



Culture, Heritage and Libraries Committee

Date: FRIDAY, 25 SEPTEMBER 2026
Time: 11.00 am
Venue: COMMITTEE ROOM 2 - 2ND FLOOR WEST WING, GUILDHALL

Members:

Brendan Barns (Chairman)	Stephen Hodgson
Suzanne Ornsby KC (D Chair)	Adam Hogg
Alderman Prof. Emma Edhem	Tessa Marchington
Alderman Bronek Masojada	Vasiliki Manta
Munsur Ali	Wendy Mead OBE
Jamel Banda	Sophia Mooney
Matthew Bell	Anett Rideg
Deputy Emily Benn	Gaby Robertshaw
Lesley Cole	Alethea Silk
Melissa Collett	James St John Davis
Elizabeth Corrin	Stephanie Steeden
Karina Dostalova	Matthew Waters
Simon Duckworth CBE OBE DL V R	Mark Wheatley
Deputy Helen Fentimen OBE JP	Deputy Dawn Wright
John Griffiths	Irem Yerdelen
Jason Groves	Alderman Sir William Russell (Ex-Officio Member)
Deputy Caroline Haines	

Enquiries: Jayne Moore
jayne.moore@cityoflondon.gov.uk

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Ian Thomas CBE
Town Clerk and Chief Executive

AGENDA

Part 1 - Public Agenda

1. **APOLOGIES**
2. **MEMBERS' DECLARATIONS UNDER THE CODE OF CONDUCT IN RESPECT OF ITEMS ON THE AGENDA**
3. **MINUTES**
To agree the public minutes of the previous meeting held on 20 July 2026.

For Decision
(Pages 5 - 12)
4. **FORWARD PLAN**
Members are asked to review the Committee's forward plan.

For Decision
(Pages 13 - 14)
5. **UPDATE ON LONDON MUSEUM**
To receive an update on the London Museum from Sarah Duthie (Director of External Affairs at London Museum).

For Information
6. **UPDATE ON BLUE PLAQUES LAUNCH**

(Verbal report)
7. **KEATS HOUSE POLICIES FOR MUSEUM ACCREDITATION**
To consider the report of the Executive Director, Environment.

For Decision
(Pages 15 - 30)
8. **INSPIRING LONDON THROUGH CULTURE FUND - ANNUAL UPDATE 2025/26**
To receive the report of the Managing Director of the City Bridge Foundation.

For Information
(Pages 31 - 38)
9. **REPORT OF ACTION TAKEN**
To note a decision approved under Urgency procedures.

For Information
(Pages 39 - 40)

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

11. **ANY OTHER BUSINESS THE CHAIR CONSIDERS URGENT**

12. **EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC**

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

For Decision

Part 2 - Non-public Agenda

13. **NON-PUBLIC MINUTES**

To agree the non-public minutes of the previous meeting of 20 July 2026.

For Decision
(Pages 41 - 42)

14. **UPDATE ON LONDON ARCHIVES**

To receive an update on the London Archives.

For Information
(Verbal Report)

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

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

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CULTURE, HERITAGE AND LIBRARIES COMMITTEE

Monday, 20 July 2026

Minutes of the meeting of the Culture, Heritage and Libraries Committee held at Committee Room 2 - 2nd Floor West Wing, Guildhall on Monday, 20 July 2026 at 2.00 pm

Present

Members:

Brendan Barns (Chairman)	Adam Hogg
Suzanne Ornsby KC (Deputy Chair)	Tessa Marchington
Jamel Banda	Vasiliki Manta
Matthew Bell	Wendy Mead OBE
Lesley Cole	Sophia Mooney
Elizabeth Corrin	Gaby Robertshaw
Deputy Caroline Haines	Stephanie Steeden
Stephen Hodgson	Deputy Dawn Wright

In Attendance

Officers:

Rob Shakespeare	- Keats House, Environment
Jayne Moore	- Town Clerk's Department
Emma Markiewicz	- London Archives, Head of Profession (Culture)
Rachel Levy	- Community and Children's Services
Omkar Chana	- Interim Culture Director
Andrew Buckingham	- Town Clerk's, Media Officer
Mark Jarvis	- Chamberlain's Department
Kevin Colville	- Comptroller and City Solicitors
Laurie Miller-Zutshi	- Town Clerk's Department
Jen Beckermann	- Executive Director, Private Secretary to the Chairman of Policy and Resources
Gregory Moore	- Deputy Town Clerk
Emily Slatter	- Town Clerk's Department
Joana Antonio	- City Surveyor's

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Professor Emma Edhem, Melissa Collet, Simon Duckworth, Deputy Helen Fentimen, Jason Groves, Alethea Silk, Sir William Russell, and Mark Wheatley.

These Members observed the meeting online: Karin Dostolova, Munsur Ali, Irem Yerdelen, and James St John Davis.

John Griffiths observed the meeting.

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

There were no declarations.

3. **MINUTES**

RESOLVED, That the minutes of the meeting of 18 May 2026 be approved as an accurate record of the proceedings.

4. **FORWARD PLAN**

The Committee noted the forward plan

5. **DESTINATION CITY PROGRAMME: UPDATE**

The Committee received the report of the Deputy Town Clerk setting out the progress of the Destination City Programme in its first full year, noting its more coordinated, data-led and partnership-driven approach to delivering the City Corporation's growth strategy.

The Committee noted these points:

- The Destination City (DC) dashboard has been launched delivering information on a range of metrics and indices that are automatically updated;
- A consolidated calendar of events is available; and
- The DC team is working closely with the London Museum on the Museum's messaging, communications and service preparedness ahead of its 28 November 2026 launch.

Members commented on an apparently confusing variety of web pages covering similar topics (including "cityofldn" and "onecitylondon"), and asked whether that should be streamlined into a single destination. The meeting noted the former is expected to be reduced as a branding element, with content being increasingly directed at the "onecitylondon" brand, while any other websites, including DC-related ones, are subservient to the "onecitylondon" brand.

In response to a question on Museum advertising (including in hotels and on transport networks), Members noted the challenges of directing Museum visitors towards the Square Mile rather than towards Islington. The meeting noted that the Museum is communicating with Transport for London (owned by the Museum's co-sponsor) on Museum promotional strategies, and that DC is working on a toolkit for the hotel and catering industry to promote the Museum alongside a range of information events.

