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| Committee: | Date: |
| Open Spaces & City Gardens | 13 July 2021 |
| Subject: City Gardens Update | Public |
| Which outcomes in the City Corporation's Corporate Plan does this proposal aim to impact directly? | 1, 2, 3, 4, 9, 10, 11, 12 |
| Does this proposal require extra revenue and/or capital spending? | N/A |
| 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: Director of Open Spaces | For Information |

Summary

This report provides an update to Members of the Open Spaces & City Gardens Committee on management and operational activities across the City Gardens section since April 2021.

Recommendation

Members are asked to:

- Note the report

Main Report

Current position

Finance

1. As detailed in the previous City Gardens update, the service commenced the 2021/22 financial year with £158k deficit of, as yet; unidentified savings, which equates to 9% of the total budget. The team is working to reduce this over the year through increasing income and identifying ways to minimise expenditure.

Personnel

2. Two staff on fixed terms contracts have recently been offered permanent contacts at other organisations. Agreement has been gained to recruit new staff on fixed term contracts until March 2022. The recruitment process is currently underway. One of these gardeners filled the post recently funded by the

Barbican residents to focus on Thomas Moore and Speed gardens, we will be seconding to this position to ensure continuous service.

Procurement

3. City Gardens are currently carrying out a number of procurement exercises this financial year, these will help ensure that City Gardens continue to provide a value for money service:
 - Tree procurement tender – will be let before the end of the financial year.

Operational Activities

4. **Climate Action Strategy:** City Gardens are actively involved with the sustainability team to deliver this strategy. The team are leading on a project to produce a catalogue of currently used and new resilient plants that are suited to environments found within the city and that can also cope with the climate prediction models for the city. The catalogue will be used by city officers delivering schemes as well as being available to external organisations for the delivery of green infrastructure schemes.

Project Updates

5. **Covid Streets Programme 19 planters:** Additional planters and parklets are now be added to existing and new sites.
6. **New Bridge Street/Queen Victoria Street Garden:** The adjoining building on New Bridge Street (currently housing the El Vino Wine Bar at ground level) is having further storeys added to the top of the building. The project will also include a new south facing green wall. This development will affect the adjacent garden as the scaffolding and hoarding is being erected on the paved area at the north end of the garden. Two of the mature Lime trees have been pruned extensively on the north face to facilitate this work.
7. **2-6 Canon Street (phase 2) Old Change Court/St Nicholas Cole Abbey** This work has recently commenced. Forming a second phase of the capital project it incorporates new beds, trees and an irrigation system. It is also proposed that some planting improvements to the front of the Church (St Nicolas Cole Abbey) on Queen Victoria Street will be implemented. Planting is anticipated in autumn 2021.
8. **Greening Cheapside Phase 1B (Sunken Garden)** Following Gateway 3 approval in February 2021, officers have worked on the funding strategy and successfully secured an additional £50k from the Cheapside Business Alliance. Officers also engaged with the City's Climate Action Strategy Cool Streets and Greening Officer Board, who identified Greening Cheapside Phase B Sunken Garden as a pilot project in their programme and are recommending an allocation of £198k towards the capital costs, maintenance, evaluation and monitoring. Subject to committee approval of the Climate Action Cool Streets

and Greening Programme report at July Committees, an Issue report is to be submitted at the same Committees to approve the proposed funding strategy for Greening Cheapside Phase 1B. This would enable progression of the option that delivers the most environmental benefits and is the one preferred by all stakeholders.

9. **Moor Lane:** Design discussions are under way to finalise the permanent scheme replacing the two temporary schemes currently on site. This will include a sustainable urban drainage system (SUDS) and the widening of the eastern pavement.
10. **St Bride Street – River Court HVM removal:** This project includes the removal of the slim planters along St Bride Street, the removal of the planters on Poppins Court, along with the bollards. Utilities surveys are currently being undertaken to identify tree planting locations.

Planning

11. A list of planning applications that have been received since the last Committee meeting can be found in Appendix 1.

Community, Volunteering and Events

12. Friends of City Gardens are organising a corporate volunteer day at Bunhill Fields with Skanska to top up the gravel paths in the south of the site. Skanska are paying for the supply of the gravel.
13. City Gardens will be judged for London in Bloom on the 15th July.

Appendices

Appendix 1 – List of planning application Open Spaces consultations to July 2021

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APPENDIX 1 - Planning Application Open Spaces Consultations to March 2021

| Application number | Location | Description |
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| PT_GHS/21/00534/FULMAJ | 100 And 108 Fetter Lane London EC4A 1ES | (Option B) Demolition of 100 Fetter Lane (bordering on the Former Burial Ground of St Dunstan in the West) and construction of a new building for office use (Class E) and a flexible commercial unit (Class E(a)(b)(c)(d)), comprising a basement level, ground, mezzanine and 12 upper storeys plus roof plant level, creation of a new pedestrian route and pocket square at ground level, ancillary cycle parking, servicing, plant and enabling works. |
| PT_GHS/21/00454/FULMAJ | 100 And 108 Fetter Lane London EC4A 1ES | (Option A) Demolition of 100 and 108 Fetter Lane (bordering on the Former Burial Ground of St Dunstan in the West) and construction of a new building for office use (Class E) and a public house comprising a basement level, ground, mezzanine and 12 upper storeys plus roof plant level, creation of a new pedestrian route and pocket square at ground level, ancillary cycle parking, servicing, plant and enabling works. |
| PT_LH/21/00392/FULL | 65 Holborn Viaduct London EC1A 2FD | Use of the site as a temporary cultural open-air work/event space and garden (Sui Generis) along with the provision of hard and soft landscaping and associated works. |
| PT_CL/21/00405/FULL | St Pancras Church Garden Pancras Lane London | Alterations to fenestration, removal of portion of masonry wall, and erection of new stair at |

