

Committees:	Dates:
Planning and Transportation Committee Policy and Resources Committee	5 January 2020 21 January 2020
Subject: Recovery Task Force: Interim Report with Preliminary Blueprint	Public
Which outcomes in the City Corporation's Corporate Plan does this proposal aim to impact directly?	2, 5-12
Does this proposal require extra revenue spending?	N
If so, how much?	
What is the source of Funding?	
Has this Funding Source been agreed with the Chamberlain's Department?	
Report of: Damian Nussbaum, Director Innovation & Growth	For information
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Summary

This report provides Members with an update of the Recovery Task Force's work since November. The Task Force's preliminary blueprint is outlined in the attached slides. We will be testing this preliminary blueprint with Members, Businesses, and the public in the first quarter of 2021. A final report will then be brought to P&R and P&T for approval.

Recommendation

P&R and P&T Members are asked to:

- Note the preliminary blueprint of the Recovery Task Force (attached).
- Note the plans for engaging with stakeholders.

Main Report

Background:

1. The prosperity of cities across the world is under threat. Those able to adapt to the new environment, and help shape it, will thrive. The Corporation has a crucial role to play not only in helping the City to adapt and meet changing demands, but also in turbo-charging its recovery following potential losses from the pandemic.
2. The Recovery Task Force will provide a blueprint for how the Square Mile can remain internationally competitive and locally vibrant. This will speed the City's evolution towards being the world's most innovative, inclusive and sustainable business ecosystem. The mission of the taskforce is to ensure the Square Mile is the world's most innovative, inclusive and sustainable business ecosystem, an attractive place to work, live and visit.
3. The Task Force will build on ongoing work from the Corporation that is relevant to the taskforce mission including the work of the Culture and Commerce task force; the Climate Action strategy; and London Recharged, among others. The project will focus on four dimensions:
 - i. Outstanding environments (i.e. the right workspaces, environment, and infrastructure)
 - ii. People (i.e. attracting the best and brightest)

- iii. Vibrant offer (i.e. what makes it fun and exciting to be here, attracting talent and visitors)
 - iv. World-class business ecosystem (i.e. thriving businesses with innovation and growth opportunities)
4. The Recovery Task Force is the third leg of the City Corporation's response to the Covid-19 pandemic:
- Urgent Response: Work on short-term measures and activity to support the Square Mile's initial recovery will continue to be led by Gold group, and the relevant Silver Group.
 - Reopening: a campaign to encourage a return to the Square Mile.
 - Recovery Task Force focusing on the Square Mile's success in the medium term.

Approach

- 5. The project is being led by a small core team from Innovation and Growth (IG), Department of the Built Environment (DBE), Culture, Strategy and Performance, and Chamberlains. It is supported by cross-cutting working groups and external consultants (Oliver Wyman).
- 6. The project is being overseen by the Chairs of Policy & Resources and Planning & Transportation Committees, supported by their deputies, and Mayoral/SABTAC input. In the next phase we will be engaging with the Chairs of relevant committees. There will also be a Members Briefing for the wider Court. Externally we will be talking to a wider range of Square Mile stakeholders. Given the time constraints, it is intended to engage external stakeholders informally to test and refine the proposals rather than to undertake a formal consultation.
- 7. The Task Force has drawn on a range of existing strategies including the Climate Action Strategy, the draft City Plan 2036, Transport Strategy, London Recharged and other relevant sources. Having completed the desktop review of existing ideas and data, and prepared the preliminary blueprint, the next steps are:
 - Early 2021 – Initial findings and first iteration of blueprint, engagement with Members.
 - First quarter 2021: Member and Stakeholder engagement to test and refine blueprint and identify potential delivery partners.
 - Spring 2021: Committee approvals and publication.

Governance

- 8. The project will be overseen by the Policy & Resources Committee and the Planning & Transportation Committee, steered by their Chairs and relevant Chief Officers, with wider Member engagement. The final report will be brought to Committee for approval. Given the urgency, will aim to complete within six-months (from November 2020).

Corporate & Strategic Implication

9. Strategic implications – This goes to the heart of the Corporate Plan in underpinning the aim of having a vibrant and thriving City. The outputs are also likely to inform the review of the Transport Strategy that will be undertaken in 2021/22.
10. Resource and financial implications – A PIF allocation was approved by Members in November. There are no funding implications at this stage.
11. Legal implications – No legal implications have been identified at this stage. This will be kept under review.
12. Risk implications – At this stage in the project, no significant risks have been identified. This will be kept under review.
13. Equalities implications – At this stage in the project, no negative equalities implications have been identified. This will be kept under review and equalities analysis will be carried out if necessary, to ensure negative impacts can be mitigated and opportunities for positive impacts exploited.
14. Climate implications – This will be fully in line with the Climate Action Strategy and will look to drive the implementation of the actions that Members have agreed.
15. Security implications – There are no security implications which have been identified at this stage in the project. This will be kept under review.

Conclusion

16. At a crucial moment for the future of London and the UK, the Task Force will provide Members with a blueprint for the actions to take to ensure the Square Mile remains internationally competitive and locally vibrant.