PLEASE BRING THIS AGENDA WITH YOU

The Lady Mayor will take the Chair at ONE of the clock in the afternoon precisely.

COMMON COUNCIL

SIR/MADAM,

You are desired to be at a Court of Common Council, at **GUILDHALL**, on **THURSDAY** next, **the 23rd day of July, 2026.**

Members of the public can observe the public part of this meeting by visiting The City of London Corporation YouTube Channel

IAN THOMAS CBE,
Town Clerk & Chief Executive.

Guildhall,
Wednesday 15th July 2026

Sushil Saluja

Sir Alastair King

} *Aldermen on the Rota*

1 **Apologies**

2 **Declarations by Members under the Code of Conduct in respect of any items on the agenda**

3 **Minutes**

To agree the minutes of the meeting of the Court of Common Council held on 25 June 2026.

For Decision
(Pages 7 - 20)

4 **Mayoral Engagements**

The Right Honourable The Lady Mayor to report on her recent engagements.

5 **Policy Statement**

To receive a statement from the Chairman of the Policy and Resources Committee.

6 **Appointments**

To consider the following appointments:

(A) Three Members on the **Board of Governors of the City of London Freemen's School,** two terms expiring in July 2028 and one for a term expiring in July 2030.
(No Contest)
Nominations received:-
John Foley

(B) Two Members on the **Board of Governors of the City of London School**, for four year terms expiring in July 2030.
(No Contest)
Nominations received:-
Florence Keelson-Anfu

(C) Three Members on the **Board of Governors of the City of London School for Girls**, two for four-year terms and one expiring in July 2027.
(No Contest)
Nominations received:-
Anett Rideg

For Decision

7 **Policy and Resources Committee**

To consider reports of Policy and Resources Committee, as follows: -

(A) Governance Efficiencies and Effectiveness: Scheme of Delegations to Officers

To consider a proposal relating to a Draft Framework for Managing Changes to the Scheme of Delegations to Officers.

For Decision
(Pages 21 - 28)

(B) Corporate Services Committee: Policy Chairman Representation

To consider a proposal relating to an amendment to the constitution of Corporate Services Committee.

For Decision
(Pages 29 - 32)

8 **The Freedom of the City**

To consider a circulated list of applications for the Freedom of the City.

For Decision
(Pages 33 - 36)

9 **Motions**

(A) By Deputy Ann Corbett and Deputy Ceri Wilkins

To note a motion relating to a Ward Committee appointment taken under urgency procedures in accordance with Standing Orders 19 and 23(6).

"That Gaby Robertshaw replace Adam Hogg, as the Ward Representative for Cripplegate on the Planning & Transportation Committee, with immediate effect".

For Information

(B) By Deputy Madush Gupta

"That Leyla Boulton be appointed to the Finance Committee in the room of Deputy Madush Gupta for the Ward of Bassishaw"

For Decision

(**C**) **By Deputy Henry Colthurst**
"That the Ward of Lime Street pair with the Ward of Cornhill in the room of Deputy Henry Colthurst on the Planning & Transportation Committee."

For Decision

10 **Questions**

11 **Audit and Risk Management Committee**

To receive the Committee's annual report updating on its activity from 1 April 2025 to 31 March 2026.

For Information
(Pages 37 - 42)

12 **Legislation**

To receive a report setting out measures introduced into Parliament which may have an effect on the services provided by the City Corporation.

For Information
(Pages 43 - 44)

13 **Ballot Results**

14 **Resolutions on Retirements, Congratulatory Resolutions, Memorials.**

15 **Awards and Prizes**

16 **Docquets for the Hospital Seal.**

MOTION

17 **By the Chief Commoner**

That the public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business below on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraph 3 and 5 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act, 1972; or, they relate to functions of the Court of Common Council that are not subject to the provisions of Part VA and Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972.

For Decision

18 **Non-Public Minutes**

To agree the non-public minutes of the meeting of the Court held on 25 June 2026.

For Decision
(Pages 45 - 46)

19 **Policy and Resources Committee and Finance Committee**

To consider a proposal relating the New London Museum project.

For Decision
(Pages 47 - 56)

20 **City Bridge Foundation Board**

To consider a proposal relating to City Bridge Foundation’s Investment Strategy
.

For Decision
(Pages 57 - 78)

21 **Civic Affairs Sub-Committee**

To consider a proposal relating to the provision of hospitality.

For Decision
(Pages 79 - 80)

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PARMLEY, LOCUM TENENS

COURT OF COMMON COUNCIL

25th June 2026
MEMBERS PRESENT

ALDERMEN

Alexander Robertson Martin Barr (Alderman)
Alison Gowman CBE (Alderman)
Prem Goyal CBE (Alderman)
Martha Grekos (Alderwoman)
Timothy Russell Hailes (Alderman)
Robert Charles Hughes-Penney (Alderman & Sheriff)
Sir Alastair John Naisbitt King DL (Alderman)
Elizabeth Anne King, BEM JP (Alderwoman)
Professor Michael Raymond Mainelli (Alderman)
Christopher Makin (Alderman)
Bronek Masojada (Alderman)
Jennette Rachel Newman (Alderwoman)
Sir Andrew Charles Parmley, (Alderman)
Simon Pryke (Alderman)
Sir William Anthony Bowater Russell (Alderman)

COMMONERS

Joanna Tufuo Abeyie JP MBE
Munsur Ali
Samapti Bagchi
Brendan Barns
Matthew Bell
Christopher Paul Boden, Deputy
Keith David Forbes Bottomley, Sheriff & Deputy
Leyla Boulton
Simon Burrows
Timothy Richard Butcher, Deputy
Lesley Cole
Melissa Rachel Collett
Henry Nicholas Almroth Colthurst, Deputy
Bethany Coombs, Deputy
Anne Corbett, Deputy
Elizabeth Corrin
Simon Duckworth, CBE OBE DL VR
Peter Gerard Dunphy MBE, Deputy
John Ernest Edwards, Deputy
Susan Farrington
John William Fletcher, Deputy
John Foley
Marianne Bernadette Fredericks, Deputy
Steve Goodman OBE
John Griffiths
Madush Gupta, Deputy
Caroline Wilma Haines, Deputy
Josephine Hayes
Jaspreet Hodgson, Deputy
Stephen Hodgson
Adam Michael Hogg
Ann Holmes, Deputy
Amy Horscroft
Sandra Jenner
Shravan Jashvantrai Joshi, MBE
Florence Keelson-Anfu
Helen Ladele
Charles Edward Lord, OBE JP
Antony Geoffrey Manchester
Vasiliki Manta
Paul Nicholas Martinelli, Deputy
Tim McNally
Wendy Mead OBE
Deborah Oliver TD, Deputy
Leyla Ostovar
Fraser Stuart Peck
Jason Paul Pritchard
Nighat Qureishi, Deputy
Gaby Robertshaw
David Sales
Sushil Kumar Saluja (Alderman)
Hugh Selka
Dr Giles Robert Evelyn Shilson OBE
James St John Davis
Stephanie Steeden
James Michael Douglas Thomson CBE, Deputy
James Richard Tumbridge
William Upton KC
Matthew Waters
Ceri Wilkins, Deputy
David Williams
Chief Commoner Philip Woodhouse
Dawn Linsey Wright, Deputy

Locum Tenens

Locum Tenens

The Town Clerk reported that the Lady Mayor had issued her apologies as she was unable to attend today's meeting due to a prior engagement. Accordingly, there was produced and laid in Court a Warrant, signed by the Right Honourable The Lady Mayor, appointing Alderman Sir Andrew Parmley as Locum Tenens to transact all the business appertaining to the Office of Mayoralty of this City during her absence.

1. Introduction of newly-elected Member

Deputy Dawn Wright presented John Griffiths to the Court as the newly-elected Member for the Ward of Coleman Street.

2. Apologies — The apologies of those Members unable to attend this meeting of the Court were noted.

3. Declarations — There were none.

4. Minutes — *Resolved,* That the Minutes of the last Court are correctly recorded.

5. Mayoral engagements — The Court heard that the Lady Mayor had, in recent weeks, visited Japan and South Korea and was presently in Frankfurt meeting the representative body for financial services along with several major German firms. She had recently hosted the Business and Trade Dinner at Mansion House and had been honoured to welcome His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales to Guildhall for the Earthshot Prize Impact Assembly.

