £17.9m in General City CIL (excluding Neighbourhood CIL 15% and Admin CIL 5%).
10. So far this financial year, the City Corporation has received around £9m in relation to General City CIL, compared to a forecast income of £11.67m. This demonstrates that CIL income this year is likely to meet the projected income and could potentially exceed it. CIL income is dependent on development starts, and there is only around £1m of CIL income expected to become due from development that is known to be commencing in the next two months (there is a 60 day notice period). It is possible that development starts will pick up later in the calendar year, meaning that CIL income could outstrip the forecast, but this is as yet unknown.
11. Given that CIL income is likely to meet the forecast for this financial year, it is not considered necessary to include a contingency in the current year. A contingency has been included, spread between the two years following the current financial year, of £2.5m in each year. This reflects the potential for CIL income to fall as well as increase, depending on development activity and the need to maintain a positive balance at all times in the CIL fund.
12. Further CIL income of £57m is projected up to 2028/29 as shown in Table 1 below. Currently for 2024/25 onwards a further £42m has been committed to several approved schemes leaving an unallocated balance of £27.9m (excluding contingency). These allocations mean that available funding is at its lowest in 2024/25 and 2025/26, with up to £11.9m and £13.2m available in these years respectively, with the latter reducing to £10.7m once the contingency has been factored in.
13. It should be noted that these figures are based on projected future income levels and will need to be reviewed regularly. Additionally, the CIL and OSPR ring-fenced funds cannot move into a deficit position in any one financial year. Phasing of schemes will be crucial to avoid this happening. Officers are of the view that a sufficient contingency should be retained unallocated across all years to minimise the risk of a deficit position. A contingency in CIL funds of approximately £5m would be roughly equivalent to a 25% reduction in forecast CIL income for the next two consecutive years.

Table 1 - General CIL Financial Summary:

	Prior Years Actual/Approved £'000	2024/25 Forecast £'000	2025/26 Forecast £'000	2026/27 Forecast £'000	2027/28 Forecast £'000	2028/29 / Later Years Forecast £'000	TOTAL £'000
-							
TOTAL INCOME (80% CIL - General Pot)	(78,121)	(11,670)	(10,738)	(11,123)	(11,521)	(11,934)	(135,108)
TOTAL OF CAPITAL, SRP	60,199	17,708	9,377	5,450	4,300	5,200	102,234
Contingency	0	0	2,500	2,500	0	0	5,000
DEFICIT/(SURPLUS) Brought Forward @ 1st April		(17,922)	(11,884)	(10,746)	(13,918)	(21,140)	(27,874)
DEFICIT/(SURPLUS) Carried Forward @ 31st March	(17,922)	(11,884)	(10,746)	(13,918)	(21,140)	(27,874)	

() = income or in hand balance

Current Position – OSPR

14. As of September 2024, the City held an opening balance for 2024/25 of £58.6m in OSPR. Further OSPR surplus monies of £48.2m is projected up to 2028/29 as shown in Table 2 below. Currently for 2024/25 onwards, £97.3m has been committed to approved schemes, therefore unallocated sums of £9.5m (forecast until 2028/29) is available to be allocated to new schemes.

Table 2 - OSPR Financial Summary:

	2023/24 Actual £'000	2024/25 Forecast £'000	2025/26 Forecast £'000	2026/27 Forecast £'000	2027/28 Forecast £'000	2028/29 Forecast £'000	TOTAL £'000
Expenditure - salaries, enforcement contract, other running expenses	2,771	4,022	4,143	4,267	4,395	4,527	24,124
Income - PCN's, parking meters, suspended bays, dispensations	(12,991)	(13,099)	(13,492)	(13,897)	(14,314)	(14,743)	(82,535)
NET REVENUE SURPLUS GENERATED IN YEAR	(10,220)	(9,077)	(9,349)	(9,630)	(9,919)	(10,216)	(58,411)
TOTAL OF CAPITAL, SRP & REVENUE COMMITMENTS	7,085	14,233	13,280	5,440	2,766	2,783	45,588
TOTAL BIDS (AGREED BY PRIORITIES BOARD)	725	15,084	11,752	8,271	3,597	4,216	43,644
TOTAL CAPITAL BIDS & MAJOR SCHEME DEPENDENCIES AND ON-HOLD	0	2,638	5,145	2,300	5,797	0	15,880
DEFICIT/(SURPLUS) Brought Forward @ 1st April	(56,218)	(58,628)	(35,751)	(14,923)	(8,542)	(6,301)	

DEFICIT/(SURPLUS) Carried Forward @ 31st March	(58,628)	(35,751)	(14,923)	(8,542)	(6,301)	(9,518)	
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OSPR and CIL Bids received

15. The following bids were received for CIL and OSPR funding. The bids are summarised below, with further details set out in Appendix 2:

Table 3 – CIL and OSPR Project Bids - Quarter 2 (2024/25):

Proposed Bid	CIL requested £m	OSPR requested £m	Funding Priority
Outdoor fitness equipment at Old Watermen's Walk	-	0.0905	OSPR – environmental improvements projects
Development of Golden Lane Leisure Centre	10.35	-	CIL – Essential
LUL Track Works – below Brandon Mews	6.50	-	CIL - Important
Sculpture in the City – Deinstallation	0.116	-	CIL – Important
Total	£16.966m	£0.0905	

Outdoor Fitness Equipment (Old Watermen's Walk)

16. The project seeks OSPR funding of £90,500 for the installation of outdoor fitness equipment. There are currently no free outdoor gym sites on offer within the Square Mile. Outdoor gyms contribute to several benefits such as improvements in public health, breaking down barriers to physical activity, boosting mental health and wellbeing and regenerating community spaces.

17. The riverside location will offer a bespoke outdoor gym design, which transforms an underused space into a community-friendly hub for exercise. Overall, this project will help achieve the following outcomes:

- Promotes health and wellbeing for our stakeholders and addresses the lack of free-to-use outdoor fitness equipment within the Square Mile.
- Removes old wooden fitness equipment that is not fit-for-purpose, and update with new high-quality equipment.
- Responds to priorities set out in our Sports Strategy that commit to activating our streets and public spaces to encourage physical activity.
- Collect data to better understand and evidence the project's success.

- Technology installed in the PowerSmart pieces allows us to track usage and gather insight in to how often and when the equipment is being used.
18. The project would provide outdoor recreation facilities to which the public have access, in accordance with S55 of the Road Traffic Regulations Act 1984, and therefore is eligible to be funded by OSPR.
 19. Recommendation: It is recommended that OSPR is allocated to the fund the outdoor fitness equipment.