6. **UPDATE ON GUILDHALL ART GALLERY**

The Committee heard this update on the Guildhall Art Gallery (GAG):

- The Head of the Gallery and Amphitheatre left the organisation earlier in the year;

- Once the Cultural Strategy and Ambition 25 have been finalised, a new structure is expected to be introduced; and
- An interim solution has been finalised in which two existing members of staff with a cultural/curatorial background will work on gallery management and forthcoming exhibitions.

Members commented that the GAG appears to have been hollowed out across the past decade notwithstanding its significance as a cultural asset and importance in the Square Mile's history and context, and called for a Director-led clear curatorial direction that champions the GAG's role and importance and maintains conservation functions, following the interim management solution period. The Committee expressed strong support for the recruitment of a Head of Gallery, with some Members commenting on an apparent lack of communication around the departure of the former Head of Gallery.

The meeting noted that no Director post has existed for the GAG though a Head of Gallery post was included in the revised staffing structure agreed by the Committee in March 2021 which provided for changes to the way the GAG is staffed (to include additional support during exhibition set-up and take-down operations that is not always cited in discussions around staffing).

A Member asked whether arrangements have been made to cover the duties of the two staff members providing interim management services. The meeting noted that the changes to the Sculpture in the City structure have freed up capacity, and some capacity has been created at the London Archives.

The Committee noted that news releases and publicity is in place ahead of the GAG's forthcoming tapestry exhibition and the inclusion of the GAG's Charter in the upcoming Bayeux exhibition at the British Museum.

7. **BLUE PLAQUE PANEL - ELECTION OF CHL MEMBER**

Two expressions of interest were received for the position of Member of the Blue Plaques Panel, and a ballot was held.

The outcome was as follows:

Matthew Bell: 10 votes

Caroline Haines: 6 votes

Matthew Bell was elected to the Blue Plaques panel.

The Committee heard the following update:

- A new blue plaque will be launched in September 2026 in partnership with Dr Johnson's House and the Fleet St Quarter BID to commemorate Francis Barber; and
- The Blue Plaque scheme launch will take place during the Open House Festival in September 2026.

Members commented on the small number of women currently commemorated by blue plaques, noting that the commemoration of a more diverse range of people will be strongly encouraged.

The Committee discussed communication strategies for promoting the scheme that includes work with the BID and the City Corporation's media team.

8. **THE MONUMENT UPDATE 2025/26**

The Committee received the report of the Executive Director Environment outlining achievements at The Monument to the Great Fire of London from April 2025 to March 2026 that included information on visitor numbers, income achieved and other initiatives that contribute to Corporate outcomes.

Citing this sentence in the report: *"The Monument's ability to meet its strategic outcomes is contingent on resolving its future governance, operations and resource base"* a Member asked for further information on the resolution of those matters. The Committee noted that the timeline for any resolution would need to take into account resource implications and the working deadline for a transfer is end 2026, working in conjunction with the City Bridge Foundation.

9. **ACHIEVEMENTS AT KEATS HOUSE 2025/26**

The Committee considered the report of the Executive Director, Environment updating

Members on achievements at Keats House in 2025/26, including those which contribute to the achievement of Departmental, Corporate and wider cultural sector outcomes and initiatives.

Members noted that the report was presented to Members of the Keats House Consultative Committee at their meeting of 30 April 2026 and that the narrative will be included in the annual return to the Charity Commission, which will be prepared by Chamberlain's for January 2027.

Members also noted the assurance that risk management procedures in place for Keats House are satisfactory and meet the requirements of the Corporate Risk Management Framework and the Charities Act 2011 noting in particular the risks summary and the detailed risk register, which was last updated in April 2026.

RESOLVED, That Members, acting on behalf of the City Corporation as trustee, confirm that the register appended to the report satisfactorily sets out the key risks to the Keats House charity and that appropriate systems are in place to identify and mitigate risks.

10. **REFURBISHMENT OF BARBICAN LIBRARY**

The Committee considered the report of the Executive Director of Community and Children's Services setting out the principles that will guide service provision at Barbican Library during planned refurbishment works.

Members noted that the project is funded through Community Infrastructure Levy funding and the City Surveyor department's Cyclical Works Programme,

with no additional revenue or capital spending requested, noting also that Sykes & Son Ltd have been appointed as contractor with works are expected to begin in October 2026 and be completed by the end of February 2027, with a final deadline of March 2027 to meet funding and Barbican Renewal programme requirements.

Members noted the principles for any temporary closure or limited service provision alongside the request to delegate authority to the Town Clerk, in consultation with the Chair and Deputy Chair, to approve detailed decisions on service provision and mitigations.

It was noted that full closure would only be used where necessary for health and safety or budget reasons, and would be kept to the shortest possible period and that a limited lending service, alternative provision at other City libraries, targeted mitigations for some users with protected characteristics, and engagement with library users and stakeholders will help the City of London Corporation continue to meet its statutory library duties during the refurbishment.

A Member asked why the work is being done at this time rather than during the full closure of the Barbican Centre. The meeting heard that the works were proposed and the funding agreed in 2023, with the money needing to be spent by April 2027. The Committee also noted that refurbishment at this stage provided assurances to library users that there is no intention to close the library.

RESOLVED, That the Committee delegate authority to the Town Clerk, in consultation with the Chair and Deputy Chair, to approve future decisions on the detail of the library provision during the works, including any requirement for full closure of the library for some portion of the works, in line with the agreed principles.

11. **REVENUE OUTTURN - 2025/26**

The Committee received the report of The Chamberlain, Deputy Town Clerk, Executive Director of Community and Children's Services, City Surveyors and Executive Director of Environment setting out the revenue outturn for the services overseen by the Committee in 2025-26 with the final budget for the year together with the carry forward requests still to be approved.

The Committee noted that overall total net expenditure during the year was £24.942m whereas the budget was £24.434m, representing an overspend of £0.508m on all risks, mainly due to cyclical works. The local risk overspend was £0.068m.

Members noted this additional more detailed information:

Site	Code	Budget £	Outturn £	Variance £
Guildhall Art Gallery	BV400	2,955,000	2,985,745	30,745

Site	Code	Budget £	Outturn £	Variance £
City Information Centre	DC200	487,000	463,909	(23,091)
Roman Bath House	AJ800	65,000	63,379	(1,621)

A Member commented that it would be useful to view 5-year trends, and the Committee noted that a trend analysis will be provided at the September 2026 meeting (see action point).