6. Policy statement — Deputy James Thomson, Deputy Chair of the Policy & Resources Committee, spoke on behalf of the Chairman of that Committee.

He noted the recent successful visits to China and India, as well as the recent London Tech Week and London Climate Action Week events.

The Court noted the recent announcement that the London Museum will open on 28 November, marking a landmark moment for the City and creating a world-class cultural destination celebrating London's rich heritage while reinforcing its future as a destination to work, visit and invest.

Deputy Thomson congratulated Sir Alastair King and Simon Duckworth CBE OBE DL VR, for their recognition in His Majesty's Birthday Honours.

7. Appointments — The Court proceeded to consider the following appointments.

Where appropriate:

** Denotes a Member standing for re-appointment by the Court of Common Council.*

^ Denotes a Member who currently serves on the Committee in either an ex-officio capacity or as a representative of another Committee with appointment rights.

(A) **Local Government Pensions Board** (two vacancies)
(No Contest)

Nominations received:-
John Griffiths

Read.

Whereupon the Lady Mayor declared John Griffiths to be appointed to the Local Government Pensions Board.

(B) **Licensing Committee** (one vacancy)
(No Contest)

Nominations received:-
Tim McNally

Read.

Whereupon the Lady Mayor declared Tim McNally to be appointed to the Licensing Committee.

(C) **Education Board** (two vacancies)
(No Contest)

Nominations received:-
John Griffiths
Tessa Marchington

Read.

Whereupon the Lady Mayor declared John Griffiths and Tessa Marchington to be appointed to the Education Board.

(D) **Digital Services Committee** (one vacancy)
(No Contest)

Nominations received:-
Mandeep Thandi

Read.

Whereupon the Lady Mayor declared Mandeep Thandi to be appointed to the Digital Services Committee.

(E) **Board of Governors of the City of London Freemen's School** (two vacancies)
(No Contest)

Nominations received:-
Philip Woodhouse

Read.

Whereupon the Lady Mayor declared Philip Woodhouse to be appointed to the Board of Governors of the City of London Freemen's School.

(F) **Mitchell City of London Charity and Educational Foundation** (one vacancy)
(No contest)

Nominations received:-
Tim McNally

Read.

Whereupon the Lady Mayor declared Tim McNally to be appointed to the Mitchell City of London Charity and Educational Foundation.

8. **FINANCE COMMITTEE**

(Deputy Henry Nicholas Almroth Colthurst)

2 June 2026

Highway Construction & Maintenance Term Contract – Proposed Contract Extension

The Court considered the report of the Finance Committee proposing an extension of a highway maintenance contract.

Resolved - That the Court of Common Council:-

1. Agree the extension of the Highway Maintenance term contract with FM Conway for a further five years from June 2027, ensuring continuity of service delivery, sustained performance, and effective forward planning for major programmes. The proposed extension is in accordance with the original procurement provisions and represents a continuation of an existing compliant contractual arrangement; and

   Instruct the Comptroller and City Solicitor to prepare, and arrange for due execution of, a Deed of Variation recording the extension and other agreed changes to the contract in accordance with its terms.

9. Freedom of the City

The Chamberlain, in pursuance of the Order of this Court, presented a list of the under-mentioned persons, who made applications to be admitted to the Freedom of the City by Redemption.

The Court noted that the late David Hockney was included in the list, noting also that it is not possible to grant the Freedom posthumously. Understanding that Members may wish to honour him, Members heard that the Chamberlain will write to David Hockney's family to say that he would have been admitted but for his sad death, and that a suitable presentation will be arranged.

Nick Bamji	a Systems Engineer	Harpenden, Hertfordshire
Laura Dobbie Miller	*Citizen and Stationer and Newspaper Maker*	
Andrew David McGregor Dobbie	*Citizen and Educator*	
Nwakasi Belisle-Nweke	a Customer Service Representative	Bristol
James Richard Dickaty Godways Wetsi	*Citizen and Engineer* *Citizen and World Trader*	
Derek Bell	a Business Consultant	Surrey
Steven Patrick Pallett	*Citizen and Insurer*	
David James Sales, CC	*Citizen and Insurer*	

Christopher David Brace	a Marine Operations Manager	Wokingham, Berkshire
David John Tyrwhitt-Drake	*Citizen and Glazier*	
Elaine Irene Clack	*Citizen and Fanmaker*	
Sir Trevor David Brooking	a Footballer, retired	Chelmsford, Essex
The Rt. Hon The Lady Mayor	*Citizen and Insurer*	
Sheriff & Dep. Keith David Forbes Bottomley	*Citizen and Pattenmaker*	
Jacqueline Anne Brown	a Health & Wellness Company Director	York, North Yorkshire
Ann-Marie Jefferys	*Citizen and Glover*	
Anne Elizabeth Holden	*Citizen and Basketmaker*	
Alexander Charles James Buckle	a Security Supervisor	Lewisham, London
Colin Trevor Gurnett	*Citizen and Wheelwright*	
John Charles Jordan	*Citizen and Glover*	
William John Bushell	an Insurance Broker	Wandsworth, London
Ald. Sir Alastair John Naisbitt King, DL	*Citizen and Blacksmith*	
Sophia Abigail Mooney, CC	*Citizen*	
Patricia Mary Coleman	a Social Worker, retired	Maidenhead, Berkshire
Marcin Jerzy Kotarba	*Citizen and Bowyer*	
Derram Justin Attfield	*Citizen and Bowyer*	
Nicholas Arthur Joseph Collins	an Architect	Beverly, Massachusetts, United States of America
Keith Richard Stevens	*Citizen and Management Consultant*	
Anthony Robert Smith	*Citizen and Blacksmith*	
Andrew Connolly	a Chartered Financial Planner	Sandbach, Cheshire
Michael John James	*Citizen and Stationer and Newspaper Maker*	
James Patrick Vaughan	*Citizen and Stationer and Newspaper Maker*	
Pavita Cooper	a Non-Executive Director	Hounslow, London
Dep. Caroline Wilma Haines	*Citizen and Educator*	
Sir Peter Kenneth Estlin	*Citizen and International Banker*	
Dr Steven Martin Cooper, CBE	a Financial Services Chief Executive	Hounslow, London
Sir Peter Kenneth Estlin	*Citizen and International Banker*	
Dep. Caroline Wilma Haines	*Citizen and Educator*	
Dr Alta Couling	a Counselling Psychologist	Sudbury, Suffolk
Ann-Marie Jefferys	*Citizen and Glover*	
Anne Elizabeth Holden	*Citizen and Basketmaker*	
Donald James Cunningham	a Family Office Executive	Kensington and Chelsea, London
Katherine Victoria Bright	*Citizen and Security Professional*	

Shabana Umbreen Awan Raza	*Citizen and Solicitor*	
Asim Dutta	a Higher Education Business Development Manager	Dartford, Kent
Munsur Ali, CC	*Citizen and World Trader*	
Naresh Hari Sonpar, CC	*Citizen and Common Councillor*	
Raymond William Empson	a Facilities Management Company Director	Surrey
Anne Elizabeth Holden	*Citizen and Basketmaker*	
Ann-Marie Jefferys	*Citizen and Glover*	
Baroness Rona Alison Fairhead	a Peer of the Realm	Kensington & Chelsea, London
Ald. Sir William Anthony Bowater Russell	*Citizen and Haberdasher*	
Ald., Sir Charles Edward Beck Bowman	*Citizen and Grocer*	
Julie Fiona Fuller	an Event Organiser, retired	Buckinghamshire
Peter Claude Cave	*Citizen and Insurer*	
Daphne Edwina Cave	*Citizen and Glover*	
Alexis Dimitris Gavrielides	a Landlord	Islington, London
Dep. Madush Gupta	*Citizen and Pewterer*	
Ald. Timothy Russell Hailes, JP	*Citizen and Pewterer*	
John Mark Gibson	a Quantity Surveyor	Worcester, Worcestershire
His Honour Judge Simon Jonathan Oliver	*Citizen and Founder*	
Alan Hughes	*Citizen and Founder*	
Henry Michael Gilbert	a Charity Chairman	Swansea
Dr Kathleen Seddon	*Citizen and Pewterer*	
Stuart Ian Castledine	*Citizen and Wheelwright*	
Philip Haywood Glenister	an Actor	Richmond Upon Thames, London
His Honour Judge Mark Lucraft	*Citizen and Founder*	
Fiona Josephine Adler	*Citizen and Tobacco Pipe Maker & Tobacco Blender*	
Robert Lewis Glenister	an Actor	Southwark, London
His Honour Judge Mark Lucraft	*Citizen and Founder*	
Fiona Josephine Adler	*Citizen and Tobacco Pipe Maker & Tobacco Blender*	
Monica Gogna	a Solicitor	Kensington & Chelsea, London
Ald. Prem Babu Goyal, CBE	*Citizen and Plumber*	
Samapti Bagchi, CC	*Citizen and Common Councillor*	

