



## LYONS, MAYOR

### LUDE, LOCUM TENENS (ITEMS 26-30)

## COURT OF COMMON COUNCIL

9th March 2023

### MEMBERS PRESENT

#### ALDERMEN

Alexander Robertson Martin Barr (Alderman)  
Sir Charles Edward Beck Bowman (Alderman)  
Sir Peter Estlin (Alderman)  
Alison Gowman (Alderman)  
Timothy Russell Hailes (Alderman)  
Robert Picton Seymour Howard (Alderman)

Gregory Jones KC (Alderman)  
Sheriff Alastair John Naisbitt King DL (Alderman)  
Susan Langley (Alderwoman)  
Tim Levene (Alderman)  
Ian David Luder (Alderman)  
The Rt Hon. The Lord Mayor Nicholas  
Stephen Leland Lyons (Alderman)

Christopher Makin (Alderman)  
Bronek Masojada (Alderman)  
Sir Andrew Charles Parmley, (Alderman)  
Susan Jane Pearson (Alderwoman)  
Sir William Anthony Bowater Russell (Alderman)  
Sir David Hugh Wootton (Alderman)

#### COMMONERS

George Christopher Abrahams  
John David Absalom, Deputy  
Munsur Ali  
Randall Keith Anderson, Deputy  
Shahnan Bakth  
The Honourable Emily Sophia  
Wedgwood Benn  
Ian Bishop-Laggett  
Mark Bostock, Deputy  
Keith David Forbes Bottomley, Deputy  
James Bromiley-Davis  
Timothy Richard Butcher  
Michael John Cassidy, Deputy  
Henry Nicholas Almroth  
Colthurst, Deputy  
Anne Corbett  
Aaron Anthony Jose Hasan  
D'Souza  
Simon Duckworth, Deputy  
Peter Gerard Dunphy, Deputy  
Mary Durcan  
John Ernest Edwards

Helen Lesley Fentimen  
Anthony David Fitzpatrick  
John William Fletcher, Deputy  
John Foley  
Marianne Bernadette Fredericks, Deputy  
Steve Goodman  
John Griffiths  
Jason Groves  
Madush Gupta, Deputy  
Caroline Wilma Haines  
Christopher Michael Hayward, Deputy  
Jaspreet Hodgson  
Ann Holmes, Deputy  
Amy Horscroft  
Wendy Hyde  
Henry Llewellyn Michael Jones  
Shravan Jashvantrai Joshi, Deputy  
Florence Keelson-Anfu  
Elizabeth Anne King

Frances Leach  
Natasha Maria Cabrera Lloyd-Owen, Deputy  
Charles Edward Lord, OBE JP, Deputy  
Antony Geoffrey Manchester  
Paul Nicholas Martinelli  
Andrew Stratton McMurtrie  
Timothy James McNally  
Wendy Mead  
Andrien Gereith Dominic Meyers, Deputy  
Brian Desmond Francis Mooney, Deputy  
Alastair Michael Moss, Deputy  
Eamonn James Mullally  
Deborah Oliver TD  
Graham Packham, Deputy  
James Henry George Pollard, Deputy  
Jason Paul Pritchard  
Nighat Qureishi, Deputy  
Alpa Raja  
Anett Rideg

David Sales  
Ruby Sayed  
Hugh Selka  
Dr Giles Robert Evelyn Shilson, Deputy  
Paul Singh  
Tom Sleigh  
Sir Michael Snyder, Deputy  
Naresh Hari Sonpar  
Mandeep Thandi  
James Michael Douglas  
Thomson, Deputy  
Luis Felipe Tilleria  
William Upton KC  
Mark Raymond Peter Henry  
Delano Wheatley  
Ceri Wilkins  
Glen David Witney  
Philip Woodhouse, Deputy  
Dawn Linsey Wright

The Town Clerk informed the Court that the Lord Mayor and several other Members, together with himself, would need to leave the meeting at 11.15 am in order to attend an engagement with His Majesty the King at Buckingham Palace. The Lord Mayor had directed the Town Clerk to draw the Court's attention to an

email that had been circulated to Members concerning the deferral of the report of the Civic Affairs Sub-Committee at Item 26 on the agenda, on a matter pertaining to the Members' code of conduct.

The Chief Commoner informed the Court that both parties involved in the matter had agreed to the item being deferred and considered at the next meeting of the Court.

*Duckworth,  
S.D., O.B.E.,  
D.L., Deputy;  
Lord, C.E.,  
O.B.E., J.P.,  
Deputy*

*Motion* – that item 26 on the agenda be withdrawn from consideration this day and deferred until the next Court.

Upon the Motion being put, the Lord Mayor declared it to be carried.

*Resolved* - that item 26 on the agenda be withdrawn from consideration this day and deferred until the next Court.

1. Apologies      The apologies of those Members unable to attend this meeting of the Court were noted.
2. Declarations    There were no additional declarations.
3. Minutes        *Resolved* – That, subject to the inclusion of Steve Goodman and Deputy Henry Pollard in the list of Members present, the Minutes of the Court meetings held on the 12 January 2023, are correctly recorded.
4. Mayoral  
engagements      The Right Honourable the Lord Mayor took the opportunity to welcome Ian Thomas to his first meeting of the Court of Common Council as Town Clerk. The Lord Mayor then proceeded on to report on his recent engagements, including, alongside the Chairman of the Policy and Resources Committee, visits to Scotland, Ireland and the World Economic Forum in Davos. The Lord Mayor also spoke on his visits to Australia and the Gulf.
5. Policy  
Statement        The Chairman of the Policy and Resources Committee began by reiterating the welcome to the new Town Clerk and looked forward to working with him in the months and years ahead.

Since the last Court, the Chairman had visited Paris and Washington D.C., in addition to the engagements he had attended alongside the Lord Mayor.