A Member commented on lack of clarity in the use of the term 'overspend' when it is used to designate a situation that involves a lack of income rather than spending more than the funding that is available, noting in particular that The Monument is in profit contrary to the narrative.

12. **DCSS BUSINESS PLAN**

The Committee received the high-level Business Plan for the Department of Community and Children's Services for 2026/2031, noting the factors taken into consideration in compiling the Department of Community and Children's Services Business Plan.

13. **CULTURAL STRATEGY - FINAL DRAFT**

RESOLVED, That the Committee

- Approve the Cultural Strategy 2026 and its publication, as set out in Appendix 1 (non-public),
 - In doing so, Delegate Authority to the Town Clerk, in consultation with the Chair and Deputy Chair of the Culture, Heritage & Libraries Committee and the Policy & Resources Committee, for any amendments to the Cultural Strategy 2026 ahead of reporting to the Court of Common Council;
- Approve the Delivery Toolkit (Appendix 2 non-public) and Audience Playbook (Appendix 3 non-public) and their publication, as supporting information for delivering the Cultural Strategy 2026,
 - In doing so, note that any minor operational updates to the Delivery Toolkit and Audience Playbook will be made by the Head of Profession for Culture and any major changes will be made in consultation with the Chair and Deputy of the Culture, Heritage and Libraries Committee; and
- Approve the updates to the Inspiring London through Culture (ILTC) Fund criteria, as set out in paragraph 17 of the report.

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

There were no questions.

15. **ANY OTHER BUSINESS THE CHAIR CONSIDERS URGENT**

The Chair congratulated the team on the success of the recent Beerfest at Guildhall.

16. **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.

The meeting ended at 3.40pm

Chair

Contact Officer: Jayne Moore
jayne.moore@cityoflondon.gov.uk

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Forward Plan for Culture Heritage & Libraries Committee

23 Nov 2026	01 Feb 2027	12 April 2027	28 June 2027
- Keats House Forward Plan: 2026 – 2029/31 - Review of Terms of Reference: CHL, and Culture Strategy Delivery Group - Culture strategy: next steps - Proposals for commemoration of Monument’s 350th anniversary - Quarterly budget monitoring - Update on London Archives	- Libraries update - outturn forecast - budget estimates - update on public events at Guildhall Yard - Culture business plan - Keats House Fees and Charges 2027/28 - Update on Monument - Presentation of Heritage Strategy	- Final approval of Terms of Reference	- Keats House 2026/27 end of year update

Standing Agenda	Cultural strategy – updates as applicable
	CPAP recommendations - as applicable
	LM State Coach – as applicable
	London Archives (premises) – as applicable

Guildhall Art Gallery re-accreditation – timetable to be confirmed subject to ACE deadlines

Not previously handled on a routine basis:

Updates (annual or bi-annual) on Guildhall Art Gallery/Amphitheatre, London Museum, also CIC and Roman Baths

Committee(s): Culture, Heritage & Libraries Committee	Date(s): 25/09/2026
Subject: Keats House Policies for Museum Accreditation	Public
Which outcomes in the City Corporation's Corporate Plan does this proposal aim to impact directly?	1, 3, 6
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: Katie Stewart, Executive Director of Environment	For Decision
Report authors: Rob Shakespeare, Head of Heritage & Museums, Environment Department Louise Montefiore, Graduate Management Trainee, Environment Department	

Summary

As an Accredited Museum, Keats House is required to submit an Accreditation Return to Arts Council England (ACE) every five years. Keats House was awarded Full Accreditation status on 21 September 2017. Its Accreditation period was subsequently extended due to the COVID-19 pandemic, and ACE continues to work through the resulting backlog. We expect to be invited to submit our next Accreditation Return shortly and are therefore preparing accordingly. As part of the submission, the museum is required to have a set of plans and policies approved by its governing body. Three of these are presented here for approval: Collections Care and Conservation Policy; Documentation Policy; and Access Policy.

Recommendation

It is recommended that:

- Members are asked, acting collectively for the City of London Corporation as Trustee of Keats House and being satisfied that it is in the best interests of the charity and its beneficiaries to approve the suite of Keats House Policies for Museum Accreditation (see Appendices 1 - 3).

Main Report

Background

1. Keats House is a registered charity (number 1053381) with the City Corporation acting as sole trustee (CHL Committee acting under delegated authority from the

Court of Common Council as the body responsible for exercising the powers of the City Corporation as trustee). It is also a fully Accredited Museum (award number 097).

2. Keats House was first awarded Full Accreditation status by Arts Council England in February 2014, and this was renewed in 2017 on the, then, three-year re-application cycle. The new (2018) Accreditation Standard guidance states that the award lasts for five years, but this was extended with effect from April 2020, due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Keats House expects to be called for reapplication shortly.
3. The Museum Accreditation Scheme is managed by Arts Council England and acts as the industry standard for UK museums and galleries, demonstrating that Accredited museums are sustainable, focused and trusted, inspiring the confidence of the public and funding and governing bodies. Although it does not come with funding attached, Accredited status is a nationally agreed standard which can help museums access sources of funding, support, training and advice which are not available to non-accredited museums.
4. A key requirement of Museum Accreditation is a suite of documents approved by the museum's governing body, namely a Collections Development Policy, Collections Care and Conservation Policy, Documentation Policy, and Access Policy, supported by a Forward Plan showing how they are delivered. Together, these documents establish the museum's strategic direction and provide a framework for the responsible development, documentation, care and public accessibility of its collections.
5. The full suite of policy documents was last approved by your Committee at its meeting on 24 October 2016. This formed part of the most recent and successful application for Museum Accreditation, which was awarded in September 2017.

Current Position

6. The Collections Development Policy was revised and re-approved by your Committee at its meeting on 14 November 2022 and is next due for review in business year 2027/28. The Keats House Forward Plan is currently being developed and will be brought to Keats House Consultative Committee and then to your Committee for approval in autumn / winter 2026/27.
7. To maintain best practice as an organisation and prepare for our next Accreditation application, Keats House staff have recently reviewed and revised three of the museum's five core documents. These have been updated to reflect current templates, priorities and practices. The revised Collections Care and Conservation Policy, Documentation Policy and Access Policy are attached at Appendices 1 - 3.
8. Arts Council England have yet to formally invite Keats House to re-apply for Museum Accreditation. However, we have identified the review and revision of

the policies and procedures which underpin successful reapplication as a priority in the Keats House Activities Plan 2026/27, so that we are in a position to finalise our application when called to resubmit. In addition, it is expected that each of these policies is reviewed and submitted for approval every 5 years.