Fiona May Murray Harper	a Marketing Consultancy Account Manager	High Wycombe, Buckinghamshire
Dr Riam Kanso	*Citizen and Scientific Instrument Maker*	
Dr Stephen Robert Schofield	*Citizen and Gold and Silver Wyre Drawer*	
Ross Nigel Hayes	an Animal Reception Centre Manager	Woking, Surrey
Wendy Mead, CC, OBE	*Citizen and Glover*	
Patricia Agnes Campfield, MBE	*Citizen and Wheelwright*	
Pieter Daniel Hendriksz	a Distillery Managing Director	Edinburgh
William Brian Morrison	*Citizen and Distiller*	
Matthew David Malcolm Gammell	*Citizen and Distiller*	
Anna Hermione Holmes	a Museum Curator	Greenwich, London
Robert Woolgar Wren	*Citizen and Clockmaker*	
Kerryleigh Bronwyn Hamer-Nel	*Citizen and Clockmaker*	
John Henry Ingram	Principal Doorkeeper in the House of Lords	Lincolnshire
Ald. Sir Andrew Charles Parmley	*Citizen and Musician*	
Ald., Sir Charles Edward Beck Bowman	*Citizen and Grocer*	
Kan Koo, MBE	a Hospitality Company Director	Bexley, London
Timothy James McNally, CC	*Citizen and Glazier*	
Ms Yisha Xue	*Citizen and Glazier*	
Ganesh Kuppala	a Senior Tax Director	Redbridge, London
Timothy James McNally, CC	*Citizen and Glazier*	
David James Sales, CC	*Citizen and Insurer*	
Catherine Mary Alison Larard	a Doctor of Medicine	Buckinghamshire
Mr Mark Frederick Wrightson Larard	*Citizen and Chartered Surveyor*	
Commander James Nisbet	*Citizen and International Banker*	
James Frederick Macfarlane Larard	a Chartered Accountant	Buckinghamshire
Mr Mark Frederick Wrightson Larard	*Citizen and Chartered Surveyor*	
Commander James Nisbet	*Citizen and International Banker*	
Kevin Neil Lewis	a Building Maintenance Commercial Manager	Enfield, London
Dep. Marianne Bernadette Fredericks	*Citizen and Baker*	
Vincent Dignam	*Citizen and Carman*	
Joseph Francis Lyons	a Charity Chief Executive Officer	Barnet, London

The Rt. Hon The Lady Mayor	*Citizen and Insurer*	
Sheriff & Dep. Keith David Forbes Bottomley	*Citizen and Pattenmaker*	
Dr Evangelos Mamaloukas	a Consultant Neurologist	Thessaloniki, Greece
Steven John Turner	*Citizen and Arts Scholar*	
Ian Wilson Tough	*Citizen and World Trader*	
Thomas Joseph Mark	a Hotel General Manager & Non Executive Director	Hexham, Northumberland
Philippe Roland Rossiter	*Citizen and Innholder*	
David Alastair Morgan-Hewitt	*Citizen and Innholder*	
Priyanka Matta	an Information Technology Consultant	Staines, Surrey
Jasdev Singh Rehncy	*Citizen and Tax Adviser*	
Amir Parsayan	*Citizen and Loriner*	
Steven James O'Neill McGee	a Construction Company Chief Operating Officer	Chesham, Buckinghamshire
Vincent Dignam	*Citizen and Carman*	
Jacqueline O'Donovan, OBE	*Citizen and Carman*	
Edward Joseph McManus	a Decorator & Historian	East Sussex
Harlan Lunn	*Citizen and Pattenmaker*	
Paresh Ramniklal Patel	*Citizen and Pattenmaker*	
Andrew John Millar	a Digital Engineering Manager	Bristol
Keith Richard Stevens	*Citizen and Management Consultant*	
Colin Roger Titmus	*Citizen and Air Pilot*	
Susan Caroline Elizabeth Northcott	a Solicitor, Educator & Administrator	Merton, London
Stephen Joseph Michael Marsh	*Citizen and Glover*	
Alison Marsh	*Citizen and Framework Knitter*	
Simon Geoffrey Perks	a Financial Consultant	Amersham, Buckinghamshire
David O'Reilly	*Citizen and Educator*	
Ald. Vincent Thomas Keaveny, CBE	*Citizen and Solicitor*	
Katie Ceri Reilly	a Financial Services Analyst	Barnet, London
Timothy James McNally, CC	*Citizen and Glazier*	
David James Sales, CC	*Citizen and Insurer*	
Carol Ann Richmond	an Insurance Company Non-Executive Director	Barnet, London
The Rt. Hon The Lady Mayor	*Citizen and Insurer*	
Elise Ward Rasmussen	*Citizen and Tobacco Pipe Maker and Tobacco Blender*	

Simone Gianluigi Francesco Rinaldi	a Business Intelligence Officer	Southwark, London
Ald. Prem Babu Goyal, CBE	*Citizen and Plumber*	
Samapti Bagchi, CC	*Citizen and Common Councillor*	
Shauna Cherelle Roper	a Chief of Staff	Dartford, Kent
Joanna Tufuo Abeyie, CC, MBE, JP	*Citizen and Haberdasher*	
Teresa Mary Claire Marchington, CC	*Citizen and Haberdasher*	
Elizabeth Su-Kim Scott	Head of Guildhall Art Gallery & Amphitheatre	Wandsworth, London
Brendan Anthony Michael Barns, CC	*Citizen and Cordwainer*	
John Ross Foley, CC	*Citizen and Wax Chandler*	
Stephen Robert Shelley	a Banking Group Chief Risk Officer	Berkhamsted, Hertfordshire
Dep. Madush Gupta	*Citizen and Pewterer*	
Ald. Timothy Russell Hailes, JP	*Citizen and Pewterer*	
Jonathan Neil Sheppard	a Seed Company Managing Director	Lincolnshire
Dep. Jaspreet Hodgson	*Citizen and Vintner*	
Stephen John Hodgson, CC	*Citizen and Tax Adviser*	
Joshua Jonathan Skelding	a Defence & Security Product Manager	Ealing, London
Scott Hanlon	*Citizen and Master Mariner*	
Pieter William Studley Cox	*Citizen and Fletcher*	
Michael Peter Stillwell	a Counsellor	Hertford, Hertfordshire
Andreas George Bisbas	*Citizen and Shipwright*	
Catherine Mary Mulvihill	*Citizen and Shipwright*	
Mark Gary Frederick Victor Thomas	a Charity Fundraising Manager	Bromley, London
Colin Trevor Gurnett	*Citizen and Wheelwright*	
John Charles Jordan	*Citizen and Glover*	
John Adrian Turnbull	a Commodity Trade Financier, retired	Billericay, Essex
Dr Kevin Malcolm Everett	*Citizen and Educator*	
Richard Evans	*Citizen and Educator*	
Dr Hasan Turunç	a Government Affairs Coordinator	Westminster, London
Ald. Prem Babu Goyal, CBE	*Citizen and Plumber*	
Samapti Bagchi, CC	*Citizen and Common Councillor*	
Kirsten Jane Wheatley	a City Livery Clerk	Farnham, Surrey
Kerryleigh Bronwyn Hamer-Nel	*Citizen and Clockmaker*	
Robert Woolgar Wren	*Citizen and Clockmaker*	
Elizabeth Alana Williams, MBE	a Charity Chief Executive & Social Entrepreneur	Wandsworth, London

Dep. Caroline Wilma Haines	*Citizen and Educator*	
Sir Peter Kenneth Estlin	*Citizen and International Banker*	
Robert Claes Winton	a Senior Lecturer	Jat, Sweden
Jacob Madway Bressman	*Citizen and Carman*	
Adam Jason Goldman	*Citizen and Basketmaker*	

Read.