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| | | the rear of 80 Cheapside to create new entrance; and reconfiguration of St Pancras Church Gardens open space. |
| PT_AW/21/00389/MDC | St Mary Staining Churchyard Staining Lane London EC2V 7DE | Submission of details pursuant to condition 4 of planning permission ref. 20/00864/FULL dated 19/01/2021 (ramp into St Mary Staining Churchyard), comprising details of the proposed lighting scheme and cable runs pursuant to part (a) and particulars and samples of the brick and mortar to be used in the ramp's boundary walls pursuant to part (b). |
| PT_PF/21/00279/FULMAJ | Bounded By King William Street, Cannon Street, Abchurch Lane & Nicholas Lane London EC4N 7TW | Erection of single storey roof extension to provide office (Use Class E(g)) floorspace and includes the creation of roof terraces (including planting). |
| PT_BAB/21/00304/NMA | 81 Newgate Street London EC1A 7AJ | Non-material amendment under Section 96A of the Town and Country Planning Act to planning permission dated 11th September 2020 (20/00311/FULMAJ) to amend the wording of condition 52 to amend the period for replacment of trees. |
| PT_LH/20/00546/FULMAJ | 5 Chancery Lane London WC2A 1LG | Alteration and extension, including: substantial demolition of the fifth floor and full demolition of the sixth floor; alterations to the facades at fourth floor level; erection of a new three storey roof extension at fifth to seventh floor levels for office use, with a landscaped |

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| | | amenity terrace and plant room at eighth floor level; and other associated works (REVISED PROPOSALS). |
| PT_LZR/21/00250/FULLR3 | Cunard Place London EC3A 3BP | Temporary installation of an artwork composed of four sculptures for a period of up to two years to be taken down on or before 29 May 2023: Reactivity by Regitze Engelsborg Karlsen. |
| PT_LZR/21/00249/FULLR3 | Open Space In Front of Fenchurch Street Station Fenchurch Place London | Temporary installation of an artwork composed of three sculptures for a period of up to two years, to be taken down on or before 29 May 2023: Bloom Paradise by Jun T. Lai. |
| PT_LZR/21/00248/FULLR3 | O/S 1 Undershaft London EC3P 3DQ | Temporary installation of two sculptures for a period of up to 24 months, as part of the 10th edition of Sculpture in the City, to be taken down on or before 29 May 2023: Harlequin Four by Mark Handforth and Cosmos by Eva Rothschild. |
| PT_AS/21/00247/FULLR3 | Central Public Realm Area 100 Bishopsgate London EC2N 4JL | Temporary installation of a sculpture for a period of up to 24 months, as part of the 10th edition of Sculpture in the City, to be taken down on or before 29 May 2023: Rough Neck Business by Mike Ballard. |
| PT_AS/21/00245/FULLR3 | XL House 70 Gracechurch Street London EC3V 0HR | Temporary installation of a sculpture for a period of up to 24 months, as part of the 10th edition of Sculpture in the City, to be taken down on or before 29 May 2023: Untitled by Tatiana Wolska. |

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| PT_AS/21/00244/FULLR3 | Mitre Square London EC3A 5DH | Temporary installation of one sculpture: RedHead Sunset Stack by Almuth Tebbenhoff for a period of up to 24 months to be taken down on or before 29 May 2023. |
| PT_AS/21/00242/FULLR3 | 99 Bishopsgate London EC2M 3XD | Temporary installation of two artworks for a period of up to 24 months, to be taken down on or before 29 May 2023: Silent Agitator by Ruth Ewan and Keeping Time by Isabella Martin. |
| PT_AS/21/00241/FULLR3 | Cullum Street London EC3M 7JJ | Temporary installation of a sculpture for a period of up to 24 months, as part of the 10th edition of Sculpture in the City, to be taken down on or before 29 May 2023: Orphans by Bram Ellens. |
| PT_AS/21/00240/FULLR3 | Street Record Bury Court London | Temporary installation of a sculpture for a period of up to 24 months, as part of the 10th edition of Sculpture in the City, to be taken down on or before 29 May 2023: Stone (Butch) by Rosanne Robertson. |
| PT_GD/21/00116/FULMAJ | City Tower And City Place House 40 - 55 Basinghall Street London EC2V | Demolition of the existing building and the erection of a Class E building for commercial, business and service use with Class E retail use at ground floor level. To include works to: Bassishaw Highwalk; 40 Basinghall Street (known as City Tower); the provision of a new lift and staircase between street and Highwalk level; reconfiguration and re landscaping of the existing first floor terrace area; formation of a new pedestrian route between London Wall and |

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| | | <p>Basinghall Street; hard and soft landscaping works including alterations to and within the public highway; other works incidental to the proposed development (49,119 sq.m).</p> <p>This application involves the rescission and alteration of areas of City Walkway through City Place House and City Tower, and rescission and alterations of the city walkway and walkway bridge over Basinghall Street.</p> |
| PT_PF/21/00236/MDC | 8 - 10 Half Moon Court London EC1A 7HE | <p>Submission of details for a landscaping scheme pursuant to condition 3 of permission ref. 20/00258/FULL dated 09.07.2020.</p> |
| PT_AW/21/00215/FULL | Land Outside Maggie's Centre And The North Wing, St Bartholomew's Hospital West Smithfield London EC1A 7BE | <p>Provision of level access to the main entrance of the Maggies Centre and the east wing entrance of the North Block of St Bartholomew's Hospital, including installation of new stone ramp, steps and railings, regrading, paving and other associated works</p> |