Refurbishment of Golden Lane Leisure Centre (GLLC)

20. The bid of £10.35m for CIL has been received for a series of upgrades and repairs to GLLC which would ensure the service at the centre can be sustained. The recommendation to refurbish GLLC to secure the future of the service and the Centre for a further 20 years, was supported in principle by Resource Allocation Sub Committee in July 2024. Funding for the project would broadly be required as follows, although further work to establish precise timescales and funding requirements is continuing, with details expected in the coming weeks.

- Immediate funding: £100k – feasibility and scoping works
- Q4 2024/25: £250k
- Q1 & Q2 2025/26: £800k
- Q3 2025/26 onwards: £9.2m (potentially falling into 2026/27, depending on timescales)

21. Suitability for CIL funding: The leisure centre is identified as infrastructure which can be funded through CIL and a refurbished leisure centre would support wider development of the square mile, particularly new residential development.
22. Funding priority (critical/essential/important): The project is identified as essential (development cannot come forward in a sustainable and acceptable way if the infrastructure proposed is not provided).
23. Recommendation: It is recommended that funding from CIL is allocated to the Golden Lane Leisure Centre project.

LUL Track works – Brandon Mews

24. A bid for £6.5m of CIL has been submitted for works to the London Underground track beneath Brandon Mews to reduce disturbing levels of train noise causing a public health issue.
25. Surveys and investigations have identified a solution. The investigation has shown that moving the points & crossings (P&C's) west onto the floating slab track (under the Barbican gardens) by 20 or 30 metres would provide a huge attenuation to

Brandon Mews properties. There would be no disbenefit to other properties if this solution were to be implemented.

26. Suitability for CIL funding: The project is not considered appropriate for CIL funding as the works are not required to support wider development of the area. The existing infrastructure is currently owned and maintained by TfL and LUL. Discussions with TfL are ongoing to explore funding potential.
27. Recommendation: It is not recommended that CIL funding is allocated to this project.

Sculpture in the City – Deinstallation

28. £116,000 of CIL funding is sought for the deinstallation costs of the project. In January 2024 this committee approved a one-off CIL allocation of £80,000 towards the delivery of the Sculpture in the City programme in 2024/25, while stipulating that future funding for the project should be sought from alternative funding sources.
29. In March and April 2024, the Destination City team conducted extensive due diligence and scoping to determine all costs associated with the installation, management and deinstallation of all artworks to enable the 13th edition to go ahead. This work has revealed previously unknown risk implications. Officers identified that full deinstallation costs for the project were not previously considered or factored into budget allocations, and established the estimated cost of £116k to fully deinstall the 13th edition.
30. While future funding of the project is to come from alternative sources, the City of London Corporation will be obliged to deinstall the exhibition, and would be liable for deinstallation costs if other sources of funding are not forthcoming. It is therefore recommended that CIL is allocated for de-installation costs of the current exhibition, and drawn down if necessary.
31. Suitability for CIL funding: The artwork provides improvements to the public realm, and therefore may encourage development in the area.
32. Funding priority (critical/essential/important): The project is identified as important. Wider development could come forward if the infrastructure were not delivered but would not enhance the attractiveness of the area as much as it would with the delivery of the Sculpture in the City project.
33. Recommendation: It is recommended that funding from CIL is allocated to the deinstallation of the current edition of the Sculpture in the City project, subject to the exploration of options for external funding by officers.

CIL Funding – future pipeline

34. The City Corporation is currently undertaking a review of the Infrastructure Delivery Plan to ascertain likely infrastructure funding requirements for the Square Mile to support the delivery of the City Plan 2040. This project is ongoing, and expected to conclude in early 2025.
35. The amount of CIL available to be allocated up to the end of 2025/26 is £10.75m (excluding a £2.5m contingency). Should Members agree funding of the Golden Lane Leisure Centre (£10.35m) and the deinstallation of Sculpture in the City (£116,000), the available amount of CIL to be allocated up to the end of 2025/26 would fall to just £280,000.
36. This reduction in future funding would have implications for other projects, meaning that they would either need to find funding from elsewhere or be delayed. An initial assessment of the major projects this could affect is set out below. These are not likely to be a comprehensive survey of potential projects but is intended to give a picture of the likely implications for known infrastructure projects that are currently planned or under development:
37. Major projects that could seek CIL funding in coming years broadly fall within two categories: public realm improvements to the City's streets, which will enhance the Square Mile as a leading destination and attract and enable substantial new development, and major works to the City's infrastructure, particularly to Walbrook Wharf, the Barbican Centre and works to the Barbican podium.

Transport and public realm projects

38. An exercise to identify and prioritise future CIL and OSPR bids for transport and public realm projects and programmes is due to complete in November 2024, with oversight from the Planning and Transportation Committee.
39. Pending this process, initial scoping indicates potential funding requirements of around £21m from CIL up to 2027/28 and upwards of £25m from 2028/29 onwards. It is recognised that this exceeds likely available funds; projects to be deferred or not proceed will be identified through the prioritisation process.
40. Funding for public realm improvements directly contributes to meeting the demands placed on the City from new development. With over 60,000 additional office workers forecast to be coming to the City over the next 15 years, there is a need for the City's public realm to work harder, with more space for people walking and spending time, climate resilience measures, improved accessibility and space for cycling. Several projects have the potential to be delivered alongside or be partially funded by s278 agreements or TfL funding; these funding opportunities

could be missed if projects are deferred, and this will inform the prioritisation process. Substantial sums of OSPR would also be used to fund these projects.

Major infrastructure schemes

41. Works to the Barbican podium, the Barbican Centre renewal project and investment in Walbrook Wharf are major forthcoming or ongoing projects to key City infrastructure. Walbrook Wharf plays a vital role in managing the City's waste; without continued operation of the Wharf for waste transfer, additional development in the City could lead to unacceptable impacts on the City's streets due to the vehicle movements required for moving waste out of the City.
42. Improvements to the Barbican Centre and the podium have a less direct connection with facilitating development in the Square Mile; however, the Barbican Centre is an important piece of cultural infrastructure, the future success of which will help to maintain the City's position as a cultural destination. The podium is also an important piece of public realm, with potential to make a greater contribution to the climate resilience of the area.
43. The potential CIL funding requests from these projects is less certain at the current time than for the transport and public realm projects, due to their complex nature and the need for feasibility and scoping work. Each of the projects could seek substantial sums of CIL funding – upwards of £10m each over the coming five years, and potentially substantially more depending on the options progressed. For the below exercise of assessing the scope of the impacts on the CIL surplus, it has been assumed that all three projects would seek £10m over the coming few years from CIL; the actual amounts sought are very likely to be different to this, depending on how these projects progress and informed by available funds.

Impacts on CIL surplus

44. Table 4 below illustrates the potential impacts on surplus CIL funds from the public realm and major infrastructure projects as well as the two CIL bids received this quarter. From this, it is clear that CIL could move into a deficit position next financial year (2025/26) if all the projects set out below were funded from CIL, and that CIL could be overallocated by over £40m by the end of 2027/28.