Resolved – That this Court doth hereby assent to the admission of the said persons to the Freedom of the City by Redemption upon the terms and in the manner mentioned in the several Resolutions of this Court, and it is hereby ordered that the Chamberlain do admit them severally to the Freedom accordingly.

10. Motions

The Court noted two motions relating to Ward Committee appointments taken under urgency procedure since the last meeting in accordance with Standing Order 19 and 23(6), and considered two motions relating to Ward Committee appointments.

Wilkins, C., Deputy Corbett, A., Deputy

By Deputy Ceri Wilkins and Deputy Ann Corbett

These two motions relating to Ward Committee appointments taken under urgency procedure since the last meeting in accordance with Standing Order 19 and 23(6):

"That Jacqui Webster be appointed to the Planning and Transportation Committee in the room of Dawn Frampton, for the Ward of Cripplegate"; and

"That Adam Hogg be appointed to the Planning and Transportation Committee in the room of Gaby Robertshaw, for the Ward of Cripplegate.

Resolved – That the action taken be noted.

Dunphy, P. G., MBE, Deputy Woodhouse, P. M.

By Deputy Peter Dunphy MBE

Resolved - That Joanna Abeyie MBE be appointed to the Planning and Transportation Committee, in the room of the pairing arrangements for the Ward of Cornhill.

Wright, D. L.., Deputy Woodhouse, P. M.

By Deputy Dawn Wright

Resolved - That John Griffiths be appointed to Community and Children's Services Committee in the room of Alderman Sushil Saluja, for the Ward of Colemen Street.

11. Questions

Taxi access to Bank Junction

Deputy Sir Michael Snyder to Deputy Chairman of Planning & Transportation Committee

Pursuant to Standing Order 13(4), the Town Clerk asked a question of the Deputy Chairman of the Planning and Transportation Committee on behalf of Deputy Sir Michael Snyder, concerning the consultation on the experimental traffic order on taxi access to Bank Junction.

In response, the Deputy Chairman of the Planning & Transportation Committee (speaking in the absence of the Chairman) outlined the Resolution agreed in June 2024 to test the reopening of Bank Junction to licensed black cabs using an Experimental Traffic Order. The Court heard that the Corporation took into account relevant traffic and safety legislation during the consultation period, noting that the aim of the trial period was to increase the availability of black cabs in the Bank area

and that the findings are being carefully assessed ahead of final recommendations in line with the terms of the consultation.

Deputy Tim Butcher asked whether the Deputy Chairman could provide reassurance on whether the recent roadworks affecting the junction had impacted the responses particularly relating to those with mobility concerns, for whom access is vital; and also whether the current signage is adequate and has not impacted the consultation responses in respect of the number of accidents.

The Deputy Chairman noted that some roadworks had taken place since June 2024 but had not impacted the findings. Some disruption was to be expected given the duration of the Experimental Traffic Order; mitigations had been put in place to limit the impact on the consultation (including a change to the public consultation date start to 19 January 2026, and a three-month extension of the statutory consultation period to nine months) and that the situation was being carefully monitored. There was no indication of black cab drivers being unaware of the consultation or the roadworks, and the on-street signage appeared to be adequate.

Deputy Ann Holmes said that the issue had been on whether the restrictions at Bank Junction had impacted the wider availability of black cabs in the wider Square Mile City of London at all because of the restrictions at Bank Junction, and asked whether a key part of the review was to examine the number of black cabs available in the City before and after the Experimental Traffic Order.

The Deputy Chairman confirmed that he would consult with Officers on the matter and provide a written response.

As a supplementary question, Deputy Marianne Fredericks said that the Planning & Transportation Committee had made amendments to a separate consultation on kerbside parking, yellow lines and Pay and Display to include a ‘no change’ option. She asked whether the new option would be clearly highlighted, and whether the Corporation would improve its consultation process to ensure that the public are given the opportunity to access clear questions so that the right decisions are made.

The Deputy Chairman said that the supplementary question did not relate to the original question on Bank Junction black taxi access but noted that over 3,500 responses had been provided to the Bank Junction consultation.

Business rate relief

Shravan Joshi to Chairman of Policy & Resources Committee

Shravan Joshi asked the Chairman of the Policy and Resources Committee if he agreed that the Valuation Office Agency’s approach to valuing flexible and serviced workspace risked undermining business growth, and if he would make representation to Government to press for a fairer and more proportionate approach to how these workspaces are assessed?

The Deputy Chairman of the Policy and Resources Committee responded on behalf of the Chairman stating that the City Corporation consistently champions Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) that support the UK’s economic growth.

As a supplementary question, Shravan Joshi asked whether the City Corporation, in its capacity as a billing authority would assemble and present evidence to Parliament of the impact of business rate relief measures on small firms in the Square Mile.

In reply, the Deputy Chairman said that the City Corporation, as a billing authority, was well-placed to understand the impact of business rate relief changes on such workspaces, and had already engaged with the Valuation Agency on this matter.

Deputy Peter Dunphy CBE asked whether the City Corporation would consider including business occupiers of serviced offices in its franchise, given that they pay rates and may pay higher rates as a consequence of these changes. The Deputy Chairman said that the matter would be taken into account in the franchise review.

Deputy Nighat Qureishi asked whether the City Corporation should be doing more to take care of SMEs that were negatively impacted by these changes and asked what assurances were being given that both the City Corporation and other local authorities elsewhere were raising the issue. The Deputy Chairman said that there was recognition that many businesses are negatively affected by changes in business rates (alongside other cost increases) and that the City Corporation would continue to ensure that the sector's concerns are heard at Government level.

Vasiliki Manta asked whether the current rating treatment of flexible workspace accurately reflected how modern businesses operate, especially for SMEs, and whether the system would be reviewed. The Deputy Chairman said that the data on the matter will be collected and used to lobby Government appropriately.

Stephen Hodgson asked whether the Corporation would re-examine its setting of the business rates premium, which had increased for the fifth year running.

The Deputy Chairman replied to note that that the business rates premium was considered annually by the Finance Committee and by the Court. He said that the impact of the Government's Fair Funding reforms were such that the City Corporation had no option but to carefully balance revenue proposals against the other financial pressures generated by the Fair Funding reforms.

12. Legislation

The Court received a Report on measures introduced by Parliament which might have an effect on the services provided by the City Corporation as follows:-

Statutory Instruments	**In Force**
Public Authorities (Fraud, Error and Recovery) Act 2025 (Commencement No. 3) Regulations Brings into force a number of provisions, including permitting the recovery of social security debt directly from the liable person's bank account and sets out detailed provisions concerning direct deduction orders.	8 June 2026
Licensing Act 2003 (FIFA World Cup Licensing Hours) Order On specified days and for specified games, provides for an extension to licensed hours beyond 11pm. The extension will be 2 or 3 hours depending on the day and game.	8 June 2026
Local Government Pension Scheme (Amendment) (Governance) Regulations In relation to the Local Government Pension Scheme for England and Wales, requires administering authorities to appoint a senior officer with overall responsibility for the administration, governance	

and investment of the Scheme; replaces the existing governance arrangements with obligations to prepare and maintain a governance strategy, a training strategy, and a conflicts of interest policy; introduces flexibility to include web links in annual reports, rather than printed documents; requires administering authorities to arrange for periodic governance reviews to be carried out by a suitable independent person and enables the Secretary of State to direct that ad hoc governance reviews be undertaken.

Local Government Pension Scheme (Pooling, Management and Investment of Funds)
A companion to the above regulation. Brings into effect the Government's intention to pool local government pension schemes. This Regulation makes detailed and extensive technical changes to the way authorities take investment advice from the pension pool, requires all assets to be controlled and managed by the relevant asset pool, establishes minimum standards for pools (including FCA authorisation).