A key focus of today's agenda was the approval of the City Corporation's budget for the next fiscal year, on which the Chairman of the Finance Committee would be speaking more fully. The Policy Chairman said that the Finance Chairman had his complete support on this matter.

The Chairman remarked that the broad economic conditions looked to be stabilising, the City Corporation still faced significant challenges. While he felt the City should remain ambitious in its endeavours, he stressed to Members that they must prioritise where the Corporation's resources were allocated.

It was still possible to achieve significant feats, and the Chairman reminded

Members of the recent development in major capital projects, such as the markets' co-location programme and the Museum of London move, had been approved. The City Corporation must be mindful of its economic circumstances, and not over-expose themselves to overdue risk and remain prudent in their decision making.

The Chairman took the chance to thank policy officers from across the organisation who produced the City Corporation's budget recommendations to Government in advance of the upcoming Budget, covering topics including innovation and technology, green growth, and skills and inclusivity on the City Corporation's behalf. The Chairman would be meeting with the City Minister at HM Treasury to present the budget submission.

Finally, the Chairman informed the Court that last week had seen the launch of the Centre for Finance, Innovation and Technology (CFIT). The City Corporation had contributed £500,000 in seed funding, alongside the Treasury's £5 million commitment, to ensure that CFIT was a success and that the UK's growing fintech sector had the necessary support to be world leading.

## 6. **FINANCE COMMITTEE**

**(Deputy Henry Nicholas Almroth Colthurst)**

21 February 2023

### **(A) City Fund 2023/24 Budget Report and Medium-Term Financial Strategy**

The Court considered a report of the Finance Committee presenting the overall financial position of the City Fund.

The Chairman spoke to introduce the budget, together with the City Cash budget at item 7(B), as well as clarifying a number of elements.

*Resolved* – That the report be agreed to and the Court do pass a Resolution in the following terms:-

#### 1. Note the overall budget envelope for City Fund.

##### 1.1 Additional funding is required for new on-going cost pressures and have been included as budget uplifts:

1.1.1 Agreed pay award from 1<sup>st</sup> July 2022.

1.1.2 Assumptions for the 2023/24 pay award are held centrally – the final settlement will be approved by your Corporate Services Committee.

1.1.3 Pressures on Adult Social Care and Children Services.

1.1.4 Health and Safety team to be offset from increase in income from RPR workstream(s).

1.1.5 For Cyclical Works Programme (CWP): Following the meeting with the Joint Resource Allocation Sub Committee (RASC) and Service Committee Chairmen, additional headroom has been created for 2023/24 to address urgent health and safety issues – profiled over two years. Plus, a further £9.5m additional funding allocated (profiled over two years) from 2024/25 is

included within the medium-term to support the bow wave. Recommendation to release £30m of general fund risk reserves to support CWP backlog (paragraph 25).

1.1.6 Approve an uplift in grant to the Museum of London by £0.159m in 2023/24

- 1.2 To address inflationary pressures, remove the 2% efficiency saving requirement, using this overall sum plus carry forward underspends from 2022/23 to bolster the inflation contingency. Going forward, flat cash assumptions are no longer sustainable year-on-year and assumptions include 3% uplift in 2024/25, returning to 2% from 2025/26.
- 1.3 Fund one-off pressures and opportunities for transformation/invest to save opportunities in 2023/24 outlined in paragraph 24 from forecast carry forward underspends from 2022/23.
- 1.4 Unfunded additional revenue bids (paragraph 5) to be avoided during 2023/24, unless these can be prioritised from savings or income generated under the Resource Prioritisation & Refresh (RPR) workstreams – plus realign resources to the revised Corporate Plan to new areas requiring investment whilst delivering a sustainable MTFP.
- 1.5 Increase the rents for social tenants within the Housing Revenue Account as recommended by management from 5% to 7% (paragraph 16).
- 1.6 Following the meeting with Joint RASC and Service Committee Chairmen, concerns were raised on the urgent health and safety works needed at the Barbican Centre. It is recommended to ringfence £13m from the Major Projects reserve (£13.19m balance on major projects reserve) to support these works subject to business case approval.
- 1.7 As in previous years, it is recommended the earmarked security reserve retains £1m as a minimum to support future revenue security pressures and is reviewed regularly to ensure sufficient funds are available at all times.
- 1.8 Mitigating the Police Deficit: City of London Police (CoLP) planned mitigations over and above £12m mitigations already built in 2022/23 budgets, £6.6m in 2023/24 with £4.6m from 2024/25 onwards. Chamberlain's recommendation to increase in BRP of up to 0.2p in the £ in 2023/24 to further support mitigating residual deficits in Police MTFP and pressures under security.
- 1.9 Approve the overall financial framework and the revised Medium-Term Financial Strategy (paragraph 19-43).
- 1.10 Approve the City Fund Net Budget Requirement of £160.5m (Appendix A, paragraph 16)

### Key decisions

The key decisions are in setting the levels of Council Tax and National Non-Domestic rates:

## 2.0 Council tax:

- 2.1 To approve an increase of 2% on social care precept, raising circa £170k, in response to on-going pressures in homelessness and adult social care. This is recommended given the pressures within adult social care totalling £200k p.a. (paragraph 46).
- 2.2 To approve increase of 2.99% on core Council Tax, raising circa £250k p.a. This is recommended to address £1m pressure on children services (for children with special education needs and unaccompanied asylum-seeking children aged between 18 and 25- unfunded) (paragraph 47).
- 2.3 To note, if both increases are adopted, the 4.99% increase will increase income by £420k and raise the Band D rate by circa £47.51 to £1,003.62 (before GLA precept); this is much needed to support vulnerable members of society.
- 2.4 To determine that a fully funded means tested council tax reduction scheme will continue in place for those on low incomes and least able to pay more.
- 2.5 To determine that the Local Discretionary discount for Care Leavers between the ages of 18 to 25 is continued for 2023/24.
- 2.6 Determine the amounts of Council Tax for the three areas of the City (the City, the Middle Temple and the Inner Temple to which are added the precept of the Greater London Authority (GLA) - Appendix B.
- 2.7 Determine that the relevant (net of local precepts and levies) basic amount of Council Tax for 2023/24 will not be excessive in relation to the requirements for a referendum.
- 2.8 Determine, the current 100% discount awarded to unoccupied and unfurnished and uninhabitable dwellings is continued at zero (0%) for the financial year 2023/24.
- 2.9 Determine that the premium levied on long-term empty property for 2023/24 of 100%, 200% and 300% on properties that have been empty for 2, 5 and 10 years respectively is continued in 2023/24.
- 2.10 It is recommended that, having regard to the government guidance issued, the Chamberlain be given the discretion, delegated to the Assistant Director, Shared Services, to reduce or waive the long-term empty premium charge in exceptional circumstances.
- 2.11 Approve that the cost of highways, street cleansing, waste collection and disposal, drains and sewers, and road safety functions for 2023/24 be treated as special expenses to be borne by the City's residents outside the Temples (Appendix B).

## 3.0 Business Rates

- 3.1 To approve an increase of up to 0.2p in the £ in Business Rate Premium raising up to circa £4.2m p.a. Increase in inflation has increased pressure on City Fund – smaller and regular increases of the Premium are much needed to support security on City Fund and Police

inflationary pressures (Appendix A, paragraph 21).

- 3.2 Note that the Non-Domestic Rate multiplier of 51.2p and a Small Business Non-Domestic Rate Multiplier Rate of 49.9p have been set by Central Government for 2023/24 (Appendix A, paragraph 20).
- 3.3 Note that, in addition, the GLA is levying a Business Rate Supplement in 2023/24 of 2.0p in the £ on properties with a rateable value of £75,000 and above (Appendix A, paragraph 22).
- 3.4 Delegate to the Chamberlain the award of discretionary rate reliefs under Section 47 of the Local Government Finance Act 1988 (Appendix A, paragraph 21).

#### **4.0 Capital Expenditure**

- 4.1 Approve the Capital Strategy (Appendix F).
- 4.2 Approve the Capital Contingency Budget for City Fund and the allocation of central funding from the appropriate reserves to meet the £3m contingency to support urgent health and safety new capital bids—release of funding being subject to approval at the relevant gateway and specific agreement of your Resource Allocation Sub-Committee at gateway 4(a) (Appendix A, paragraph 33).
- 4.3 Approve the continuation of the allocation of central funding in 2023/24 to provide internal loan facilities for police and the HRA, currently estimated at £9.8m and £13.5m respectively (Appendix A, paragraph 33).
- 4.4 Approve the Prudential Code indicators (Appendix D).

#### **5.0 Treasury Management Strategy Statement and Annual Investment Strategy 2023/24**

- 5.1 Approve the Treasury Management Strategy Statement and Annual Investment Strategy for 2023/24, including the treasury indicators – Appendix E.
- 5.2 Approve the authorised limit for external debt (which is the maximum the City Fund may have outstanding by way of external borrowing) at £365.1m for 2023/24; and the Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP) for 2023/24 at £1.3m (MRP policy is included within Appendix E – Treasury Management Strategy Statement and Investment Strategy Statement 2023/24 - appendix 2).
- 5.3 Approve the addition of multi-asset funds to the list of permitted non-specified investments subject to an overall limit of £50m (Appendix E, sub appendix 3). The Corporation is expected to maintain significant surplus cash balances for the foreseeable future. Multi-asset funds enable the Corporation to mitigate the gradual erosion of the real value of these long-term cash balances from the effects of inflation.
- 5.4 Approve the new policy for managing environmental, social and governance (ESG) risks within treasury investment activity (Appendix E, paragraph 5.4).

## 6.0 Chamberlain's Assessment

Take account of the Chamberlain's assessment of the robustness of estimates and the adequacy of reserves and contingencies (paragraphs 54-57 and Appendices A, C and H respectively).

### (B) 2023/24 City's Cash Budgets and Medium-Term Financial Plan

(Deputy Henry Nicholas Almroth Colthurst)

21 February 2023

The Court considered a report of the Finance Committee presenting the overall financial position of City's Cash.

*Resolved* – That the Court:-

- 1.0 Note the latest revenue budgets for 2022/23.
- 2.0 Note the overall budget envelope for City Cash 2023/24 revenue budgets.
  - 2.1 Additional funding is required for new on-going cost pressures and have been included as budget uplifts:
    - 2.1.1 Agreed pay award from 1<sup>st</sup> July 2022.
    - 2.1.2 Assumptions for 2023/24 pay award held centrally – the final settlement will be approved by your Corporate Services Committee.
    - 2.1.3 Health and Safety team to be offset from increase in income from Resource Prioritisation Refresh (RPR) workstreams (split across City Fund and City's Cash).
    - 2.1.4 For Cyclical Works Programme (CWP): Following the meeting with the Joint Resource Allocation Sub Committee and Service Committee Chairmen, additional headroom has been created for 2023/24 to address urgent health and safety issues – City's Cash £2.216m – profiled over two years. Plus, a further £5.5m p.a. additional funding allocated (profiled over two years) from 2024/25 is included within the medium term to support the bow wave. Robust programme of delivery required, including sufficient resources identified to deliver the programme in a timely manner – potential risk of cost creep.
- 3.0 To address inflationary pressures, the removal of the 2% savings requirement, using this overall sum plus carry forward underspends from 2022/23 to bolster the inflation contingency. Going forward, flat cash assumptions are no longer sustainable.
- 4.0 Fund one-off pressures and opportunities for transformation in 2023/24 outlined in paragraph 7 from forecast carry forward underspends from 2022/23.
- 5.0 Approve the overall financial framework and the revised Medium-Term Financial Strategy (paragraphs 3-16).