Proposal

9. Members approve the three policy documents: Collections Care and Conservation Policy, Documentation Policy and Access Policy, included at Appendices 1-3, to support Keats House's application for Museum Accreditation and its continued adherence to sector best practice.

Corporate & Strategic Implications

10. Strategic implications – the policies presented for approval with this report contribute towards the achievement of Corporate Plan 2024-29 outcomes and priorities identified in the Education Strategy 2024-29 and the forthcoming Cultural Strategy.

Keats House's fully accredited status also supports the Environment Department to Shape Sustainable Future Environments through its Primary and Supporting Aims and Objectives and contributes to the outcomes identified in the Natural Environment Division's strategic framework.

11. Financial implications – the implementation of these policies will be designed to be delivered within approved budgets, as outlined in the Keats House Forward Plan and Annual Activities Plans.
12. Resource implications – the implementation of these policies will be designed to be delivered within the existing resource base, as outlined in the Keats House Forward Plan and Annual Activities Plans.
13. Legal implications – None identified.
14. Risk implications – the regular review, approval and adoption of the Keats House policy framework helps mitigate against a range of risks as outlined in the Keats House Risk Register, particularly ENV-NE-KH-004 – Loss of staff expertise.
15. Equalities implications – the proposed policies support Keats House's commitment to providing inclusive and equitable access to its collections, services and activities. Their approval is not expected to result in any impact on people with protected characteristics.
16. Climate Implications – None
17. Security Implications – None

Conclusion

18. The Museum Accreditation Scheme is managed by Arts Council England and is the 'nationally agreed standards to ensure all museums are sustainable, focused and trusted, inspiring the confidence of the public and funding and governing bodies'.

19. As a leading museum and visitor attraction within the City Corporation's cultural portfolio, Keats House aspires to the highest standards of governance, collections care, documentation and visitor engagement and access. One way in which we can demonstrate this to our stakeholders, visitors and actual and potential funders is by retaining full Museum Accreditation status.
20. Reviewing, revising and implementing our key policies and processes as part of our reapplication for Museum Accreditation will help Keats House develop a sustainable future operating and business model for the next three to five years.

Appendices

- Appendix 1 – KH Collections Care and Conservation Policy 2026-2031.
- Appendix 2 – KH Documentation Policy 2026-2031.
- Appendix 3 – KH Access Policy 2026-2031.

Rob Shakespeare

Head of Heritage & Museums, Environment Department

T: 020 7332 1818

E: rob.shakespeare@cityoflondon.gov.uk

Louise Montefiore

Graduate Management Trainee, Environment Department

E: louise.montefiore@cityoflondon.gov.uk



Keats House Care and Conservation Policy 2026

Keats House museum is managed as a registered charity (1053381) by the City of London Corporation, which acts as its sole trustee.

This policy was approved by the Culture, Heritage and Libraries Committee on DD/MM/YYYY. We will review the policy every five years. The policy will next be reviewed in 2030/31.

Charitable objective

The objective of the Keats House Charity is “to preserve and maintain and restore for the education and benefit of the public the land with the buildings known as Keats House as a museum and live memorial to John Keats and as a literary meeting place and centre”.

Our commitment to collections care and conservation

Keats House first opened as a museum in 1925 and remains dedicated to caring for its buildings and collections, which tell the story of Romantic poet John Keats, his works, legacy and significance today.

We support the Museum Association Code of Ethics statement that we “manage collections for the long-term for the benefit of current and future generations” and work to maintain the ethical, legal and best-practice guidelines relevant to the ownership, stewardship and care of our shared heritage assets.

Through this we play an active role in delivering the ‘Flourishing Public Spaces’ outcome set out in the City of London (CoL) Corporate Plan (2024-2029), and in supporting the CoL Cultural Strategy (2026-2030) priority of positioning the City as ‘A Global Cultural Destination’.

Our definition of collections care and conservation

We define our duty of care for our buildings and collections as comprising both preventive and remedial conservation.

Scope and considerations

The scope of this policy is the buildings and collections at Keats House museum, Hampstead. Our non-displayed collections are stored and cared for by The London Archives (TLA), under their Collections Care and Conservation Policy and associated procedures and plans.

Keats House (Grade I listed) and Ten Keats Grove (Grade II listed) are assets of the Keats House Charity, which is supported by the CoL as its sole trustee. The buildings are maintained by the CoL's City Surveyor's Department, based at Guildhall.

This policy is intended to guide decisions and actions about items from the collection to ensure that they are secure, cared for, and therefore conserved for future generations to learn from and enjoy.

This documentation should be read in conjunction with:

- Keats House Collections Care and Conservation Plan
- Keats House Collections Development Policy
- Keats House Forward Plan, 2026-29 (and beyond)
- Keats House (annual) Activities Plans

- Any other related documents including the Emergency Plan, Keats House Conservation Management Plan and Building Maintenance Plan, and any plans affecting the charity's buildings and collections.

How we plan to deliver this policy:

Preventive conservation

Keats House considers preventive conservation to cover all measures and actions necessary to avoid and minimise future deterioration or loss of museum objects or structures. We will prioritise measures that reduce the need for interventive or remedial conservation. We will deliver this by:

Collection condition monitoring

- ensuring appropriate handling, storage and display practices, including the use of conservation-grade materials and suitable mounts, fixings and supports;
- carrying out regular condition checks on objects, including visual inspection during cleaning and the rotation of displays, and recording any change in conditions;
- in the case of loans to or from the House, ensuring loan agreements are in place and object entry/exit forms and accompanying condition checks are completed;
- ensuring safe transport of objects, including involving trained staff and using appropriate packing methods;
- managing display durations and rotations in line with advice from colleagues at the TLA and Guildhall Art Gallery specialising in conservation.

Environmental conditions monitoring and regulation

- providing and implementing guidelines for appropriate conditions in which to store, handle, display, study and transport objects, including loans (see the Care and Conservation Plan);
- using environmental monitoring to track conditions including temperature, relative humidity and light, and regularly documenting and reviewing this data; and
- actively managing light exposure to prevent damage from fluctuating daylight conditions.

Building management

- preserving the Grade I listed building from which we operate (see the Building Maintenance Plan); and
- working with the CoL's City Surveyor's Department, based at Guildhall, to maintain the buildings.