Read.

The text of the measures and the explanatory notes may be obtained from the Remembrancer's Office.

13. Ballot results

The Town Clerk reported the results of a ballot taken at the last Court, as follows:-
Where appropriate:-
** denotes a Member standing for re-appointment;*
✶ denotes appointed

TWO Members to the **Civic Affairs Sub-Committee**

*Deputy Emily Benn	45 ✶
Anthony Fitzpatrick	6
Stephen Hodgson	18
Wendy Mead OBE	20
Deputy Henry Pollard	31
*James St John Davis	44 ✶

14. Resolutions

In recognition of a number of Members and Officers of the City Corporation in the Birthday's Honours List:-

Woodhouse, P.; Colthurst, H. N A., Deputy

Resolved unanimously - That the sincere congratulations of this Court be offered to

Colonel Simon D'Olier Duckworth, CBE OBE DL VR

on his recent appointment by His Majesty The King as a Commander of the Military Division of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire, for services to the Armed Forces."

Woodhouse, P.; Colthurst, H. N A., Deputy

Resolved unanimously - That the sincere congratulations of this Court be offered to

Alderman Sir Alastair John Naisbitt King DL

on his recent appointment by His Majesty The King as a Knight Bachelor, in recognition of services to pensions reform, the promotion of international business, and voluntary and charitable service.

15. Awards and prizes

There was no report.

16. Docquets for the Hospital Seal

There was no report.

17. Exclusion of the public

Woodhouse, P.; Colthurst, H. N A., Deputy

Resolved – That the public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business below on the grounds that they either involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraph 3 and 5 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act, 1972; or relate to functions of the Court of Common Council which are not subject to the provisions of Part VA and Schedule 12A of that Act; or relate to matters treated in confidence at the request of His Majesty's Government.

Summary of items considered whilst the public were excluded:-

18. Non-public minutes

Resolved – That the non-public minutes of the Court meeting on 5 December 2024 are correctly recorded.

19. Finance Committee

Finance Committee

(A) Insurance – Property Procurement

The Court considered a proposal relating to the procurement process to secure insurance covering the City Corporation's property portfolio.

(B) Pan London Sexual Health eService

The Court considered a proposal relating to the extension of the current pan-London Sexual Health eService contract.

The meeting commenced at 1.00pm and ended at 1.45pm.

THOMAS.

ITEM 7(A)

Report – Policy and Resources Committee

Governance Efficiencies and Effectiveness: Scheme of Delegations to Officers

To be presented on Thursday, 23rd July 2026

To the Right Honourable The Lady Mayor, Aldermen and Commons of the City of London in Common Council assembled.

Summary

In response to the Governance Efficiencies and Effectiveness Review commissioned by your Policy & Resources Committee in February 2026, and a recent internal audit recommendation, this report invites the Honourable Court to consider the introduction of a structured framework for managing amendments to the Scheme of Delegations to Officers, thus addressing identified weaknesses in oversight and consistency.

This Framework (Appendix 1) seeks to triage change requests so that administrative and operational issues can be dealt with efficiently, whilst ensuring that more strategic changes, or changes that have impact on service delivery, continue to be scrutinised by the relevant Members, Committees and, where necessary, the full Court of Common Council.

Recommendations

The Court of Common Council is asked to approve the Framework for Managing Changes to the Scheme of Delegations to Officers at Appendix 1.

Main Report

Background

1. In February 2026, your Policy and Resources Committee approved a report commissioning a review into Governance Efficiencies and Effectiveness. In that report it was agreed a number of steps be taken over the course of the next three years to explore potential improvements in governance that will demonstrate greater value for money.

2. One ‘quick win’ identified by your Committee was to address weaknesses in the process for updating the Scheme of Delegations to Officers.

3. The Officer Scheme of Delegations a constitutional document that outlines which officers have the authority to make specific decisions. It empowers staff to handle day-to-day operational and executive functions efficiently without needing approval from elected Members, while ensuring decisions stay within the City Corporation’s legal boundaries and policy framework.

4. This decision was informed by the outcome of an internal audit on the Scheme of Delegations to Officers. The focus of the audit was to evaluate and identify opportunities to enhance the process for managing and updating the Scheme of Delegations; and its associated communication, training and awareness of responsibilities and authority. The insight report to this internal audit is available here.

Current Position

5. As part of the recent Member and officer surveys undertaken with respect to governance efficiencies and effectiveness, some respondents welcomed work done thus far on increased delegations to officers, but suggested that more could be done in this space to ensure Members are focussed on strategic matters whilst officers are able to deliver against the operational demands of the organisation.

6. A summary of the audit outcome was reported as follows: *"While there is a defined process for updating the Scheme, it is not effective in practice. This is largely due to the limited resources within the Town Clerk's department to oversee this. Resulting weaknesses include; inability to coordinate updates, limited scrutiny, challenge or impact assessment of proposed changes and inconsistent awareness at a senior leadership level as to the correct application of delegated authority."*

7. While changes to the Scheme are routinely processed, current arrangements do not consistently distinguish between minor and significant changes, lack a structured triage approach, provide varying levels of oversight depending on origin and do not always provide clear visibility of cumulative changes. This creates a risk of inadvertent expansion of delegated authority to officers, inconsistent application across departments and insufficient Member oversight of strategically significant changes.

8. Your Policy and Resources Committee accordingly approved a draft Framework for Managing Changes to the Scheme of Delegations to Officers for onward approval by the Court. The Framework is attached at Appendix 1. The proposed framework directly addresses identified audit weaknesses relating to coordination, scrutiny, and consistency in the application of delegated authority. If agreed, work on the efficacy of the document as a whole can continue more effectively, with Members engaged at an appropriate level on the most important and strategic elements of such a review, rather than on typographical or administrative corrections.

9. This report does not propose any changes to the delegations themselves. Any future requests will be managed in accordance with this Framework.

Corporate & Strategic Implications –

10. **Strategic implications** – The proposal addresses commitments contained within the agreed Action Plan developed in response to the Local Government Association's recent Peer Review, and helps to progress ambitions within the "Efficiency and Effectiveness" pillar of the broader transformation agenda, whilst also addressing locally important commitments such as addressing the recent Internal Audit outcome on the Scheme of Delegations to Officers.

11. **Financial implications** – There are no costs associated with the introduction of this framework and no other direct financial implications.
12. **Resource implications** – The Framework forms part of the Governance Efficiencies proposals which, if achieved, will collectively assist in the release of staff capacity. This released capacity should not only assist in the improvement of service delivery both locally within Governance & Member Services, but also across the organisation.
13. **Legal implications** – Any and all legal implications for changes to our governance framework will of course need to comply with the City Corporation's various associated statutory requirements.
14. **Risk implications** - Failure to progress any solutions resulting in the efficiency of decision-making risks the under delivery of our strategic objectives, with increased risk exposure on non-compliance. There may be reputational risks associated with any perceived lack of implementation following commitments to action in response to independent reviews and audits.
15. **Equalities implications** – the proposals within this report do not adversely impact or effect any group of people with protected characteristics under the Equalities Act 2010, or corporately recognised protected characteristics.
16. **Climate implications** – none at this time.
17. **Security implications** – none at this time.

Conclusion

18. The Framework, if approved, would enable more proportionate Member oversight of amendments to the Scheme whilst providing greater transparency and stronger accountability.
19. Its introduction, if approved, will address both the matter of delegations (as raised within the context of the Governance Efficiencies and Effectiveness work) and the findings of the recent internal audit, thus creating an environment for more efficient and effective decision-making for the organisation.

Appendices

Appendix 1 - Draft Framework for Managing Changes to the Scheme of Delegations to Officers

All of which we submit to the judgement of this Honourable Court.

DATED this 9th day of July 2026.

SIGNED on behalf of the Committee.

Deputy Christopher Michael Hayward
Chairman, Policy and Resources Committee

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APPENDIX 1 DRAFT Framework for Managing Changes to the Scheme of Delegations

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1. Purpose

The Officer Scheme of Delegations provides the mechanism through which the Court of Common Council delegates authority to Chief Officers to enable the effective discharge of functions.