Table 4 – potential CIL funding requests up to 2027/28

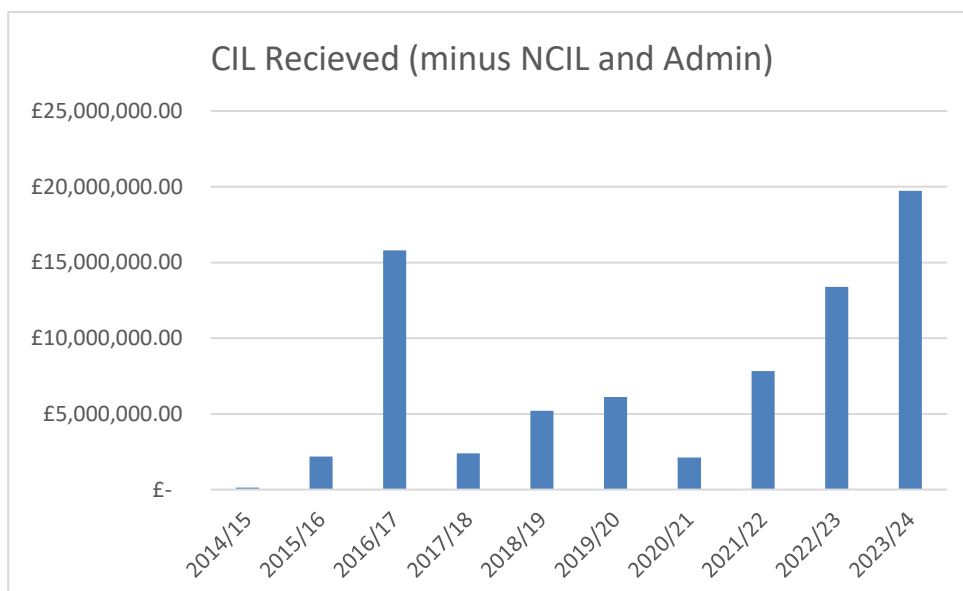
Project	Previous years	2024/25 (£000)	2025/26 (£000)	2026/27 (£000)	2027/28 (£000)	Total (£000)
CIL income (80% CIL - General Pot)	78,121	11,670	10,738	11,123	11,521	123,173
Existing commitments	-60,199	-17,708	-9,377	-5,450	-4,300	-97,034

Golden Leisure Centre refurbishment	0	-350	-10,000	0	0	-10,350
Sculpture in the City (de-installation)	0	0	-116	0	0	-116
Public realm and transport schemes	0	-100	-2,650	-8,200	-10,300	-21,250
Walbrook Wharf	0	0	-5,000	-5,000	0	-10,000
Barbican podium	0	0	-5,000	-5,000	0	-10,000
Barbican Centre Renewal	0	0	0	-5,000	-5,000	-10,000
Contingency			-2,500	-2,500		-5,000
Income less potential CIL allocations and contingency		-6,488	-23,905	-20,027	-8,079	-40,577
Deficit/surplus	17,922	11,434	-12,471	-32,498	-40,577	

45. While the two bids (Golden Lane Leisure Centre and Sculpture in the City) recommended for approval in this report can be funded from the CIL surplus and income, doing so will mean that funding for the other projects listed in Table 4 would need to be delayed until later years, when CIL income should replenish funds available, or be funded from other sources.

Future CIL income

46. While CIL income has been increasing in recent years (except for a drop during 2021/22, when construction starts were delayed as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic), large amounts are often dependent on large developments commencing, as was seen in 2016/17 with 22 Bishopsgate.



47. Further City CIL (excluding Neighbourhood CIL 15% and Admin CIL 5%) in this financial year (2024/25) is projected to be £11.67m from developments that have or will commence, where the CIL liability is due to be paid by 31st March 2025. This is a calculated figure based on past income.

48. To help corroborate the CIL projections, the planning team have undertaken an exercise to look at potential starts on approved development and schemes that may be coming down the pipeline. This exercise assumes that the vast majority of major schemes will be built out; while this is broadly likely, there is the possibility that some schemes are not developed or take longer to start; these figures should not therefore be relied upon to allocate CIL. This exercise has shown that CIL income in 2025/26 may be below that assumed in CIL forecasts, before potentially picking up in later years. This will be closely monitored but is broadly within the allowed contingency.

	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28
CIL income projection (£000)	10,738	11,123	11,521
CIL income forecast (from development) (£000)	7,500	15,600	14,100

Financial Implications

49. OSPR currently has forecast available unallocated funds of £9.5m up to 2028/29. If the bid were to receive full funding requested (£90,500), this would reduce the OSPR available balance to £9.43m for the period up to 2028/29.
50. It should be noted that these figures are based on future income levels that are projections and will need to be refined each year. Furthermore, the CIL and OSPR ring-fenced funds cannot move into a deficit position in any one year, so phasing of schemes will be crucial to avoid this happening.
51. Further City CIL (excluding Neighbourhood CIL 15% and Admin CIL 5%) confirmed to be received in this financial year (2024/25) is projected to be £11.67m from developments that have or will commence, where the CIL liability is due to be paid by 31st March 2025.
52. Further information is expected on the potential timing of the draw down of requested CIL for Golden Lane Leisure Centre. Should the total, £10.35m be drawn upon in 2024/25 and 2025/26, this would reduce the remaining projected balance to £396,000 by the end of 2025/26, excluding contingency. CIL funds cannot move into a negative position. By the end of 2028/29, unallocated CIL would rise to £27.9m, taking into account projects already allocated. However, this does not factor in the other projects that could be eligible for CIL funding over this timeframe.

Capital review

53. There will be a review of the BAU capital programme as part of the budget setting process for 25/26 to establish if funds could be repurposed from projects that are

no longer a priority or have completed with residual budget remaining. The results of this review will be presented back to the relevant committees in due course.

Legal implications

54. The proposed projects have been considered against the criteria for the use of CIL and OSPR and the ranking of each is set out above. The OSPR bids are in accordance with the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 and the London Local Authorities and Transport for London Act 2003.

Risk Implications

55. The current contract for the operation of Golden Lane Leisure Centre ends on 31 March 2024 and is under discussion. The outcome of funding refurbishment of the centre from CIL (or other funding) could have implications for these discussions, as well as for local risk budgets.

Equalities Impact

56. There are no direct equalities implications associated with the proposals within this report. Individual projects can have a positive or negative impact on equalities and each project will undertake an Equalities Impact Assessment as part of the project procedure, so that the equalities implications of the decisions to progress the projects are fully understood.