- 5.1 Unfunded additional revenue bids: To be avoided during 2023/24 - 2026/27 with the Resource and Priorities Refresh (RPR) being tasked with reprioritising current spend in line with new Corporate priorities.
- 5.2 Department carry forwards from 2022/23 to be minimised, but with a general contingency to be held from 2022/23 underspend to address 2023/24 one-off pressures and transformation opportunities.
- 6.0 Approve the 2023/24 Capital and Supplementary Revenue Project Budgets for City's Cash amounting to £58.2m (including the contribution to Crossrail) (paragraph 25).
- 7.0 Approve the allocation of central funding of up to £19.4m for City's Cash to meet the cost of 2023/24 approved capital schemes. Release of such funding being subject to approval at the relevant gateway and specific agreement of your Resource Allocation Sub-Committee at Gateway 4(a). In addition, a contingency to be held under the capital programme of up to £3.0m to address urgent health and safety capital schemes. No new capital bids to be received in 2023/24 (paragraph 26-30).
- 8.0 Delegate authority to the Chamberlain to determine the final financing of capital and supplementary revenue project expenditure.

*Duckworth,  
S.D., O.B.E.,  
D.L., Deputy;  
Joshi, S.,  
Deputy*

*Further resolved* – that the thanks of the Court be given to the Chairman of the Finance Committee for his introduction to the budget reports before the Court and that a copy be circulated to every Member in the usual way.

## 7. BRIDGE HOUSE ESTATES BOARD

**(Deputy Dr Giles Robert Evelyn Shilson)**

22 February 2023

### **(A) Bridge House Estates (BHE) – 2023/24 Budget and Financial Forecasts**

The Court considered a report of the Bridge House Estates Board presenting the overall financial position of Bridge House Estates.

The Chairman spoke to introduce the budget, together with the Annual Report and financial statements for 2021/22 at item 8(B). The Chairman also informed the Court that the Charity's supplemental Royal Charter had been approved by His Majesty the King at a meeting of the Privy Council on 16 February. The supplemental Royal Charter would take effect once the Great Seal had been affixed, and would provide the express grant of relevant powers to provide Bridge House Estates further and more modern flexibility in relation to charity administration.

*Resolved* – that the Court, acting for the City Corporation as the charity trustee of Bridge House Estates and solely in the charity's best interests:

- i. Note the updated financial forecast for 2022/23;
- ii. Approve the 2023/24 budget and financial forecasts for the period



2024/25 – 2026/27;

- iii. Approve the release of the Bridge Replacement designated fund, upon the adoption of total return investment for the permanent endowment fund;
- iv. Approve the release of the designation of unrestricted income funds relating to amounts allocated for Social Investment (the Social Investment Fund); and
- v. Approve a level of £55m of free reserves to be maintained over and above the agreed minimum policy of £35m due to the slowdown in economic growth alongside inflationary pressures.

27 January 2023

### **(B) Bridge House Estates Annual Report and Financial Statements 2021/22**

The Court considered a report of the Bridge House Estates Board presenting the Annual Report and Financial Statements for Bridge House Estates for the year ended 31 March 2022.

*Resolved* – that the Court, on behalf of the City Corporation as Trustee of Bridge House Estates (Charity No. 1035628), note the BHE Annual Report and Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2022.

## **8. POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE**

**(Deputy Christopher Michael Hayward)**

19 January 2023

### **Bill for an Act of Common Council – Aldermanic Qualifications (Foreign Convictions)**

The Court considered a report of the Policy and Resources Committee proposing a Bill for an Act of Common Council intended to regularise the position in respect of Aldermanic qualification in respect of certain convictions.

*Resolved* – that the Court approves:

- the Proposals to make consistent the qualification requirements for Aldermen in relation to foreign convictions.
- The draft Bill for an Act of Common Council to effect these changes, as set out in Appendix 1 to this report.

## **9. POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE**

**(Deputy Christopher Michael Hayward)**

23 February 2023

### **Electronic Voting**

The Court considered a report of the Policy and Resources Committee recommending the purchase of a portable hardware solution to enable an electronic voting system to be adopted by the Court of Common Council for use during Divisions.

*Resolved* – that the Court:

- agrees the purchase of a portable hardware solution to enable the electronic voting at the Court of Common Council;
- notes that subject to successful testing in coming months, changes to the Standing Orders will be brought forward in April 2023, with formal adoption of the new procedures to take effect from May 2023.

## 10. **CORPORATE SERVICES COMMITTEE**

**(Deputy Alastair Michael Moss)**

17 January 2023

### **Draft Pay Policy Statement 2023/24**

The Court considered a report of the Corporate Services Committee presenting the draft Pay Policy Statement for 2023/24, to ensure that the City Corporation meets its requirements under the Localism Act 2011.

*Resolved* – that the Court agrees the draft Pay Policy Statement for 2023/24 to ensure that the City Corporation meets its requirements under the Localism Act 2011.

## 11. **CIVIC AFFAIRS SUB-COMMITTEE**

**(Deputy Charles Edward Lord, OBE JP)**

7 February 2023

### **Applications for Hospitality**

#### **(a) Early Evening Reception for the Central London Bench**

It was proposed that the City Corporation hosts an early evening reception for the Central London Bench in the Grand Hall at the Central Criminal Court in October 2023.

The City Corporation has hosted an annual reception for the Central London Bench at the Old Bailey since 2018. The reception aims to further relations between the City of London Corporation and the Central London Bench.