The Scheme is an evolving document, subject to change in response to:

- Organisational developments
- Legislative and regulatory change
- Operational requirements
- Governance improvements

The Scheme is a key component of the Corporation's governance arrangements, enabling officers to exercise functions on behalf of Members within defined limits. As the organisation continues to operate at scale and complexity, it is important to ensure that amendments to the Scheme are subject to appropriate scrutiny, consistency, and oversight.

The proposed framework strengthens governance arrangements, mitigate risks associated with uncontrolled changes to delegated powers, and improve transparency across the organisation by introducing:

- A structured triage model to categorise changes by significance
- Defined approval routes aligned to risk and impact
- Central governance control to ensure consistency and auditability
- Formal mechanisms for Member oversight of significant changes

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2. Core Principles

- All changes are managed through Governance & Member Services in the Town Clerk's Department
- Oversight is proportionate to the level of impact and risk
- Decisions are fully auditable and transparent
- Member oversight is maintained for significant changes

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3. Triage Model

All proposed changes will be categorised as follows:

Category 0 – Typographical / Factual (Clerical)

- Typographical errors
- Updates to role titles, Department or Division names, policy titles etc, where these decisions have been taken by the appropriate committee
- Enact updates agreed in line with existing delegations (e.g. Chamberlain is authorised to review financial thresholds in line with changes in the value of money)

Approval: Town Clerk, Deputy Town Clerk or Assistant Town Clerk

Category 1 – Minor (Operational)

- Clarificatory or administrative updates
- No expansion of delegated powers
- Codifying decisions already taken by Committee, where (through oversight) express reference of the requirement to update the Scheme of Delegations had been omitted
- Where changes are limited to operational delivery within a single service area

Approval: Town Clerk, Deputy Town Clerk or Assistant Town Clerk, following consultation with the Chair and Deputy Chair of Policy & Resources Committee and the Chair/Deputy Chair of relevant service committee(s), to be identified by the Town Clerk in accordance with existing Committee responsibilities.

Category 2 – Material (Cross-Organisational)

- Affects multiple services or departments
- Alters thresholds beyond that which is already authorised to officers
- Alters operational delivery, without significantly impacting overall output/service delivery

Approval: Senior Leadership Team (SLT) to be consulted, with specific approval required from relevant Chief Officer(s) or Heads of Profession e.g. Chamberlain for financial thresholds.

Final approval to be issued by the Policy & Resources Committee following consultation with the relevant service committee(s), to be identified by the Town Clerk.

Category 3 – Strategic (Member-Significant)

- Introduces or materially alters delegations beyond the thresholds set at Category 2
- Materially impacts the level of scrutiny/oversight Members will consider at committee
- Carries reputational or political sensitivity

Approval: Senior Leadership Team (SLT) to be consulted, with specific approval required from relevant Chief Officer(s) or Heads of Profession e.g. Chamberlain for financial thresholds.

Relevant Service Committee(s) to be consulted for input.

Final approval to be reserved with the Court of Common Council, subject to referral from the Policy & Resources Committee.

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4. Governance Controls

The framework introduces the following controls:

- **Central Triage:** All change requests assessed and categorised centrally by the Governance & Member Services Team within the Town Clerk's Department
- **Mandatory Process:** No changes can be implemented outside the framework
- **Escalation Safeguards:** Any change impacting powers or accountability must be escalated; where SLT and Members are consulted (Category 2), they may request the decision come before Committee. Where Chairs are consulted, they may request that the proposal be referred to the relevant committee(s).
- **Central Register:** Full audit trail of all changes, to be reported to the Court of Common Council annually via the Policy and Resources Committee
- **Reporting:** To manage resource effectively, save for exceptional circumstances (e.g. a time-sensitive change in legislation)
    - Category 0 and 1 to be collated and considered on a quarterly basis
    - Category 2 and 3 to be collated and considered on a twice a year

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ITEM 7(B)

Report – Policy and Resources Committee

Corporate Services Committee: Policy Chairman Representation

To be presented on Thursday, 23rd July 2026

To the Right Honourable The Lady Mayor, Aldermen and Commons of the City of London in Common Council assembled.

Summary

Your Policy and Resources Committee seeks approval from this Honourable Court that the ex-officio place on the Corporate Services Committee currently provided for the Chairman of the Policy and Resources Committee may instead be held by either the Chairman or a Deputy Chair of Policy and Resources. This change of arrangement is sought to provide continuity of representation and to provide a degree of flexibility depending on the broader commitments of the Policy Chairman, whilst also ensuring a strong link between the two committees.

Recommendations

The Court of Common Council is asked to agree to amend the constitution of the Corporate Services Committee so that the ex-officio place currently provided for the Chairman of Policy and Resources may instead be held by either the Chairman or a Deputy Chair of Policy and Resources.

Main Report

Background

1. At its meeting in April 2026, the Court of Common Council resolved to provide the Chairman of the Policy and Resources Committee with an ex-officio role on the Corporate Services Committee.
2. The arrangement was intended to support a direct governance link between the Policy and Resources Committee and the Corporate Services Committee, given the latter's responsibilities for corporate services, people, pay, reward and organisational matters, which inherently interrelate with much of the work of the former Committee. This was already reflected, to a degree, by the Chair of Corporate Services' ex-officio position on the Policy and Resources Committee, and it was felt that reciprocal arrangements would be beneficial.

Current Position

3. At its meeting on 1 July 2026, the Corporate Services Committee considered the constitution of one of its key sub-committees, the Senior Remuneration Sub-Committee. In determining the new arrangements, the Committee observed that including the Deputy Chairman of Policy and Resources as an ex-officio Member of that Sub-Committee would be particularly beneficial in providing them with

visibility and involvement of key issues prior to coming into office as Chair, or supporting continuity of knowledge after stepping down as Chair, as well as strengthening a more coordinated and corporate approach to decision-making in this area.

4. Following that meeting, the Chairs of Corporate Services and Policy and Resources reflected that it would be helpful to allow for a similar type of arrangement with respect to the ex-officio position for the Policy Chairman on the Corporate Services Committee. This provision is increasingly the norm with respect to ex-officio arrangements on Corporation committees, in allowing for flexibility in managing the competing demands of roles whilst supporting connectivity between committees.

5. This modest change would provide greater continuity of representation, ensuring that the Policy and Resources Committee can continue to be represented even where the Chairman is unavailable or where it is more appropriate for a Deputy Chair to attend.

6. The proposed approach is also consistent with the Corporate Services Committee's decision to appoint the Deputy Chairman of Policy and Resources to the Senior Remuneration Sub-Committee.

7. At its meeting on 9 July 2026, the Policy and Resources Committee, as the body responsible for governance, agreed to recommend to the Court that the provision for the Policy Chairman's ex-officio position on the Corporate Services Committee be adjusted so that the ex-officio place may be taken by either the Chairman of Policy and Resources or their Deputy Chair (as set out at Appendix 1).

Conclusion

8. The proposed adjustment would provide additional resilience and continuity in the Policy and Resources Committee's representation on the Corporate Services Committee. It would do so through a limited amendment to the existing arrangement and in a manner consistent with related representation on the Senior Remuneration Sub-Committee.

Appendices

Appendix 1 - Amendment to the constitution of the Corporate Services Committee

All of which we submit to the judgement of this Honourable Court.

DATED this 9th day of July 2026.

SIGNED on behalf of the Committee.

Deputy Christopher Michael Hayward
Chairman, Policy and Resources Committee

Appendix 1

CORPORATE SERVICES COMMITTEE

1. **Constitution**

   A Non-Ward Committee consisting of,

   - two Aldermen nominated by the Court of Aldermen
   - 15 Commoners elected by the Court of Common Council at least two of whom shall have fewer than five years' service on the Court the time of their appointment
   - an appointed representative of the Finance Committee
   - Chairman or a Deputy Chair of Policy & Resources Committee (ex-officio)

**Proposed amendment marked in red text and underlined.*

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List of Applications for the Freedom

To be presented on Thursday, 23rd July, 2026

To the Right Honourable The Lady Mayor, Aldermen and Commons of the City of London in Common Council assembled.