Conclusion

57. The request to fund the exercise equipment at Old Watermen's Walk from OSPR meets the funding priorities and is in accordance with the applicable legislation, and is recommended for approval.
58. Members are recommended to approve the CIL funding for the Golden Lane Leisure Centre refurbishment and the deinstallation of the current Sculpture in the City exhibition, while noting that funding these projects would largely deplete the CIL funds available to be allocated to other projects up to the end of 2025/26, and would require other potentially CIL-funded projects to be delayed or funded from other sources.

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Appendices

Appendix 1 – Funding Criteria

Appendix 2 – Detailed Bid Criteria

Appendix 1 - Funding Criteria

1. For all bids irrespective of funding sources, the Priorities Board will take account of the extent to which projects support delivery of the Corporation's strategies and initiatives, including the '*Climate Action Strategy - City of London*' and '*Destination City*'. Bids should set out how the project would support the relevant strategic objectives.

CIL

2. The Community Infrastructure Levy Regulations 2010 require the City Corporation (as a CIL charging authority) to apply CIL to funding the provision, improvement, replacement, operation or maintenance of infrastructure to support the development of its area. National Planning Practice Guidance provides that "Local authorities must spend the levy on infrastructure needed to support the development of their area and they will decide what infrastructure is needed. The Levy can be used to increase the capacity of existing infrastructure or to repair failing existing infrastructure, if that is necessary to support the development." "Infrastructure" is defined by Section 216 of the Planning Act 2008 to include (a) roads and other transport facilities; (b) flood defences; (c) schools and other educational facilities; (d) medical facilities; (e) sporting and recreational facilities; and (f) open spaces.
3. Priorities for CIL allocations are set out in the City Corporation's Infrastructure Delivery Plan - March 2024 (IDP) and are to be applied by the Priorities Board when recommending infrastructure projects.

The **CIL** funding priorities are categorised as follows:

- **Critical:**
Lack of infrastructure is a physical constraint to growth; development cannot come forward if the infrastructure is not provided.
 - **Essential:**
Development cannot come forward in a sustainable and acceptable way if the infrastructure is not provided.
 - **Important:**
Development can come forward if the infrastructure is not delivered, but some sustainability goals will need to be compromised and some adverse impacts accepted.
4. There are therefore two main tests that any project needs to meet to be eligible for CIL.

Test 1: Is the project a type of infrastructure?

The national Planning Practice Guidance states that:

“The levy can be used to fund a wide range of infrastructure, including transport, flood defences, schools, hospitals, and other health and social care facilities (for further details, see section 216(2) of the Planning Act 2008, and CIL Regulation 59, as amended by the 2012 and 2013 Regulations). This definition allows the levy to be used to fund a very broad range of facilities such as play areas, open spaces, parks and green spaces, cultural and sports facilities, healthcare facilities, academies and free schools, district heating schemes and police stations and other community safety facilities.”

Infrastructure of the sort envisaged by the legislation would normally serve a clear public benefit rather than being a purely private concern. Commercial ventures – such as shopping centres or offices – would not normally be considered infrastructure (for the purposes of CIL). Private housing does not fall within the definition of infrastructure. The CIL legislation also prevents the use of CIL for affordable housing.

Test 2: Is the infrastructure needed to support the development of the area?

The national Planning Practice Guidance states that:

“Local authorities must spend the levy on infrastructure needed to support the development of their area.”

CIL-funded projects must therefore be necessary to support development of the area. This is a crucial test; CIL funding cannot be used to fund schemes that would not be necessary to support development. It is unlikely that projects that are seeking to maintain or repair existing infrastructure would meet this test.

This second test is reflected in the CIL funding priorities (see “CIL funding priorities”, above).

Note: both Test 1 and Test 2 must be met for any project that is seeking CIL funding.

OSPR

5. On Street Parking Reserve has a very limited remit for allocation as set out in Section 55(3A) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 (as amended) and the London Local Authorities and Transport for London Act 2003 set out in the report.

The **OSPR** funding priorities are identified in legislation, which provides that any surplus not applied in the financial year may be carried forward. If it is not to be carried forward, it may be applied by the City for one or more of the following purposes: -

- a. making good to the City Fund any deficit charged to that Fund in the 4 years immediately preceding the financial year in question;
- b. meeting all or any part of the cost of the provision and maintenance by the City of off-street parking accommodation whether in the open or under cover;
- c. the making to other local authorities, or to other persons, of contributions towards the cost of the provision and maintenance by them, in the area of the local authority or elsewhere, of off-street parking accommodation whether in the open or under cover;
- d. if it appears to the City that provision in the City of further off-street parking accommodation is for the time being unnecessary or undesirable, for the following purposes, namely: -
 - meeting costs incurred, whether by the City or by some other person, in the provision or operation of, or of facilities for, public passenger transport services;
 - the purposes of a highway improvement project in the City;
 - meeting the costs incurred by the City in respect of the maintenance of roads at the public expense; and
 - for an “environmental improvement” in the City;
- e. Meeting all or any part of the cost of the doing by the City in its area of anything which facilitates the implementation of the Mayor’s Transport Strategy, being specified in that strategy as a purpose for which a surplus can be applied; and
- f. making contributions to other authorities, i.e. the other London Borough Councils and Transport for London, towards the cost of their doing things upon which the City in its area could incur expenditure upon under (a)-(e) above.

Appendix 2 – Details of Bids

OSPR Bids

1. Outdoor Fitness Equipment - Old Watermen’s Walk

We are proposing the installation of outdoor fitness equipment at Old Waterman’s Walk in the City of London. Outdoor gyms contribute to a number of benefits such as improvements in public health, breaking down barriers to physical activity, boosting mental health and wellbeing and regenerating community spaces. There are currently no free outdoor gym sites on offer within the Square Mile.

The riverside location will offer a bespoke outdoor gym design, which transforms an underused grey space into a community-friendly hub for exercise. Overall, this project will help achieve the following outcomes:

- a. Promotes health and wellbeing for our stakeholders and addresses the lack of free-to-use outdoor fitness equipment within the Square Mile.
- b. Removes old wooden fitness equipment that is not fit-for-purpose, and update with new high-quality equipment.
- c. Responds to priorities set out in our Sports Strategy that commit to activating our streets and public spaces to encourage physical activity.
- d. Collect data to better understand and evidence the project’s success. Technology installed in the PowerSmart pieces allows us to track usage and gather insight in to how often and when the equipment is being used.

Project Commencement – January 2025

Project Completion – April 2027

This project would fall under “environmental improvements: provision of outdoor recreation facilities to which the general public has access”.

Projects that support the outcomes of the Transport strategy - City of London, with additional priority given to projects that would support the delivery of Vision Zero by reducing serious and fatal collisions and projects that would improve accessibility.