*Resolved* - that hospitality be granted and that arrangements are made under the auspices of the Civic Affairs Sub-Committee; the costs to be met from City's Cash within approved parameters.

#### **(b) Evening Reception to celebrate Diwali**

It was proposed that the City Corporation hosts an early evening reception in November 2023 to celebrate Diwali.

Diwali is the five-day Hindu, Sikh and Jain festival of lights celebrated every autumn. It is the festival of new beginnings and symbolises the victory of good over evil and knowledge over ignorance. During the festival, homes, temples and workspaces are illuminated with lamps and candles. Families and communities come together for meals, gifts are exchanged, and community parades take place with music and dance performances.

*Resolved* - that hospitality be granted and that arrangements are made under the auspices of the Civic Affairs Sub-Committee; the costs to be met from City's Cash within approved parameters.

**(c) Early evening reception following the UK commemorative ceremony to mark Holocaust Memorial Day**

It was proposed that the City Corporation hosts an evening reception in the Old Library following the holding in Great Hall of the UK Commemorative Ceremony to mark Holocaust Memorial Day in January 2024

*Resolved* - that hospitality be granted and that arrangements are made under the auspices of the Civic Affairs Sub-Committee; the costs to be met from City's Cash within approved parameters.

**(d) Finale of the Lord Mayor's Cadet Music Competition**

It was proposed that the City Corporation hosts the finale of the Lord Mayor's Cadet Music Competition in Guildhall Yard followed by a buffet lunch in the Crypts in September 2023.

The Lord Mayor's Cadet Music Competition is an annual event that began in 2017. It consists of a series of heats between all cadet units in London and culminates with a finale between the top four cadet units in Guildhall Yard.

*Resolved* - that hospitality be granted and that arrangements are made under the auspices of the Civic Affairs Sub-Committee; the costs to be met from City's Cash within approved parameters.

**(e) Naz Legacy Foundation 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Panel Discussion and Eid Dinner**

It was proposed that the City Corporation hosts an interfaith panel discussion followed by an Eid dinner to celebrate the 10th anniversary of the Naz Legacy Foundation in July 2023.

Founded in 2012, the Naz Legacy Foundation is a UK-based charity established to continue the legacy of the late Naz Bokhari OBE, the first Muslim head teacher at a secondary school in the UK. Its aim is to help young people from minority communities and disadvantaged backgrounds by supporting education in UK democracy and civil society, providing advice and assistance in developing skills and abilities, and promoting interfaith relations.

The Foundation has received repeated public support from The King and senior political figures.

*Resolved* - that hospitality be granted and that arrangements are made under the auspices of the Civic Affairs Sub-Committee; the costs to be met from City's Cash within approved parameters.

## 12. BRIDGE HOUSE ESTATES BOARD

(Deputy Dr Giles Robert Evelyn Shilson)

22 February 2023

### Bridge House Estates (BHE) – Conflict of Interest Policy

The Court considered a report of the Bridge House Estates Board proposing a Conflicts of Interests Policy for Bridge House Estates. The Policy reflected the requirements of the charity's new Supplemental Royal Charter, and had been drafted with reference to the City Corporation's Members Code of Conduct in a way which complied with charity good governance standards and would allow the Trustee to demonstrate that decisions for Bridge House Estates' benefit had been made properly and impartially.

*Resolved* – that the Court, acting for the City Corporation as the charity trustee of Bridge House Estates and solely in the charity's best interests:

- Agree, subject to the grant of the new Supplemental Royal Charter for Bridge House Estates, that the proposed Bridge House Estates Conflicts of Interests Policy be adopted as being in the best interests of the charity, with effect from the date on which the Supplemental Royal Charter is granted.

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

The Town Clerk informed the Court of an error in the list of applications; the name of Peter Francis Sheridan had been included, but Mr Sheridan had already been approved for the Freedom by the Court:

<b>His Excellency Mansoor Abdullah Khalfan Juma Abulhoul</b>	a Diplomat	Knightsbridge, London
<i>The Rt. Hon The Lord Mayor</i>	<i>Citizen and Merchant Taylor</i>	
<i>Deputy Christopher Michael Hayward</i>	<i>Citizen and Pattenmaker</i>	
<b>Richard Stewart Austin</b>	an Insurance Company Director	Kelvedon Hatch, Essex
<i>Malcolm Alastair Craig</i>	<i>Citizen and Gold &amp; Silver Wyre Drawer</i>	
<i>Robert Clive Booth</i>	<i>Citizen and Gold &amp; Silver Wyre Drawer</i>	