Set out below is the Chamberlain's list of applicants for the Freedom of the City together with the names, etc. of those nominating them.

Sandeep Bhalla	a Hotel Managing Director	Bromley, London
Philippe Roland Rossiter	*Citizen and Innholder*	
David Alastair Morgan-Hewitt	*Citizen and Innholder*	
Baroness Farmida Bi, CBE	a Solicitor	Merton, London
Dep. Christopher Michael Hayward	*Citizen and Pattenmaker*	
Dep. James Michael Douglas Thomson, CBE	*Citizen and Grocer*	
Helena Bonham Carter, CBE	an Actor	Camden, London
Teresa Mary Claire Marchington, CC	*Citizen and Haberdasher*	
Ald. Sir William Anthony Bowater Russell	*Citizen and Haberdasher*	
Christine Campbell Brentani	a Financial Services Compliance Consultant	Westminster, London
Timothy James McNally, CC	*Citizen and Glazier*	
Elizabeth Clare Jarvis	*Citizen and Scientific Instrument Maker*	
Lawrence William Broome-Young	an Animal Health Officer Supervisor	Addlestone, Surrey
Dep. Marianne Bernadette Fredericks	*Citizen and Baker*	
Philip John Woodhouse, CC	*Citizen and Grocer*	
Fadi Chaaban	a Sheriff's Footman	Hounslow, London
Sheriff & Dep. Keith David Forbes Bottomley	*Citizen and Pattenmaker*	
Dep. Christopher Michael Hayward	*Citizen and Pattenmaker*	

Coran Noel Cherry	a Boatmaster	Bexley, London
Dr Iain Reid	*Citizen and Ironmonger*	
Robert Constant	*Citizen and Carman*	
Philip Raoul Adrian De Souza	a Hotel General Manager	Bromley, London
Philippe Roland Rossiter	*Citizen and Innholder*	
David Alastair Morgan-Hewitt	*Citizen and Innholder*	
His Excellency Martin Fraser	a Diplomat	Westminster, London
The Rt. Hon The Lady Mayor	*Citizen and Insurer*	
Dep. Christopher Michael Hayward	*Citizen and Pattenmaker*	
Sarah Deirdre Fraser	an Adult Literacy Tutor	Westminster, London
Ald. Vincent Thomas Keaveny, CBE	*Citizen and Solicitor*	
Ald. Sir Nicholas Stephen Leland Lyons	*Citizen and Merchant Taylor*	
Russell Mark Haward	a Bank Official	Shenfield, Essex
Ald. Timothy Russell Hailes, JP	*Citizen and Pewterer*	
Dep. Madush Gupta	*Citizen and Pewterer*	
Sir Geoffrey Charles Hurst	a Footballer, retired	Cheltenham, Gloucestershire
The Rt. Hon The Lady Mayor	*Citizen and Insurer*	
Dep. Christopher Michael Hayward	*Citizen and Pattenmaker*	
Jharna Jeet, JP	a Life Coach & Finance Company Director	Kensington and Chelsea, London
Ald. Alison Jane Gowman, CBE	*Citizen and Glover*	
Ald. Timothy Russell Hailes, JP	*Citizen and Pewterer*	
Air Chief Marshal Sir Richard John Knighton, KCB ADC	Chief of the Defence Staff	Cambridgeshire
Sir Kevin James Leeson, KCB CBE	*Citizen and Coachmaker and Coach Harness Maker*	
Peter William David Ruddock, CB CBE	*Citizen and Coachmaker and Coach Harness Maker*	
Marco Giovanni Lombardelli	a Rail Construction Company Director	St Albans, Hertfordshire
Ald. Vincent Thomas Keaveny, CBE	*Citizen and Solicitor*	
Amanda Josephine Keaveny	*Citizen and Fletcher*	
Captain Anthony Simokovic, CD	a Canadian Army Officer	Toronto, Ontario, Canada
Derwin James Mak	*Citizen and Stationer & Newspaper Maker*	
Dr Craig Paterson	*Citizen and Tobacco Pipe Maker & Tobacco Blender*	

Olatokunbo Babatunde Sowemimo	a Security Manager	Lambeth, London
Ald. & Sheriff Robert Charles Hughes-Penney	*Citizen and Haberdasher*	
Sheriff & Dep. Keith David Forbes Bottomley	*Citizen and Pattenmaker*	
Dr Declan Martin Tiernan	a Fund Manager	Essex
Ald. Vincent Thomas Keaveny, CBE	*Citizen and Solicitor*	
Ald. Prem Babu Goyal, CBE	*Citizen and Plumber*	
His Excellency Valerii Fedorovych Zaluzhnyi	a Diplomat	Kensington and Chelsea, London
The Rt. Hon The Lady Mayor	*Citizen and Insurer*	
Dep. Christopher Michael Hayward	*Citizen and Pattenmaker*	

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ITEM 11

Report – Audit and Risk Management Committee

Annual Report of the Audit and Risk Management Committee

To be presented on Thursday, 23rd July 2026

To the Right Honourable The Lady Mayor, Aldermen and Commons of the City of London in Common Council assembled.

SUMMARY

The Audit and Risk Management Committee presents to the Court of Common Council its 2025/26 Annual Report, updating on its activity from 1 April 2025 to 31 March 2026.

Providing this report to the Court of Common Council on an annual basis is in line with Chartered Institute of Public Finance & Accounting (CIPFA) guidance on best practice for audit committees in order to effectively support the organisation, providing assurance to the council that the committee fulfils its purpose and can demonstrate its impact; for the Court to understand the work of the Committee; and, for the Court to hold the Committee to account.

RECOMMENDATION

Members of this Honourable Court are asked to note the report.

MAIN REPORT

Background

1. The Audit and Risk Management Committee (the Committee) has a wide-ranging brief that underpins the City of London Corporation's governance processes by providing independent challenge and oversight of the adequacy of risk management, the internal control and financial reporting frameworks.

2. The Committee has scrutinised the risk management process at the City Corporation and continues to enhance the maturity of risk management organisation wide. The Committee has continued to play an important and integral part in ensuring key risks are reviewed through regular risk updates. The Committee also continues to support improved engagement with the work of Internal Audit through receiving regular reports on completed work and monitoring the implementation of Internal Audit recommendations. The Committee has overseen the planning and delivery of the External Audit review of the Annual Accounts produced by the City of London Corporation across all operations.

3. This report details the work of the Committee for the period from 1 April 2025 to 31 March 2026 and outlines work in relation to the key remit areas of:

- Annual Governance Framework
- Internal Audit
- Risk Management
- Counter-Fraud
- External Audit
- Financial Reporting

4. Members of the Committee have a wide range of skills in many technical and professional areas, bringing significant experience and expertise to the Committee. All the Members have some experience in relation to the governance processes they challenge; supported by a periodic skills gap analysis undertaken. The Committee is comprised of 11 Members, together with three external members who provide additional knowledge and skills to support the function. Table 1 details the Members of the Committee in 2025/26.

Table 1: Members of the Audit and Risk Management Committee 2025/26

Alderman Prem Goyal CBE (Chairman)
Alderwoman Elizabeth King BEM JP (Deputy Chairman)
Gail Le Coz (Deputy Chairman, External Member)
Deputy Christopher Boden
Deputy Timothy Butcher
Simon Burrows
Stephen Hodgson
Alderwoman Jennette Newman (Ex-Officio, Member of the Finance Committee - appointed on 9 December 2025)
David Sales
Ruby Sayed
Naresh Sonpar
James St John Davis (Ex-Officio, Member of the Finance Committee - resigned on 27 November 2025)
Dan Worsley (External Member)
Alderman Kawsar Zaman
x1 Vacancy (External Member)

5. The three external members are each appointed for a three-year term, which can be renewed twice:
   - Dan Worsley (appointed for a three-year term to April 2026, resigned effective January 2026)
   - Gail Le Coz (appointed for a three-year term expiring in April 2027)
   - Vacancy

Changes Within the Year

6. There were no specific change events that require mention here.

Annual Governance Framework

7. The Accounts and Audit (England) Regulations 2015, which apply to the City of London Corporation's City Fund activities, require an audited body to conduct a

review, each financial year, of the effectiveness of its system of internal control, risk management and governance and publish an Annual Governance Statement (AGS) each year, alongside the authority's Statement of Accounts.