The Transport Strategy plays an important role in our ambitions for the Sports Strategy and many of the outcomes of this project are aligned with its aims. We recognise that active travel is integral in getting people more active, and collectively we want to make the “Square Mile a healthy, attractive and easy place to live, work, learn and visit”. Please see section below for specific details on how we feel this project will help progress the Transport Strategy outcomes.

The designs of the project have also considered key areas referenced in the Transport Strategy including “Pedestrian Comfort Levels”. We recognise that maintaining the

walkways around the site are paramount. The designs utilise the ‘pockets’ of the walkway to host the equipment stations, ensuring that the designs have adequate space and don’t extend beyond the current blueprint or interfere with the existing walkways.

This project best supports several of the proposals outlined in the Transport Strategy outcome to “create a future where the Square Mile’s streets are great places to walk and spend time”.

- a. Proposal 3: Complete the riverside walkway and improve walking connections between the riverside and the rest of the City.
 - i. This project is an opportunity to help to activate the riverfront and encourage more people to its banks to spend time.
 - ii. We have ambitions for this to be one site in a wider network of outdoor gym sites, which would improve connections across the City.
- b. Proposal 7: Provide more public space and deliver world-class public realm.
 - i. The addition of an outdoor fitness space directly addresses the reference to “making the experience of walking and spending time on streets and public spaces more interesting and engaging”.
- c. Proposal 6: Promote and celebrate walking.
 - i. The location of this project is just off a popular running and walking route alongside the Thameside Path and can only be accessed by foot. The introduction of an outdoor gym site here would encourage more people to walk, cycle or run to use it.

This project contributes to objectives outlined in a number of wider City Corporation strategies, including:

- a. Climate Action Strategy: We have ensured that our preferred supplier shares our commitment to sustainability, thus contributing to priorities set out in our Climate Action Strategy. We are engaging with leading suppliers The Great Outdoor Gym Company, whose “healthy people, healthy planet” vision sets out their standards that include using recycled materials, carbon offsetting and using British manufacturing to produce their equipment. The mocked up designs include pieces of a PowerSmart range that generate useable green energy and can be used to track activity or charge devices.
- b. Destination City: The proposed location at Old Waterman’s Walk is adjacent to a popular running and walking route, via the Thames Path, and boasts views of iconic London landmarks such as The Shard and Tower Bridge. The introduction of a state-of-the-art, free outdoor fitness area within this location provides a unique offering that aligns to key features of the Destination City programme, namely “offering attractive and relevant amenities”, “enlivening City streets” and “creating new inclusive public spaces”.
- c. Supporting residents: As part of the Sport Strategy consultation, our stakeholders have told us that they would like to see free-to-use outdoor fitness equipment across the

Square Mile. The scope of this project also addresses wider local need (identified through focus groups and surveys with residents), including:

- i. Supporting opportunities to maximise small grey areas of outdoor space.
- ii. Ensuring that pricing does not limit low-income families' access to sport facilities.
- iii. Dedicated traffic-free exercise spaces.
- iv. Communal spaces to exercise and socialise.

d. Supporting SME's: The addition of free fitness provision within the City could support small businesses who may not be able to offer their employees access to gym/fitness packages.

The City of London Corporation has made a commitment to sport through our newly launched 'Global City of Sport; A Sport Strategy for the Square Mile'. This project is key to delivering on our ambitions set out for the next 7 years and directly addresses objectives underpinning our "activate", "invest" and "support" priorities.

a. Activate: "use our green and grey spaces for exercise and sport" and "expanding free-to-use outdoor sport and fitness facilities on our streets and public spaces"

i. This project would meet these aims by transforming an underutilised grey space into a publicly accessible outdoor gym.

b. Invest: "we want state-of-the-art facilities, which take advantage of the urban landscape".

i. We have engaged with the leading manufacturers in outdoor fitness equipment to create designs that include top spec equipment and bespoke colouring, that consider the surrounding landscape and best reflect the standards expected from City of London.

c. Support: "ensure our sport facilities and play areas are fully accessible and open to all".

i. Our project brief, and subsequent designs were focussed around creating a welcoming and inclusive space, that caters for a variety of fitness and ability levels including those with disabilities.

The project is at Gateway 1

Project Budget - £ 90,500

Spend Profile

- Q1 2025: £33,000 (staff costs & fees for surveys/trial holes)
- Q2 2025: £42,500 (equipment & Installation costs)
- Q2 2026: £5,000 (maintenance costs)
- Q2 2027: £5,000 (maintenance costs)
- Q2 2028: £5,000 (maintenance costs)

A budget of £5,000 (maintenance costs) is sought annually from completion of the project up to 2028. Ongoing maintenance will be revisited towards the end of this period. The success/usage of the site would determine whether removal or ongoing maintenance is the preferred option and how this would be funded.

CIL Bids

1. Golden Lane Leisure Centre Development

GLLC, the CoLC's only leisure centre in the Square Mile, has deteriorated beyond the lifespan of previous refurbishments. There are underlying external issues which need attention, to ensure the long term future of the Centre. The recommendation to refurbish GLLC to secure the future of the service and the Centre for a further 20 years, was supported in principle by RASC in July 2024. The associated £10,348,701 refurbishment costs are contingent on CIL funding.

GLLC is a valued community asset consisting of swimming pool, tennis courts, sports hall, fitness suite, treatment room and office. It provides a range of accessible opportunities for the public on a low cost, pay as you go basis, and without the need for a membership. GLLC's unique proposition is different to the private market providers, whose high costs are prohibitive to many of our residents, particularly those from concessionary groups such as students, people with disabilities, young people and those living on City housing estates. The service delivers sports opportunities in the community to key groups across the square mile, in addition to healthy lifestyle programmes to support improved health and wellbeing outcomes.

Project Deliverables:

The proposed programme of work, informed by the completion of a range of surveys, includes a series of upgrades and repairs to GLLC which would ensure the service can be sustained. The works identified consist of replacing the roof, repairing walkways and the external podium, replacing mechanical and electrical equipment, resurfacing tennis courts and redecoration of the interior of the building. The works will replace the existing boilers and replace them with alternatives to deliver a more sustainable and energy efficient operation. This will have a positive contribution to delivering Climate Action Strategy aims.

Service Outcomes Supported by the Development:

The redevelopment will contribute towards the strategic outcomes and aims of the Corporate Plan, Sport Strategy, DCCS business plan, and Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy, as set out in section 21.

Project commencement – April 2025

Project completion – 2027

The project supports the following priorities:

Destination City: The repairs would directly support the aspiration to 'Enhance the Square Mile's leisure offer to increase its appeal to existing and new audiences by creating a fun, inclusive, innovative and sustainable ecosystem'.

The project supports residents through the delivery of the DCCS Business Plan, Section 21.

The completion of the project, and subsequent delivery of a service from GLLC will ultimately provide commissioning opportunities for SMEs.