Housekeeping and pest management

- maintaining high standards of housekeeping, including regular cleaning of the House and conservation cleaning of objects on display; and
- regularly setting and checking pest traps and recording results.

Security

- maintaining secure locks and access controls to protect collections on display;
- maintaining a security alarm system directly linked to a remote monitoring station; and
- using CCTV to monitor all rooms where the collections are on display, as well as all exit points.

Emergency preparedness

- maintaining up-to-date emergency preparedness and response plans and training staff on emergency procedures; and
- maintaining and regularly testing fire detection and alarm systems, and having appropriate fire and response measures in place (see Emergency Plan).

Remedial conservation

Keats House considers remedial conservation to cover the active treatment of an object to stabilise or enhance its condition. We will deliver this by:

- undertaking remedial conservation on objects according to acuteness of need and exhibitions requirements, subject to funding;
- ensuring all such work is undertaken by an appropriately qualified individual, and only after discussions with CoL curatorial officers; and
- documenting, in line with Spectrum standards, the condition of collections and any conservation work taken within the Museum's Collection Management System (CollectionsIndex+).

Working items

The Keats House Collections contain a very small number of working items on display in the House, namely a grandfather clock and an upright piano. The clock is kept in working order by museum staff, and the piano is currently not playable. In both cases, specialist conservators would be called on, only after discussions with CoL curatorial officers, to advise on any specialist conservation requirements. Any actions taken would be recorded within the Museum's Collection Management System (CollectionsIndex+).

Policy review procedure

We will review this policy at least every five years. The policy will next be due for review in 2031.



Keats House Documentation Policy 2026

Keats House museum is managed as a registered charity (1053381) by the City of London Corporation, which acts as its sole trustee.

This policy was approved by the Culture, Heritage and Libraries Committee on DD/MM/YYYY. We will review the policy every five years. The policy will next be reviewed in 2030/31.

Charitable objective

The objective of the Keats House Charity is “to preserve and maintain and restore for the education and benefit of the public the land with the buildings known as Keats House as a museum and live memorial to John Keats and as a literary meeting place and centre”.

Our commitment to documentation

Keats House is dedicated to documenting its collections in order to preserve the information that makes objects meaningful and accessible to users. Good documentation underpins public access, interpretation and engagement by recording the history, significance and context of collection items, while enabling staff to manage the collections effectively.

Our documentation system operates within the legislative guidelines of the Data Protection Act (2018), and the ethical framework set out in the Museums Association's Code of Ethics, especially section 3.7. We support its statement that we “actively manage collections and their documentation for the long term, including an up-to-date inventory.”

Through robust documentation practices, Keats House plays an active role in delivering the ‘Providing Excellent Services’ outcome set out in the City of London (CoL) Corporate Plan (2024-2029), and in supporting the CoL Cultural Strategy (2026-2030) priority of enabling visitors to ‘Access Culture with Ease’.

Our definition of documentation

Keats House considers documentation to refer to the museum's records and information systems for identifying, accounting for, managing and providing access to the objects in its care.

Keats House obtains information from many sources including donors, visitors, students, researchers and representatives of source and descent communities, as well as through research by staff and volunteers.

Documentation activities include the following Spectrum primary procedures: object entry/exit, loans in/out, location and movement control, cataloguing, inventory and documentation planning.

Scope and considerations

The scope of this policy is the collections displayed at Keats House museum, Hampstead, and also the non-displayed collections stored at The London Archives (TLA).

This policy is intended to ensure that Keats House can provide appropriate access to information about relevant items in the House's collections. Where possible and appropriate, Keats House will respect the wishes of representatives of source and descent communities in relation to recording and making accessible information regarding artefacts, photographs and archival documents in the Keats House collections.

This document should be read in conjunction with:

- Keats House Collections Development Policy
- Keats House Documentation Procedural Manual

How we plan to deliver this policy:

Keats House will meet the Spectrum primary procedures for documentation by considering:

- Object entry/exit;
- Loans in/out;
- Location and movement control;
- Cataloguing;
- Inventory; and
- Documentation planning.

Procedures are set out in the Keats House Documentation Procedural Manual.

Object entry/exit

- We will maintain appropriate records for all objects entering/leaving the museum's care;
- record the arrival and departure of objects promptly and accurately within the museum's documentation systems; and
- accurately record acquisitions and accessioned objects.

Loans in/out

- We will maintain appropriate documentation for all loans in/out;
- complete an annual review of outstanding loans in/out; and

- ensure that loan, location, movement, condition and entry or exit information is recorded and linked to the relevant object records.

Location and movement control

- We will maintain accurate and up-to-date records of the location of objects in our care and in the care of TLA;
- record movements of objects and retain an appropriate audit trail of previous locations; and
- ensure that objects are moved only by suitably trained staff or specialists.

Cataloguing

- We will maintain and develop catalogue records to support accountability, collections management, research, interpretation and appropriate public access; and
- record information clearly and consistently, in accordance with recognised museum documentation practice; and

Inventory

- We will record sufficient information about all objects for which the museum is legally responsible, including allocating each object or group of objects with an individual accession number;
- maintain documentary evidence of the museum's legal title to accessioned objects;
- record new acquisitions in the accession register and the Museum's Collection Management System, CollectionsIndex+; and
- complete an annual audit check of items on display at Keats House.

Documentation planning

- We will maintain documentation procedures that meet Spectrum standards; and
- work towards the centralisation of collections information through CollectionsIndex+.

Policy review procedure

We will review this policy at least every five years. The policy will next be due for review in 2031.



Keats House Access Policy 2026

Keats House museum is managed as a registered charity (1053381) by the City of London Corporation, which acts as its sole trustee.

This policy was approved by the Culture, Heritage and Libraries Committee on DD/MM/YYYY. We will review the policy every five years. The policy will next be reviewed in 2030/31.

Charitable objective

The objective of the Keats House Charity is “to preserve and maintain and restore for the education and benefit of the public the land with the buildings known as Keats House as a museum and live memorial to John Keats and as a literary meeting place and centre”.

Our commitment to access

The City of London Corporation (CoL) has a public sector duty under the Equality Act 2010. Keats House is committed to meeting the statutory requirements set out by the Act by doing everything possible to make its offer accessible to the widest possible audience.

We are dedicated to maximising access to our buildings, collections and services for all. We aim, within the limitations of our resources, to offer the widest, richest, and most engaging experience for all users. We continually ensure that our museum is ‘equitable and inclusive’, in line with the first ethical principle outlined in the Museum Association’s Code of Ethics.