<b>Dean John Barnes</b> <i>Vincent Dignam</i> <i>John Paul Tobin</i>	a Ductwork Ventilation System Company Director <i>Citizen and Carman</i> <i>Citizen and Carman</i>	Dartford, Kent
<b>Matthew Winthrop Barzun</b> <i>The Rt. Hon The Lord Mayor</i> <i>Deputy Christopher Michael</i> <i>Hayward</i>	a Diplomat <i>Citizen and Merchant Taylor</i> <i>Citizen and Pattenmaker</i>	Louisville, Kentucky, United States of America
<b>David Bird</b> <i>Timothy Matthew Wright</i> <i>The Revd James Edward Power</i>	a Forensic Polygraph Examiner, retired <i>Citizen and Glazier</i> <i>Citizen and Haberdasher</i>	Enfield, Middlesex
<b>Christopher Ashley Wilson Blackmore</b> <i>Michael Steele Keith Grant</i> <i>David Anthony Bickmore</i>	a Reinsurance Broker, retired <i>Citizen and Information Technologist</i> <i>Citizen and Wax Chandler</i>	Malmesbury, Wiltshire
<b>Simon Harvey Bond</b> <i>Deputy James Henry George</i> <i>Pollard</i> <i>Ald. Robert Charles Hughes-Penney</i>	an Investment Portfolio Management Director <i>Citizen and Skinner</i> <i>Citizen and Haberdasher</i>	Roydon, Essex
<b>Sir Graham Stuart Brady</b> <i>Deputy Christopher Michael</i> <i>Hayward</i> <i>Robert Charles Michael Wigley</i>	a Member of Parliament <i>Citizen and Pattenmaker</i> <i>Citizen and International Banker</i>	Altrincham, Cheshire
<b>Nicolas Noël André Bréteau</b> <i>The Rt. Hon The Lord Mayor</i> <i>Ald. Vincent Keaveny</i>	a Financial Services Company Chief Executive <i>Citizen and Merchant Taylor</i> <i>Citizen and Solicitor</i>	Kensington, London
<b>David Brigden</b> <i>Michael Steele Keith Grant</i> <i>David Anthony Bickmore</i>	a Chartered Surveyor <i>Citizen and Information Technologist</i> <i>Citizen and Wax Chandler</i>	Muswell Hill, London
<b>Oliver Daniel Bullman</b> <i>Richard Gary Stephen Miller</i> <i>Hilary Miller</i>	a Shipping Container Company Director <i>Citizen and Glover</i> <i>Citizen and Glover</i>	Ongar, Essex
<b>Austin Grenville Burn</b> <i>Michael John Singleton</i> <i>Robert Paul Selwyn</i>	a Page of the Presence, retired <i>Citizen and Fletcher</i> <i>Citizen and Fletcher</i>	Old Windsor, Berkshire
<b>Caroline Burton</b> <i>Susanne Margaret Janet</i> <i>Wooltorton</i> <i>Brendan Paul Tobin</i>	a Global Data Protection Officer <i>Citizen and Poulter</i> <i>Citizen and Poulter</i>	Norwich, Norfolk
<b>Eamon Patrick Campbell</b> <i>Calogero Alu</i> <i>Russell Chweidan</i>	a Technology Company Director <i>Citizen and Baker</i> <i>Citizen and Baker</i>	Winchmore Hill, London
<b>Dr Claudia Carraro D'amore</b> <i>Ronald Peter Murray</i>	a Local Authority Press Office Manager <i>Citizen and Firefighter</i>	Padua, Italy

<i>Alan William Mabbutt</i>	<i>Citizen and Firefighter</i>	
<b>Simon Philip Cattle</b> <i>Michael Steele Keith Grant</i> <i>David Anthony Bickmore</i>	a Gas Company Senior Adviser <i>Citizen and Information Technologist</i> <i>Citizen and Wax Chandler</i>	Berkhamsted, Hertfordshire
<b>James Blake Chapman</b> <i>Ald. Alison Jane Gowman</i> <i>Deputy Marianne Bernadette Fredericks</i>	a Firefighter <i>Citizen and Glover</i> <i>Citizen and Baker</i>	Brentwood, Essex
<b>Robert Michael Cullen</b> <i>Vincent Dignam</i> <i>John Paul Tobin</i>	a Rail Infrastructure Company Managing Director <i>Citizen and Carman</i> <i>Citizen and Carman</i>	Toddington, Bedfordshire
<b>Philip Francis Cusack</b> <i>Vincent Dignam</i> <i>John Paul Tobin</i>	a Tool Supplies Company Managing Director <i>Citizen and Carman</i> <i>Citizen and Carman</i>	Potters Bar, Hertfordshire
<b>Lewis William Dance</b> <i>Vincent Dignam</i> <i>Ald. Ian David Luder</i>	a Chamberlain's Court Apprentice <i>Citizen and Carman</i> <i>Citizen and Cooper</i>	Hoddesdon, Hertfordshire
<b>Mark Andrew Devenport</b> <i>Allan Stewart Anderson</i> <i>Daniel Flowers</i>	a Joiner, retired <i>Citizen and Plumber</i> <i>Citizen and Plumber</i>	Wandsworth, London
<b>Thomas Leslie Duffin</b> <i>Keith Richard Stevens</i> <i>Dmytro Tupchiienko</i>	a National Charity Partnerships Director, retired <i>Citizen and Management Consultant</i> <i>Citizen and Stationer &amp; Newspaper Maker</i>	Colwich, Staffordshire
<b>Austin Andrew Sindelka Erwin</b> <i>David Robert Attwood</i> <i>Alan Victor George Croucher</i>	a Debt Restructuring Consultant <i>Citizen and Plumber</i> <i>Citizen and Tyler &amp; Bricklayer</i>	Balham, London
<b>Joshua George Fincher</b> <i>Deputy Keith David Forbes Bottomley</i> <i>Ald. &amp; Sheriff Alastair John Naisbitt King, DL</i>	a Blacksmith <i>Citizen and Wheelwright</i> <i>Citizen and Blacksmith</i>	Wellington, Herefordshire
<b>James Paul Flint</b> <i>Deputy Henry Llewellyn Michael Jones</i> <i>Deputy Marianne Bernadette Fredericks</i>	an Actor <i>Citizen and Common Councillor</i> <i>Citizen and Baker</i>	Poplar, London
<b>Dr Alberto Franceschi</b> <i>Ronald Peter Murray</i> <i>Alan William Mabbutt</i>	an Honorary Consul of Lithuania <i>Citizen and Firefighter</i> <i>Citizen and Firefighter</i>	Padua, Italy
<b>Farshid Gazeranchi</b> <i>Robert Brian Linton</i> <i>Abdul Latif</i>	an Oil and Gas Supply Company Director <i>Citizen and Blacksmith</i> <i>Citizen and Poulter</i>	Paddington, London
<b>Jacqueline Lesley Gilbert</b> <i>Lord Mountevens</i>	an Administrator <i>Citizen and Shipwright</i>	Whyteleafe, Surrey