The programme of works will contribute towards the Sports Strategies, DCCS Business Plan aims and objectives, and work stream, as set out below:

Sports Strategy priorities: 1) INVEST in our sport and leisure facilities and 2) SUPPORT local community sport.

DCCS Business Plan aims and objectives: Safe, Potential, Independence and Choice, Health and Wellbeing, and Community.

DCCS Business Plan workstream: Securing an agreed medium-term strategy and associated investment for the delivery and management of the Golden Lane Leisure Centre.

The project is at Gateway 1.

Project budget - £10,348,701

Spend Profile
TBC

Seek to recoup any funds payable by the leaseholder under the schedule of dilapidations, but this may be limited by the recognition the centre is in need of full refurbishment.

Climate Action Strategy: The Department is exploring internal funding including Climate Action Strategy Funding and possibly to be met by ambitions (of EON) to extend the CityGen heat network by creating an energy centre on Golden Lane.

These opportunities will be explored through the design stage.

2. LUL Track works – Brendan Mews (CIL Priorities Review)

Brandon Mews is a row of terraced properties at the lowest level of the Barbican development. The properties are close to the western end of the platforms at Moorgate, which are approximately 5.5m below street level. It is estimated that the lowest level of the

Brandon Mews properties is only marginally above the roof of the tunnels below.

The residents report an increasingly disturbing level of train noise which is a public health issue. The noise is described as “a loud bang and deep, continuous rumble as trains pass beneath the property” and is audible from the first to the last trains of the day 0508 to 0051.

Noise measurements have been taken over many years with detailed acoustic reports available. The higher noise levels were found to be due to trains on the outer / eastbound road. The impulsiveness is due to trains passing discontinuities in the rails associated with the points and crossings (P&C) crossover 35A /35B between the eastbound and westbound roads. (see Appendix 4 - Figures 1 and 2 on page 2).

LUL following a long and detailed investigation have now identified a solution.

The works:

- The investigation has shown that moving the P&Cs west onto the floating slab track (under gardens) by 20 or 30 meters will provide a huge attenuation to Brandon Mews properties.
- There would remain an audible rumble, but the impulsive sound would be no longer be audible.
- No disbenefit to other properties would be caused.

Cost:

- The total cost would be around £4m - £1.5m track and £2.5m signalling.
- TFL have significant financial constraints.
- LUL priorities for funding is for life expired assets e.g. Aldgate Junction.
- TFL have been approached to explore a part funding arrangement, these discussions are underway.

Timescale:

- If it were LUL would need to wait for the Four Lines Modernisation Programme (4LM programme) to complete, currently delayed, so in 2 – 3 years i.e. financial year 2026/27.

Project Commencement – 2026

Project Completion – 2026

The project is identified as important: The LUL track noise affects few residents however the noise is a public health issue.

The project supports the following priorities:

The project are works to infrastructure meeting the requirements of Test 1. The works would improve the attractiveness to residents in the area by reducing the noise levels of the underground below the Barbican a therefore would support development of the area.

Development can come forward if the LUL trackwork's were not delivered however some pollution and amenity goals would be compromised.

Project budget – £6,500,000 (CIL)

Spend Profile

TBC

3.Sculpture in the City (CIL Priorities Review)

Sculpture in the City (SITC) is: a rotating, outdoor, urban sculpture park in the EC area. It is a public-private partnership between the City of London Corporation and 15 organisations from the development, insurance, finance sectors and City BIDs.

From 2011 to 2023, the Environment Department both contributed to SITC and provided resources to run it. However, both funding and resources ended in 2023, due to resource constraints. Given short timescales, it was recognised that delivering the project in 2024 would be unachievable without support from the City Corporation. To enable the project to continue, the Destination City team agreed to take on the organisation of SITC for one year on the agreement that IG would only be providing resources and that there was no additional IG budget for delivery.

At the end of February 2024, a one-off CIL fund bid for £80k for the SITC project was approved and the Destination City team appointed to deliver the project for one year.

In March and April 2024, the Destination City team conducted extensive due diligence and scoping to determine all costs associated with the installation, management and deinstallation of all artworks to enable the 13th Edition to go ahead. This work has revealed risk implications that were previously unknown.

Officers identified that from inception, full deinstallation costs for the project were not previously considered or factored into budget allocations. Establishing the estimated cost of £116k to fully deinstall the 13th Edition. To ensure the long-term sustainability of SITC, Officers proposed that the cost of deinstalling the entire exhibition from the public realm is separately provisioned and ringfenced until COL exits its liability. Committee approved the Destination City team to work with Chamberlain's Department to identify the source for a one-off provision of funds to be dedicated for a complete SITC deinstallation.

It was determined an application to CIL for £116k to fully deinstall artworks from the public realm at the time that COL exits its liability from the project. Ensuring that COL's legal obligations are met returning all artworks to artists/galleries.

The 13th Edition of SITC is due to launch on 24 July and be installed until May 2025. The earliest the £116k would be drawn down is from January 2025 for the deinstallation of the 13th Edition if Member's decide to terminate the project. If Member's decide that COL should continue to deliver and fund SITC the £116k deinstallation costs will be ringfenced until a future time when COL exists its liability from the project and artworks need to be returned.

Project Commencement –

Funds to be ring fenced for a future time when SITC artworks are fully removed from the public realm therefore dates are TBC. The earliest date for the funding to be used is from January 2025 for the deinstallation of the 13th Edition of SITC in May 2025, subject to Member decision regarding the future of the project.

Project Completion –

Funds to be ring fenced for a future time when SITC artworks are fully removed from the public realm therefore dates are TBC. Funding to be ringfenced for the point when the City Corporation exits its liability for the project and ensure the SITC objections of returning artworks to artists/galleries is met. The earliest date of completion would be May 2025 for the deinstallation of the 13th Edition of SITC, subject to Member decision regarding the future of the project.

Outside the Gateway Approval Process

Project Budget – £116,000

Spend Profile - TBC

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Agenda Item 8

Committee(s): Policy & Resources Committee – For decision	Date: 12 December 2024
Subject: Government Consultation on enabling remote attendance and proxy voting at local authority meetings	Public report: For Decision
This proposal: <ul style="list-style-type: none">delivers Corporate Plan 2024-29 outcomes	Providing excellent services
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
Report author:	Greg Moore

Summary

Government is currently consulting on introducing powers to allow for remote (virtual) participation and proxy voting at formal local authority meetings.

The consultation seeks views on the detail and practical implications of allowing remote and hybrid attendance and proxy voting, and makes clear it would apply to meetings of the Court of Common Council (and meetings of its Committees and Sub-Committees where local authority duties are discharged).