Keats House plays an active role in delivering the ‘Diverse Engaged Communities’ outcome set out in the CoL Corporate Plan (2024-2029), and in supporting the CoL Cultural Strategy (2026-2030) priority of enabling visitors to ‘Access Culture with Ease’.

Our definition of access

Keats House considers access to mean that users experience as few barriers as possible to engaging with us, considering in particular physical, sensory, cultural and social, intellectual, attitudinal and financial accessibility.

We will ensure that all our services can be accessed, understood and used by a wide range of audiences, by minimising or removing barriers that may prevent engagement with our buildings, collections, events programme, and digital channels.

Scope and considerations

The scope of this policy is Keats House museum, Hampstead, and its digital channels. Our non-displayed collections are made accessible through The London Archives (TLA).

Keats House is a Grade I listed building, so some structural adaptations are not possible. However, we will actively work to mitigate these limitations by providing alternative forms of access. We will continue to identify and implement opportunities to improve physical access wherever possible.

How we plan to deliver this policy:

Physical access

We will consider the needs of people with physical disabilities, elderly visitors and those caring for young children, by:

- providing step-free access from street level to the ground floor rooms;
- providing alternative ways to view rooms which cannot be physically accessed;
- ensuring toilets and baby-changing facilities are accessible;
- offering areas for seating and rest throughout the House; and
- providing effective wayfinding signage inside and outside the museum, and detailing routes to reach the museum on our website.

Sensory access

We will work to ensure that visitors with impaired vision or hearing can enjoy the House and its collections, by:

- providing accessible interpretation in a range of formats, e.g. large-print guides, audio materials and interactive elements;
- considering sensory accessibility in the design and delivery of exhibitions, displays, and visitor guides;
- ensuring that digital content, including our website and social media, is maintained in line with recognised accessibility standards;
- providing workforce training on welcoming customers with sensory differences or disabilities;
- considering sensory accessibility in the design of our events; and
- using technology to develop alternative interpretive approaches.

Cultural and social access

We will consider the needs of visitors from a range of backgrounds, by:

- consulting and collaborating with community partners to develop projects and events that welcome and connect with audiences from diverse communities and backgrounds; and
- developing interpretation and other resources that are accessible to our diverse audiences.

Intellectual access

We recognise and support the variety of learning styles and Special Education Needs and Disabilities (SEND), by:

- providing varied means of access to the museum and collections, including exhibitions, interactive displays, guided tours, events, social media content, and information on our website; and
- ensuring that our learning programme is tailored to the specific needs of schools and audiences.

Attitudinal access

We will ensure that the House's environment and staff are welcoming to visitors from all sections of the community, by:

- ensuring that visitors are made to feel welcome on arrival;
- ensuring that communications present the museum as an inclusive and welcoming destination; and
- creating an environment in which people feel comfortable and can experience the House at their own pace.

Financial access

We recognise that ability to pay can be a barrier to access and will offer opportunities for those on lower incomes to access the service, by:

- offering free and concession tickets for a variety of user groups;
- ensuring that certain events are offered free of charge; and
- taking part in initiatives which provide free access to the House, e.g. Open House Festival and Heritage Open Days.

Specific projects and actions to deliver on the above are included in the Business and Activities Plans.

How we will measure the success of this policy:

Keats House will continually monitor, review and improve our provision for physical, sensory, cultural, intellectual, attitudinal and financial access.

We are committed to understanding who our visitors and non-visitors are. We will continue to ensure that our offer is shaped by feedback from our audiences, by:

- reading comments left in the visitor book and on social media;
- encouraging the completion of evaluation forms at events; and
- conducting an annual visitor survey to gather feedback and statistics.

Policy review procedure

We will review this policy at least every five years. The policy will next be due for review in 2031.

Committee(s): Culture, Heritage and Libraries Committee – For Information	Dated: 25/9/2026
Subject: Inspiring London through Culture Fund – Annual update 2025/26	Public
This proposal delivers Corporate Plan 2024-29 outcomes:	Diverse Engaged Community; Vibrant Thriving Destination
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: Simon Latham, Managing Director of the City Bridge Foundation	For Information
Report author: Sheena Etches, Funding & Charity Management Lead, Central Funding and Charity Management Team	

Summary

The Central Grants Programme (CGP) provides a portfolio of four funding programmes that support the delivery of activities and services primarily within the Square Mile. The CGP's Inspiring London through Culture funding programme (ILTC) opened in October 2016. ILTC is managed on behalf of the Culture Team by the Central Funding and Charity Management Team (CFCMT). The ILTC has one funding round each year. This report provides information on the funding decision made in the 2024/25 financial year.

Recommendations

Members are asked to:

1. Note the grant decisions in relation to the Inspiring London Through Culture Fund 2025/26 at **Appendix 2**.

Main Report

Background

1. The Inspiring London Through Culture funding programme (ILTC) is one of a portfolio of four open grant funding programmes that form the City of London Corporation's (CoLC's) Central Grants Programme (CGP). The ILTC opened in October 2016.
2. The ILTC awards grants to cultural projects and services that are being delivered for the benefit of communities or beneficiaries within the City of London. Projects must either have most or all benefits delivered within the geographic boundaries

of the City of London or engage with the City of London's resident and/or worker communities (at any location).

3. ILTC applications must meet one or more of the fund's four core criteria – 'Promote access for all to participate in the City of London's cultural offer'; 'Enhance London's creative future through championing excellence in the development of innovative practice and/or skills'; 'Deliver positive social impact through culture and/or heritage in the City of London'; Support the development of the City of London's Destination City'. (See **Appendix 1**).
4. ILTC has one funding round each year.
5. The Culture Heritage and Libraries Committee delegates the award of grants to the ILTC Panel who meet annually. The ILTC Panel is made up of representatives from a range of Cultural Institutions across the City (Guildhall School of Music & Drama; Barbican) and external bodies active in the cultural sector (Culture Team, GLA; Bloomberg Philanthropies), alongside the Chair and Deputy Chair of the CHL Committee and Officers from the Culture Team.
6. A comprehensive grant management service for ILTC and other City of London grant funding programmes is delivered by the CFCMT drawing on the team's expertise in the field of grant-making and in line with 'Open and Trusting' grant making practice. The CFCMT is a City of London-wide resource managing a number of other grant programmes on behalf of departments across the City of London including the Community Infrastructure Levy Neighbourhood Fund and the Destination City Partnership Fund.
7. Management of the ILTC process is aligned with the City's existing grant allocation process through the CFCMT. Applications to the ILTC undergo a process of due diligence, assessment and financial review by Funding Managers before sign-off by a Senior CFCMT Officer. Eligible applications are then presented to the ILTC Panel for delegated decision. At the ILTC Panel consideration is given to each proposal's alignment with the ILTC criteria, outputs and outcomes, value for money in terms of social, environmental as well as financial value and equality considerations.