<i>Ald. Sir David Hugh Wootton</i>	<i>Citizen and Fletcher</i>	
<b>Richard Duane Grant</b> <i>Judy Senta Tayler-Smith</i> <i>Simon Jonathan Tayler-Smith</i>	a Chartered Building Engineer, retired <i>Citizen and Upholder</i> <i>Citizen and Basketmaker</i>	Wigston, Leicestershire
<b>Laura Michelle Reyes Groutides</b> <i>The Rt. Hon The Lord Mayor</i> <i>John Dominic Reid, OBE</i>	an Executive Assistant To The Pageantmaster <i>Citizen and Merchant Taylor</i> <i>Citizen and Grocer</i>	Coulsdon, Croydon
<b>Edward Andrew Harding</b> <i>Ann-Marie Jefferys</i> <i>Anne Elizabeth Holden</i>	a Chartered Accountant and Management Consultant <i>Citizen and Glover</i> <i>Citizen and Basketmaker</i>	Hove, East Sussex
<b>Rebecca Louise Hardman</b> <i>The Rt. Hon The Lord Mayor</i> <i>Ald. Vincent Keaveny</i>	a Professional Services Senior Operations Manager <i>Citizen and Merchant Taylor</i> <i>Citizen and Solicitor</i>	Haringey, London
<b>Peter James Harris</b> <i>Simon Phillip Bannister</i> <i>Roy Raymond Cullen</i>	a Fire Alarm Engineer, retired <i>Citizen and Blacksmith</i> <i>Citizen and Wheelwright</i>	Bromley, Kent
<b>Ashley Hine</b> <i>Peter Christopher Brockbank</i> <i>Peter John Lambert</i>	an Information Technology Company Director <i>Citizen and Pavior</i> <i>Citizen and Pavior</i>	Twickenham, Middlesex
<b>Brigadier Neville Robert Holmes, MBE</b> <i>Lord Robert George Alexander</i> <i>Lingfield, Kt, DL</i> <i>Mark Watson-Gandy</i>	an Army Officer <i>Citizen and Goldsmith</i> <i>Citizen and Scrivener</i>	Cheddar, Somerset
<b>Mohammed Ahabab Hossain</b> <i>Munsur Ali, CC</i> <i>Deputy Rehana Banu Ameer</i>	a Community Activist <i>Citizen and Common Councillor</i> <i>Citizen and Common Councillor</i>	Bethnal Green, London
<b>Christopher James Hurren</b> <i>Paul Holmes</i> <i>Mark Robert Jason Eyles-Thomas</i>	a Chauffeur, retired <i>Citizen and Security Professional</i> <i>Citizen and Security Professional</i>	Orpington, Kent
<b>Elizabeth James</b> <i>Ann-Marie Jefferys</i> <i>Anne Elizabeth Holden</i>	a Residential Property Manager <i>Citizen and Glover</i> <i>Citizen and Basketmaker</i>	Chichester, West Sussex
<b>Josephine Amanda Jones</b> <i>Michael Steele Keith Grant</i> <i>Carolyn Jane Hutchings</i>	a Bank of England Official, retired <i>Citizen and Information Technologist</i> <i>Citizen and Fan Maker</i>	Putney, London, Wandsworth
<b>Peter Francis Junker</b> <i>Ann-Marie Jefferys</i> <i>Anne Elizabeth Holden</i>	an Information Technology Company Manager, retired <i>Citizen and Glover</i> <i>Citizen and Basketmaker</i>	Sunbury-on-Thames, Surrey
<b>Sumit Kanwar</b>	an Automotive Industry Head of Business	Langley, Berkshire

<i>Trevor James Brignall</i>	<i>Citizen and Marketor</i>	
<i>Simon Jonathan Mark Burrows</i>	<i>Citizen and Framework Knitter</i>	
<b>Suraiya Kassamally</b>	a Primary School Teacher, retired	Ilford, Essex
<i>Ian Sidney Balcombe</i>	<i>Citizen and Pattenmaker</i>	
<i>Timothy John Macandrews JP</i>	<i>Citizen and Gold &amp; Silver Wyre Drawer</i>	
<b>Trevor John Koschalka</b>	a Police Inspector, retired	Walton On Thames, Surrey
<i>Donald Henry McGarr</i>	<i>Citizen and Basketmaker</i>	
<i>Omaid Hiwaizi</i>	<i>Citizen and Marketor</i>	
<b>Afua Serwah Kyei</b>	The Bank of England Chief Financial Officer	Chelsea, London
<i>Ald. Professor Michael Raymond Mainelli</i>	<i>Citizen and World Trader</i>	
<i>Andrew Frederick Seaforth Cox</i>	<i>Citizen and Grocer</i>	
<b>Dr Tatyana Rekrut Lapa-Enright</b>	a Medical Doctor	Cambridge, Cambridgeshire
<i>Graham George Cooke</i>	<i>Citizen and Painter Stainer</i>	
<i>Ann-Marie Jefferys</i>	<i>Citizen and Glover</i>	
<b>Kelly Lesurf</b>	a Membership & Outreach Manager	Leytonstone, London
<i>Ald. Sir David Hugh Wootton</i>	<i>Citizen and Fletcher</i>	
<i>Dr Iain Reid</i>	<i>Citizen and Ironmonger</i>	
<b>Jane Riddick Heron Macdonald</b>	a Dentist, retired	Putney, London
<i>Stephen David Willis</i>	<i>Citizen and Musician</i>	
<i>Dr Millan Sachania</i>	<i>Citizen and Musician</i>	
<b>Geoffrey Hugh Maitland-Jones</b>	a Data Analyst	Herstmonceux, East Sussex
<i>Michael Steele Keith Grant</i>	<i>Citizen and Information Technologist</i>	
<i>David Anthony Bickmore</i>	<i>Citizen and Wax Chandler</i>	
<b>Anne-Marie Maningas</b>	a Transport For London Instructor Operator	Brentford, Middlesex
<i>Donald Henry McGarr</i>	<i>Citizen and Basketmaker</i>	
<i>Dhruv Patel</i>	<i>Citizen and Clothworker</i>	
<b>Lesley Fiona Barbara McAlpine</b>	a City of London Guide	Charlton, London
<i>Stephen David Willis</i>	<i>Citizen and Musician</i>	
<i>Dr Millan Sachania</i>	<i>Citizen and Musician</i>	
<b>Timothy Gerald McCarthy</b>	a Labour Supply Company Managing Director	Edgware, Middlesex
<i>Vincent Dignam</i>	<i>Citizen and Carman</i>	
<i>John Paul Tobin</i>	<i>Citizen and Carman</i>	
<b>Ralph Edward Stanley Miller</b>	a Government Official, Retired	Lanner, Cornwall
<i>Colin Anthony Cox</i>	<i>Citizen and Air Pilot</i>	
<i>David Harry</i>	<i>Citizen and Stationer &amp; Newspaper Maker</i>	
<b>Robert William Newcombe</b>	a Barrister	Rothbury, Northumberland
<i>Ald. Alexander Robertson</i>	<i>Citizen and Ironmonger</i>	
<i>Martin Barr</i>		
<i>Lucinda Mary Elisabeth</i>	<i>Citizen and Skinner</i>	