This consultation will last for 8 weeks from 24 October 2024; the view of your Policy & Resources Committee is hereby sought to determine whether an organisational response on behalf of the City Corporation should be submitted and, if so, what that response should be. Proposed draft responses for consideration are set out within the report which, in broad terms, reflect the position that we would be supportive of their introduction provided that discretion is provided to local authorities to determine their own policies and arrangements for implementation, mindful of any particular local needs.

Recommendation(s)

Members are asked to:-

1. Determine whether a response should be submitted and, if so;
2. Consider the questions and proposed responses set out at paragraph 12;
3. Authorise the Town Clerk to complete the consultation form and submit a response reflecting the views of this Committee.

Main Report

Background

1. His Majesty's Government is currently consulting on introducing powers for local authority members to apply to the relevant authority for a dispensation to attend formal council meetings remotely and vote by proxy in certain circumstances.
2. The consultation seeks views on the detail and practical implications of allowing remote and hybrid attendance and proxy voting, and makes clear it would apply to meetings of the Court of Common Council (and meetings of its Committees and Sub-Committees where local authority duties are discharged).
3. This consultation will last for 8 weeks from 24 October 2024; the view of your Policy & Resources Committee is hereby sought to determine whether an organisational response on behalf of the City Corporation should be submitted and, if so, what that response should be.
4. As highlighted to all Members by email and at the informal meeting of the Court of Common Council on 7 November 2024, Members are also entitled to submit individual responses.

Current Position

5. The provisions of the 1972 Local Government Act are such that meetings where local authority business is to be discharged must currently take place in-person, with physical attendance. The legislation pre-dates the concept of virtual or hybrid meetings and thus made no provision for the possibility of remote attendance.
6. During the COVID-19 pandemic, the Coronavirus Regulations 2020 did make temporary provision for virtual participation in meetings; however, this temporary measure was not made permanent, despite the objections of many councils. At that time, the Policy and Resources Committee also indicated its preference for some form of virtual participation to be retained.
7. In launching the current consultation around the permanent introduction of such provision, Government has indicated its recognition that there are circumstances in which it may not always be possible for Members to attend council meetings in person. It is with this in mind that they intend to amend the law to introduce provisions for remote attendance at local authority meetings.
8. The intent is that this increased flexibility will strike the balance between the principle that significant in-person engagement remains vitally important, and a recognition that there will sometimes be a need to accommodate Members' requirements to attend council meetings remotely. Their aim is that it will encourage a wider diversity of people willing and able to stand and actively participate in local democracy by creating improved conditions where meetings are accessible and inclusive.
9. In addition, they are seeking views on the possible introduction of proxy voting for those occasions when an elected Member, due to personal circumstances, may be unable to attend even remotely, for example during maternity, paternity or adoption leave.

10. Proxy voting is a form of voting whereby a Member of a decision-making body may delegate their voting power to another representative to enable a vote in their absence. Provisions for proxy voting could provide additional flexibility to those who really need it on a time-limited basis, allowing affected Members to indirectly exercise their democratic duty, participate in their local authority's governance, and ensure that their views are taken into consideration.
11. The Government welcomes individual responses from Members. However, in addition, affected bodies are invited to submit a collective response. Officers have considered the implications of the proposed changes and have set out proposed responses to the questions within the consultation as below; however, it is for Members to determine whether these responses reflect the Corporation's policy position and, indeed, whether a collected response on behalf of the organisation should be submitted.

Questions and Proposed Responses

12. For ease of review, the questions posed, together with draft responses, are set out below for Members' consideration. Question 1 (which simply asks respondents to identify themselves) is omitted, as is Question 4 (which is for individual Councillors).

Remote Participation

- *Question 2: Do you agree with the broad principle of granting local authorities powers to allow remote attendance at formal meetings?*

Proposed response: Yes, subject to relevant considerations in order to support the Government's ambition to balance flexibility with the benefits of in-person engagement. The City Corporation is in an atypical position whereby, due to the number of non-local authority functions we deliver, we already operate a system wherein virtual attendance is permitted for some (non-local authority) meetings, and we therefore recognise both the benefits and challenges that can arise.

- *Question 3: Do you think that there should be specific limitations on remote attendance? Please tick all the options below that correspond with your view and use the free text box for any other comments.*
 - a) *Any formal meeting allowing remote attendance should have at least two thirds of members in physical attendance.*
 - b) *Members should only be able to attend council meetings remotely in exceptional circumstances, such as those who are medically or physically unable to attend, or for reasons of local or national emergencies.*
 - c) *There should be no limitations placed upon councils with regard to setting arrangements for remote attendance of council meetings, up to and including full remote attendance.*
 - d) *[Free text box]*

Proposed response: We consider that a) would be challenging to manage on a practical basis, if a straight 2/3 rule were applied. Given our non-party political composition and the absence of party co-ordination, it might prove practically challenging to manage this and result in a number of inquorate meetings. We are supportive of b) as a sensible and pragmatic *de minimis* position, but consider that a greater degree of pragmatism could be applied. If c) implies permitting Councils to set their own policies with which Members must comply, we would be supportive, but we would not support a blanket proposal to allow for unfettered discretion as to attendance. We would generally observe that limitations should be in place for full Council meetings, as the nature of our Council meetings would make the operation of them on a hybrid basis very challenging. We would also highlight concerns with holding Planning meetings remotely or on a hybrid basis, given the imperative to ensure that voting Members are present for the entirety of debate on any application and the challenges that might arise through internet or other connection difficulties. Therefore, c) seems to be the most appropriate response provided it is supported by explanatory text using the free text box at d).

- *Question 5: If you are responding to this consultation on behalf of a council as a whole, what proportion of the council's current elected members are likely to seek to attend council meetings remotely over the course of a year?*
 - a) *less than 10%*
 - b) *more than 10% but less than 50%*
 - c) *more than 50% but less than 90%*
 - d) *most of them 90% to 100%*

Proposed response: It is Officers' view that, if circumstances allowed for it, nearly all Members would take the opportunity to attend at least one council meeting remotely throughout the course of a year, based on our experience in operating virtual and hybrid meetings for our non-local authority functions.

- *Question 6: The government recognises that there may be cases in which it is necessary for councils to hold meetings fully remotely. Do you think there should be limitations placed on the number of fully remote meetings councils should be able to hold?*
 - a) *Councils should be able to allow full remote attendance at up to half of council meetings within a twelve-month calendar period.*
 - b) *Councils should only have the flexibility to change a meeting from in-person to online, or vice versa, due to unforeseen and exceptional circumstances.*
 - c) *Councils should not have the flexibility to conduct fully remote meetings to ensure there is always an in-person presence.*
 - d) *[Free text box]*

Proposed response: of the options above, on the assumption that Councils will have discretion to set their own policies within a broader permissive

framework, then it would seem to be most pragmatic and transparent for the format advertised on the publication of the agenda to be stuck to other than where there are unforeseen or exceptional circumstances. Therefore, we would propose b) with the use of the free text box at d) to expand on the position.