Inspiring London through Culture Funding Programme 2025/26

8. In 2025/26 the ILTC received 30 applications in total – a 20% increase in applications to the ILTC from the previous financial year. This year on year increase in the number of applications to grant funders is being experienced across the sector as cultural organisations whose reserves were used during the pandemic struggle with increasing costs at a time when several major arts and charitable funders are realigning their funding priorities or closing.
9. The CGP has an annual City's Estate budget of £220,000 split across three funding programmes, and additional funds specifically to deliver the Destination City Partnership Fund. In 2025/26 the ILTC received an annual budget of £73,333 to allocate to eligible applications

10. At their meeting of the ILTC Panel on 12 December 2025 the Panel awarded nine grants totalling £74,209. The overspend on this programme includes funds written back in year and allocated to the programme. A full list of grant decisions can be found at **Appendix 2**.

Applicant	Approved grants
Invisible Flock Co. (27382)	£10,000 over 16 months to contribute to the costs of materials, production, marketing, travel and the accommodation of speakers involved with a weekend festival combining art, architecture, and sustainability in the City of London to promote dialogue on c
VOCES8 Foundation (27374)	£5,800 over 12 months towards interactive workshops and a concert for children and their families which combines singing, creativity and themes related to the City.
Urban Learners Community CIC (27344)	£5,000 across one year to deliver Urban Steps – a programme of 3 Cultural Heritage Active Walking Trails for Young People into the City of London.
The Jewish Square Mile Foundation (27339)	£10,000 over 12 months to deliver a two-day mini history festival exploring the medieval Jewish City with expert lectures and hands-on workshops for visitors of all ages.
Phosphoros Theatre (27326)	£8,959 over 12 months towards the costs of 'Phosphoros Theatre's 10th Anniversary Festival' a celebration of creativity, courage, and community driven by young refugee artists.
Koro Productions Ltd (27294)	£10,000 over 12 months to deliver an immersive performance market at Leadenhall Market by migrant theatre-makers.
Queer East CIC (27263)	£5,000 over 8 months to deliver 6 film screenings as part of the Queer East Festival at the Barbican Centre, exploring LGBTQ+ cultures from East and Southeast Asian communities.
Innercity Films (27240)	£10,000 across 12 months to deliver 'Golden Moments' – a series of 8 photography, reminiscences, storytelling, community and culture workshops and celebratory presentation co-created with residents from Golden Lane Estate, using real film cameras.
Clio's Company (27359)	£9,450 over 12 months towards the costs of research, development and resources for 'Coming Here' a series of new, interactive drama workshops for children living in London.

11. The average value of grant awarded increased from £7,610 in 2024/25 to £8,245 in 2025/26 reflecting the increased operational costs of producing arts projects. . Given that the value of the funding available has remained constant, yet the number of applications to each funding round is growing, the approval rate for ILTC has decreased from 40% in 2024/25 to 30% in 2025/26.
12. Despite the limited funding available, grants were awarded to projects across a wide range of artforms from theatre to film, documentary photography to architecture. Funded projects will be delivered across a diversity of indoor and outdoor City of London locations including City gardens, Leadenhall Market,

Golden Lane Estate and within the City's established cultural venues with project formats to include children's workshops, immersive theatre performances, film screenings and a mini-festival.

Future delivery

13. The CFCMT will be working with the Culture Team to review and align the Inspiring London Through Culture Fund with the City of London's new Cultural Strategy. A substantive update will be provided to this committee in due course.

Corporate & Strategic Implications

14. **Financial implications** – CFCMT Officer time to manage the ILTC will be met by the CFCMT central team budget.
15. **Resource implications** – Officer time to manage the ILTC and review its impact will be provided by the CFCMT as part of the Team's responsibility for the CGP's management.
16. **Strategic implications** – The delivery of the ILTC providing cultural activities and services for communities in the City of London aligns with the City Corporation's own Corporate Plan and stated aims of providing creating diverse engaged communities and vibrant thriving destination.
17. **Risk implications** – All ILTC grants are managed and monitored by Funding Managers within the CFCMT to mitigate risks in project delivery through provision of ongoing advice and support.
18. **Equalities implications** – The purpose of the ILTC is to fund cultural projects and services delivered for the benefit of communities or beneficiaries within the City of London which 'Promote access for all to participate in the City of London's cultural offer' and/or 'Deliver positive social impact through culture and/or heritage in the City of London' leading to increased community cohesion.

Conclusion

19. The Inspiring London Through Culture Fund is an impactful grant funding programme that contributes to the delivery of the City of London's Corporate Plan strategic outcomes. The ILTC funds projects and activities across a wide spectrum of artforms, locations and audiences promoting access for all to participate in the City of London's vibrant cultural offer.

Appendices

- Appendix 1 – Inspiring London through Culture Fund Criteria
- Appendix 2 – Inspiring London through Culture – Grants awarded 2025/26

Sheena Etches

Funding and Charity Management Lead
Central Funding and Charity Management Team
E: sheena.etches@cityoflondon.gov.uk

Appendix 1

Inspiring London Through Culture Fund: Core Criteria

- i. Promote access for all to participate in the City of London's cultural offer
- ii. Enhance London's creative future through championing excellence in the development of innovative practice and/or skills
- iii. Deliver positive social impact through culture and/or heritage in the City of London
- iv. Support the development of the City of London's Destination City

Inspiring London Through Culture Fund: Priorities

In addition, we positively welcome and will prioritise proposals that:

- Engage with people living or working in the Square Mile;
- Engage with new audiences, attracting people from a wide variety of backgrounds and locations to participate in the City's cultural offer;
- Animate places and spaces within the Square Mile;
- Encourage access to local buildings and local heritage within the Square Mile;
- Improve health and wellbeing;
- Use technology to deliver cultural excellence;
- Highlight environmental issues and promote sustainability;
- Build organisational capacity;
- Support entrepreneurialism;
- Build innovative partnerships (especially with one or more of the cultural/heritage providers already operating within the City); and/or
- Demonstrate some level of match-funding, noting we value opportunities where City funding can help to lever in funding from other sources