8. The intended purpose of the AGS describes the steps the organisation has taken to evaluate the adequacy and effectiveness of its systems of governance during that financial year. The AGS provides an overall conclusion, setting out where specific or cross-cutting improvement action has been identified for implementation, and as such will enable and sustain effective governance going forward.

9. In response to feedback given by the Committee in 2025:

   - A section on pensions had been incorporated into the 2025/26 AGS
   - Year on year data comparisons were included to provide additional context for the set performance measures

10. The draft AGS for 2025/26 was presented at the 11 May 2026 meeting, following a short discussion on the wait time of the Care Quality Commission's final report on their assessment of adult social care. The AGS was approved at this meeting for signing by the Chairman of the Policy and Resources Committee and the Town Clerk and Chief Executive.

Internal Audit

11. The Committee received the Group Chief Internal Auditor's Annual Report for the year ended 31 March 2026 in May 2026, providing the following overall conclusion:

    "*The internal control environment, governance arrangements, and risk management processes within the City of London Corporation are generally effective. While there are areas for improvement, the organisation has demonstrated a strong commitment to maintaining a robust control framework and addressing identified weaknesses. The implementation of audit recommendations and ongoing efforts to enhance controls, governance, and risk management will further strengthen the organisation's overall resilience and effectiveness."*

12. During 2025/26, Internal Audit strengthened its delivery capacity through the successful rebuilding of the team, enabling a significant increase in available audit days and supporting the delivery of an expanded programme of work aligned to the City Corporation's corporate and departmental objectives and key risks.

13. Internal Audit completed 58 audit reviews during the year, identifying opportunities to further strengthen controls and procedures across the organisation, including 11 reviews resulting in a "Limited (Red) Assurance" opinion. All agreed recommendations have been accepted by management, with implementation progress monitored regularly by the Committee.

14. During the year, enhancements were made to reporting and tracking mechanisms to provide improved visibility of agreed audit actions and their implementation

across the Corporation. This has strengthened oversight and supports a continued focus on timely and effective delivery of agreed improvements.

Risk Management

15. The Committee is responsible for overseeing the City of London Corporation's risk management strategy and for ensuring that the authority's assurance framework reflects the organisation's risk environment.

16. During FY2025/26, the Committee focused on strengthening the organisation's risk management culture, ensuring that risk management supports strategic decision-making rather than operating solely as a compliance exercise.

17. The second annual report on the City of London Corporation's Risk Management Strategy 2024–2029, adopted in May 2024, showed continued progress against the strategy's objectives and identified areas for further improvement. These will be taken forward through four priority activities in FY2026/27, with a focus on increasing organisational maturity.

18. The Risk Appetite Statement, approved by the Court of Common Council in May 2025, has been embedded across the organisation, including alignment with the City Bridge Foundation's Risk Appetite Framework. It was applied to corporate risks and the strategic risks of the City of London Police, with Members of relevant service committees asked to set an appropriate risk appetite level for each risk using the Statement. Regular reporting arrangements are now in place, including the assessment of risks against agreed appetite levels. A review of the Statement is planned for FY2026/27, with the outcome and any recommended changes to be reported to Members in 2026.

19. Engagement with risk colleagues remained a priority through corporate risk deep dives with Chief Officer risk owners and continued two-way dialogue with the Risk Management Forum, which focused on taking forward the City Corporation's Risk Management Policy (adopted 2024), risk management best practice and improving risk management culture. External engagement was strengthened through collaboration with Bayes Business School and the Chief Risk Officer Network.

20. Risk management continued to be embedded within wider business processes and was reflected in new supporting materials, including a strategic development guide and a resource prioritisation toolkit. The move to multi-year integrated planning has created further opportunities to consider risk as part of planning, while the inclusion of risk in the corporate management information reporting pack has improved the visibility and impact of risk management.

21. The Chief Officer Risk Management Group met regularly during this period. Its work on corporate risks and wider themes informed Committee update reports, and

the questions and challenges raised by Members during Committee meetings were fed back into Group discussions.

22. Alongside supporting and facilitating these core initiatives, the Committee also provided oversight and assurance throughout 2025/26 through its review of regular risk update reports. These covered corporate risks and red departmental risks, including any additions to or removals from the corporate risk register, as well as wider risk management issues identified through officer governance processes.

Counter-Fraud

23. During 2025/26, the Counter Fraud team completed 52 investigations across all fraud disciplines, with an associated value of £1.3m, with cashable outcomes of £301k, this includes a high value business rates case and preventing the loss of £400k in a personal injury fraud case.

24. In November 2025, a Member Briefing covering Counter-Fraud Activities was delivered to the Committee, providing an overview of the work streams of the Counter Fraud team, and detailing the team's response to the risks of fraud at the City of London Corporation.

25. Fraud risk has been a key objective for the 2025/26 reporting year, with ten fraud risk workshops delivered by the Counter Fraud team, supporting the embedding of a fraud risk and fraud prevention approach across the organisation.

26. In addition to this activity, the Committee have overseen the whistleblowing response, including the introduction of a new Speak Up Policy, Procedure and electronic reporting tool.

27. Social housing tenancy fraud remains a key fraud risks areas for the Counter Fraud team and a concern for the Committee; the team now has the capability through the London NFI fraud hub to undertake continuous auditing of these risk areas by matching to key data sets within the London NFI fraud hub. The Committee also received an update in the counter fraud update report during 2024/25 concerning the pan-London multiple employment fraud project, that identified one City of London officer undertaking dual roles across, and who subsequently resigned following investigation by the team.

External Audit and Financial Reporting

28. The good progress made in recent years, first addressing the backlog of City Fund accounts, and continuing to then meet statutory and other filing deadlines with unqualified audit reports, has continued into 2025-26. The Committee were presented with the audit findings report by Grant Thornton, for the City Fund 2024-25 and Pension Fund 2024-25 accounts at the September 2025 meeting. This included Grant Thornton’s commentary of the City Fund’s Value for Money (VfM) arrangements. Following consideration and recommendation, this meant the City Fund accounts could proceed to being signed in accordance with the required statutory deadline.

29. Similar progress was also achieved on City's Estate with the draft audit report for the 2024-25 accounts being presented, by Crowe UK LLP, to the Committee at the 17th November meeting. This report noted the progress made in preparation from the previous year and, following approval, again enabled the accounts to proceed and be signed formally in line with required deadlines.

30. At the meeting on the 17th November, the Committee also recommended for approval the annual reports of the 14 charities presented for the 2024-25 financial year, to the relevant committees and trustees.

31. Throughout the year, the Committee were provided with updates on progress on the preparation of these sets of accounts to ensure they had oversight of any diversion from planned timelines and changes to reporting requirements.

All of which we submit to the judgement of this Honourable Court.

DATED this 6th day of July 2026.

SIGNED on behalf of the Committee.

Alderwoman Elizabeth Anne King, BEM JP
Chairman, Audit and Risk Management Committee

ITEM 12

Report – City Remembrancer.

Measures introduced into Parliament which may have an effect on the work and services provided by the City Corporation.

To be presented on Thursday 23rd July 2026

To the Right Honourable The Lady Mayor, Aldermen and Commons of the City of London in Common Council assembled.

Statutory Instruments	**In Force**
Licensing Act 2003 (FIFA World Cup Licensing Hours) (Amendment) Order 2026 Amends the Licensing Act 2003 (FIFA World Cup Licensing Hours) Order 2026 so as to extend licensing hours for the final match of the tournament scheduled to take place at 8 p.m. on 19th July 2026 should England be involved in that match.	4 July 2026
Planning and Infrastructure Act 2025 (Consequential Amendments) Regulations 2026 Relates to the requirement in the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004, as inserted by section 58 of the Planning and Infrastructure Act 2025, on strategic planning authorities (such as the Mayor of London) to prepare a document called a spatial development strategy. The Regulations give a power to the Lord Chancellor enabling him to make procedural rules that must be used in the formal examination of a strategic development plan.	16 July 2026

The text of the measures and the explanatory notes may be obtained from the Remembrancer's Office.

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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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