

Committee(s): Public Relations Sub (Policy & Resources) Committee	Dated: 24 January 2022
Subject: Update on Filming Activity in the City of London	Public
Which outcomes in the City Corporation's Corporate Plan does this proposal aim to impact directly?	1, 9, 10 and 12
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: Bob Roberts - Director of Communications	For Information
Report author: Joanna Burnaby-Atkins, Film Liaison Manager: Deputy Town Clerks Department	

Summary

This report is a regular update on filming activity and informs Members of an exceptionally high-level of filming which returned to the City since the first lockdown.

For the first time filming income brought into the City Corporation will exceed £1m by end of March.

Recommendation(s)

Members are asked to note the contents of this report.

Main Report

Background

1. The Filming Industry immediately ceased filming when Covid lockdown was initiated in March 2020. However, guidelines allowing filming to take place during the pandemic has meant the UK's screen industries have bounced back faster than almost any other industry post-pandemic and there has been exceptionally high level of filming in London.

Current Position

2. Large-scale productions that have filmed in the City in the last nine months include:

- Apple TV production Embankment filmed on City streets over many weekends.
- Amazon spy drama Citadel filmed in Guildhall
- Warner Bros' Flash superhero film filmed at Smithfield Market and streets around St Pauls Cathedral.
- Peripheral, an Amazon TV production, filmed over several weekends on City Streets.
- Sky drama Gangs of London filmed at Billingsgate Market.
- The Netflix production Anatomy of a Scandal filmed at the Old Bailey.
- Channel 4 drama My Name is Lizzie filmed at the Old Bailey.

Other productions include Brussels and Tailspin for Apple TV; and Trigger Point for ITV. All filmed on City Streets.

3. In addition to filming on City Streets and on our sites the City has also supported a large amount of filming in privately owned buildings throughout the City, arranging parking through the Traffic Management Team to make filming in these sites possible.

4. The City Film Liaison Team are already reviewing several large-scale filming requests for this coming year. Filming scheduled in the first quarter of this calendar year and requiring road closures are the following:

- A TV drama filming on Southwark Bridge in February
- A TV drama filming on Cornhill in February
- A large scale driving stunt shoot on London Wall and Ludgate Hill in March/April

5. The result has meant filming income into the City Corporation via the Film Liaison Team for the first nine months of this financial year is £935,092 and anticipated to exceed £1m by end of March. This greatly exceeds the total annual income for all previous years which has averaged at £572k over the last five years.

6. One production – Embankment - brought income of just under £200k into City Corporation departments.

7. We intend to build on this increased demand for filming by establishing a Film Location Library to better market our sites to film makers as approved by Policy and Resources Committee on 8th July 2021:

<https://democracy.cityoflondon.gov.uk/documents/s155059/Establishment%20of%20London%20Location%20Library%20to%20Promote%20Filming.pdf>

8. Filming income is distributed amongst the City Corporation departments that host and manage the filming allowing all departments engaging with filming to benefit financially. The Film Liaison Team's costs are drawn back each year proportionally from those sites who raise filming income and administrative fees are charged.

Options

None

Corporate and Strategic Implications

None

Proposals

None

Resource Implications

None

Legal Implications

None

Equalities implications

None

Climate implications

None

Security implications

None

Conclusion

Appendices

- None

Joanna Burnaby-Atkins

Film Liaison Manager, Communications Team, Town Clerks Department

T: 020 7332 3202

E: joanna.burnaby-atkins@cityoflondon.gov.uk