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Appendix 2

Inspiring London Through Culture Fund: Grant decisions taken under delegated authority 2025/2026

Applicant	Description	Decision
Invisible Flock Co. (27382)	£10,000 over 16 months to contribute to the costs of materials, production, marketing, travel and the accommodation of speakers involved with a weekend festival combining art, architecture, and sustainability in the City of London to promote dialogue on c	Approved
VOCES8 Foundation (27374)	£5,800 over 12 months towards interactive workshops and a concert for children and their families which combines singing, creativity and themes related to the City.	Approved
Urban Learners Community CIC (27344)	£5,000 across one year to deliver Urban Steps – a programme of 3 Cultural Heritage Active Walking Trails for Young People into the City of London.	Approved
The Jewish Square Mile Foundation (27339)	£10,000 over 12 months to deliver a two-day mini history festival exploring the medieval Jewish City with expert lectures and hands-on workshops for visitors of all ages.	Approved
Phosphoros Theatre (27326)	£8,959 over 12 months towards the costs of ‘Phosphoros Theatre’s 10th Anniversary Festival’ a celebration of creativity, courage, and community driven by young refugee artists.	Approved
Koro Productions Ltd (27294)	£10,000 over 12 months to deliver an immersive performance market at Leadenhall Market by migrant theatre-makers.	Approved
Queer East CIC (27263)	£5,000 over 8 months to deliver 6 film screenings as part of the Queer East Festival at the Barbican Centre, exploring LGBTQ+ cultures from East and Southeast Asian communities.	Approved
Innercity Films (27240)	£10,000 across 12 months to deliver ‘Golden Moments’ – a series of 8 photography, reminiscences, storytelling, community and culture workshops and celebratory presentation co-created with residents from Golden Lane Estate, using real film cameras.	Approved
Clio’s Company (27359)	£9,450 over 12 months towards the costs of research, development and resources for ‘Coming Here’ a series of new, interactive drama workshops for children living in London.	Approved
Artburst CIC (27373)	To deliver 20 ‘My Day Out’ playful, inclusive sessions introducing under-fives and families to the City of London’s cultural wonders.	Rejected
House of Dread (27369)	Stitching the City: Living Libraries and Creative Activations mapping London’s Transatlantic Trafficking of Enslaved Africans (TTEA) legacies through quilting, storytelling, and community-led archiving.	Rejected
Somali Bravanese Welfare Assoc	Safeguarding Bravanese heritage through 3 intergenerational workshops, illustrated children’s vocabulary book, and City of London exhibition celebrating “Voices of Brava.”	Rejected

Barnet (27362)		
Arab British Centre (27357)	SAFAR: Recruitment of Festival Co-ordinator and Festival activity within City of London	Rejected
People Show (27351)	A conversational audio walking tour featuring the people, sounds and sights of the City of London.	Rejected
Drum Works CIC (27352)	Drumming Together! Drum Club 2026/27 sparking creativity and building stronger connections across the City of London	Rejected
Artsadmin (27346)	Artist-led workshop series and public engagement on Golden Lane Estate for new show celebrating unconventional families - intergenerational, neurodivergent and queer.	Rejected
IRIE! dance theatre (27338)	Groundation - Sharing West African traditional dances and Jamaican folk dances, representing social, ritual, and religious rites in the City.	Rejected
The National Literacy Trust (27283)	Young City Poets inspires students to create poetry and enjoy writing by visiting iconic City venues, working alongside professional poets.	Rejected
Artperuk CIC (27277)	Peruvian Baileton-festival with inclusive workshops, competitions, celebrating cultural diversity, fostering creativity, community participation and wellbeing, delivering innovative impact in the City.	Rejected
The Cathedral Church of St Paul in London (27260)	Cathedral at Night offers a unique free cultural experience beyond regular opening hours with tours, craft displays, activities and music.	Rejected
Whitechapel Gallery (27250)	Backyard Biennial: a summer-long creative festival programme promoting arts access/delivering positive social impacts in the City and further afield.	Rejected
Barbican Centre Trust Limited (27245)	Barbican Sankofa Community Carnival - community costume-making, music and dance workshops leading to public performances, showcasing the City's vibrant culture	Rejected
Carillon Society of Britain & Ireland (27235)	A weekend celebration of carillon music, animating the City with international performances, collaboration, and public engagement.	Rejected
Inspiring Audio Ltd (27223)	'City Kids Time Explorers' drama podcasts creating adventure as children walk and explore the City's social, historical and architectural stories.	Rejected



11 September 2026

REPORT OF ACTION TAKEN UNDER STANDING ORDER NO. 41(A)

SUBJECT: Sculpture in the City proposal in Leadenhall Building – ‘Assent/Ascent (2026)’ by Hannah Starkey

BACKGROUND

1. The CPAP received an application from Eastern City Business Improvement District (on behalf of Sculpture in the City -SITC) on 25 August 2026 for the temporary installation of Hannah Starkey’s vinyl artwork ‘Assent/Ascent (2026)’ in the Leadenhall Building to replace the current artwork by Jane and Louise Wilson.
2. The new site-specific installation will be a new addition to the current SITC programme and will transform the Leadenhall building into a cinematic experience, evoking the dense urban cityscape. Planning permission is not required. It is intended that the new artwork at the Leadenhall Building will form a part of the launch of the new SITC model, and it is expected to be in situ for at least 12 months.

Reason for Urgency procedure

The urgency process was used for this proposal because the removal and replacement of the artwork at the Leadenhall Building was scheduled to take place during the weekend of **12/13 September** ahead of the launch of the new SITC model during the London Sculpture Week (LSW) that began on 19th September, before the CHL Committee meeting.

The CPAP met on 3 September 2026 to consider the proposal and recommended that it be approved.

- **RESOLVED:** That the Town Clerk, in consultation with the Chairman and Deputy Chairman of the Culture Heritage & Libraries Committee, approve the artwork ‘Ascent/Assent (2026) by Hannah Starkey – Sculpture in the City escalator vinyl artwork replacement at The Leadenhall Building.

Jayne Moore, Governance Officer

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By virtue of paragraph(s) 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A
of the Local Government Act 1972.

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