- *Question 7: Do you think there are there any necessary procedural measures that would help to ensure a remote or hybrid attendance policy is workable and efficient? Please tick all the options that correspond with your view and use the free text box for any other comments.*

a) Councils should be required to publish a list of attendees joining the meeting remotely and give notice if a meeting is being held with full remote attendance.

b) Councils should be required to ensure that standard constitutional arrangements are followed for hybrid and fully remote meetings.

c) Councils should be required to make arrangements to ensure restricted items (where a council decision is taken in private to protect confidentiality) are managed appropriately and to require remotely attending members to join from a private location.

d) Other [Free text box]

Proposed response: all of a), b), and c) seem reasonable and would be supported, although presumably a) requires the publication of names after the event, to cater for changes in circumstances. Our other observations at d) would be that full Council meetings and Planning meetings, given the greater public interest and (in the latter case) the prospective challenges around managing the obligation to be present for full consideration of items, may warrant being reserved as fully in-person meetings, although this should be for the local authority to determine taking into account all factors, once the terms of any legislation are known.

- *Question 8: Do you think legislative change to allow councillors to attend local authority meetings remotely should or should not be considered for the following reasons? Tick all the statements below that apply to your point of view.*

<i>Should be considered because</i>	<i>Should not be considered because</i>
<i>It is a positive modernising measure.</i>	<i>Councillors should be physically present at all formal meetings.</i>
<i>It would likely increase the diversity of people willing and able to stand for election in their local area, making councils more representative of the communities they serve.</i>	<i>It could lead to a significant number of councillors habitually attending remotely and ultimately reduce the effectiveness of councils.</i>

Councils would be more resilient in the event of local or national emergencies which prevent in-person attendance.

It would be more difficult for councillors to build personal working relationships with colleagues, and engage with members of the public in attendance at meetings.

Proposed response: all seem valid to varying degrees, with the exception of “Councillors should be physically present at all formal meetings”, where it is reasonable to say that there would be material benefits to facilitating at least some virtual participation. The comments around potentially reduced attendance and the challenge of building working relationships have previously been raised by the Policy & Resources Committee when expressing support for virtual participation, so would need to be taken into account in formulating a balanced policy.

- *Question 9: In your view, would allowing councillors to attend formal local authority meetings remotely according to their needs particularly benefit or disadvantage individuals with protected characteristics, for example those with disabilities or caring responsibilities? Please tick an option below:*
 - a) *it would benefit members*
 - b) *it would disadvantage members*
 - c) *neither*

Proposed response: a) It would benefit Members.

Proxy voting

- *Question 10: In addition to provisions allowing for remote attendance, do you consider that it would be helpful to introduce proxy voting?*
 - a) *yes*
 - b) *no*
 - c) *unsure*

Proposed response: c), unsure (albeit leaning towards yes). In certain circumstances and provided appropriate procedures were in place to manage this clearly and transparently, it could be beneficial; however, with a large number of independent Members and no party politics, there is a potential for misunderstanding if robust processes or limitations are not in place. There may also be some concern as to whether this breaks the direct line of accountability between voters and an individual Member.

- *Question 11: If yes, for which of the following reasons which may prohibit a Member’s participation in council meetings do you consider it would be appropriate? Please select all that apply:*
 - a) *physical or medical conditions*
 - b) *caring responsibilities*
 - c) *parental leave or other responsibilities*
 - d) *other [Free text box]*

Proposed response: Ultimately, provided arrangements are communicated clearly and transparently, in good time, we would consider it best a matter to be determined by policy at a local level, with local authorities empowered to agree their own arrangements (and so a response provided using the free text box at d). Given that the Corporation's extant policies provide for costs associated with caring responsibilities to be met, and that it is unclear what is meant by "other responsibilities" at c), there would need to be a greater understanding of proposals and opportunity to develop an inclusive and sensible local policy.

- *Question 12: Are there circumstances in which you feel proxy voting would not be appropriate?*

Proposed response: For items where there is a requirement for full participation in an item (e.g., Planning meetings), proxy voting may be felt to be inconsistent with that requirement. Short notice changes may also present administrative challenges which would need to be considered carefully.

- *Question 13: If you think proxy voting is appropriate, are there any limitations you think should be placed upon it?*

Proposed response: For the sake of administrative management and public transparency, we suggest that consideration may be prudent as to whether proxy voting might be limited to well-defined and time-limited areas, with the arrangements listed publicly and communicated clearly in advance of relevant meetings, so as to provide for transparency and mitigate against the risk of confusion.

Proposals

13. It is proposed that Members consider whether a response should be submitted to the Government consultation and, if so, Members are asked to review, reflect on, and determine positions on the questions set out above.

Corporate & Strategic Implications

14. Strategic implications – Increased flexibility offered through remote attendance at City Corporation Committee meetings could allow greater access to decision making in support of the Corporate Plan where it was not always possible for a Member to attend a meeting in person.
15. Risk Implications – The risks of any potential changes would need to be assessed once the nature of any formal proposals are known. As indicated within the report, there may well be risks associated with challenges in managing a meetings on a practical basis, but these would be assessed and responded to once clarity was available.
16. Financial implications – There are no immediate financial implications given the City Corporation already holds Committee meetings with an element of remote attendance allowing Members to observe a meeting, with City Corporation non-local meetings already operating with virtual participation.

17. Resource implications – There are no immediate resource implications given this would be an extension of remote attendance already available to Members to observe its local authority meetings.

18. Legal Implications – The City Corporation has continued to comply within the confines of current legislation around its local authority meetings and this requiring in person attendance on the part of a Member for them to be able to participate during any part of the meeting. Any further legislation that may follow will be implemented accordingly.

19. Equalities Implications – 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 protected characteristics and to take steps to meet the needs of people with certain protected characteristics where these are different from other people; encouraging and allowing all the maximum opportunity to be able to participate in public life. The impact of any changes would be dependent on the form of the final proposals from Government; however, the opening up of remote participation in meetings could arguably advance the opportunity for greater participation in meetings.

20. Climate Implications – The responses proposed within the paper do not carry any significant climate implications as outlined in the Climate Action Strategy.

21. Security Implications - none

Conclusion

22. In response to the Government's current consultation on the introduction of virtual attendance and proxy voting at local authority meetings, this report asks Members to consider whether an organisational response should be required and, if so, the format this should take. Mindful of the views previously expressed by this Committee and the desire to operate an inclusive and accessible decision-making system, proposed responses have been articulated reflecting support for the proposals but with it being left to individual authorities to determine local arrangements as suit best, within a framework.

Appendices

23. None.

Background Papers

24. None.

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