*Newcombe*

<b>Lauren Jayne Osborne-Patterson</b> <i>Deputy Philip Woodhouse Jamel Banda, CC</i>	a Trainee Legal Executive  <i>Citizen and Grocer Citizen and Poulter</i>	Newdigate, Surrey
<b>James David Miles Owens</b> <i>Richard Gary Stephen Miller Norman Edward Chapman</i>	a Regional Data Centre Operations Manager  <i>Citizen and Glover Citizen and Glover</i>	Hampton, Middlesex
<b>David Peter Burrett Reid</b>  <i>Richard George Turk Dr Iain Reid</i>	a Charity Executive Director  <i>Citizen and Shipwright Citizen and Ironmonger</i>	Shipton Under Wychwood, Oxfordshire
<b>Howard Jeffery Rind</b>  <i>Peter Hubert William Ruddy Melvyn Stuart Davis</i>	a Solicitor  <i>Citizen and Bowyer Citizen and Bowyer</i>	Sanderstead, South Croydon
<b>William Damian Stuart Rouse</b>  <i>Lex Agathangelou Major General William O'Leary</i>	a Recruitment Services Company Director  <i>Citizen and Turner Citizen and Turner</i>	Basingstoke, Hampshire
<b>Andrew Mark Russell</b> <i>Ruby Sayed, CC Helen Lesley Fentimen, OBE, JP, CC</i>	a Head of School  <i>Citizen and Common Councillor Citizen and Common Councillor</i>	Bournemouth, Dorset
<b>John Edward Sinclair</b> <i>David O'Reilly Richard Logue</i>	a Procurement Consultant  <i>Citizen and Educator Citizen and Educator</i>	Colchester, Essex
<b>Oscar Stewart Talbot Smith</b> <i>Nicholas John Trillwood Sarah Catherine Trillwood</i>	a Chartered Surveyor  <i>Citizen and Goldsmith Citizen and Goldsmith</i>	Blackheath, London
<b>Victoria Ann Smurfit</b> <i>Ald. Vincent Keaveny Vincent Dignam</i>	an Actress  <i>Citizen and Solicitor Citizen and Carman</i>	Notting Hill, London
<b>Caroline Theresa Speight</b>  <i>Anthony William Parker Richard George Turk</i>	a Rowing Coach and Safety Boat Officer  <i>Citizen and Glass Seller Citizen and Shipwright</i>	Upper Norwood, London
<b>Glenn Springett</b> <i>Brian Thomas Porter Elliott Thomas Porter</i>	a Construction Group Managing Director  <i>Citizen and Fruiterer Citizen and Fruiterer</i>	Maidstone, Kent
<b>Mitchell Loney Leslie Ben Walker</b> <i>Henry Llewellyn Michael Jones, CC</i>	a Procurement and Contracts Officer  <i>Citizen and Common Councillor</i>	Hornchurch, Essex

<i>Vincent Dignam</i>	<i>Citizen and Carman</i>	
<b>Glyn Douglas Wallis-Jones</b> <i>Graham John Peacock</i> <i>Richard Eaglesfield Floyd</i>	a Civil Servant <i>Citizen and Loriner</i> <i>Citizen and Basketmaker</i>	East Sheen, London
<b>Martin William Ward</b> <i>Gregory James Kirby</i> <i>Peter John Lambert</i>	a Senior Technical Support Engineer <i>Citizen and Glover</i> <i>Citizen and Pavior</i>	South Ruislip, Middlesex
<b>Christopher Warden</b> <i>Deputy James Michael Douglas Thomson</i> <i>His Honour Simon Stewart Coltart</i>	a City Livery Company House Steward <i>Citizen and Grocer</i> <i>Citizen and Grocer</i>	High Wycombe, Buckinghamshire
<b>Andrew Timothy Whitehead</b> <i>Michael Steele Keith Grant</i> <i>David Anthony Bickmore</i>	an Operations and Facilities Manager <i>Citizen and Information Technologist</i> <i>Citizen and Wax Chandler</i>	Pulborough, West Sussex
<b>Dr John Arthur Robert Williams</b> <i>Colin Norman Newsome</i> <i>Malcolm Ronald Vincent</i>	an Academic <i>Citizen and Engineer</i> <i>Citizen and Engineer</i>	Solihull, West Midlands
<b>Debra Jill Witt</b> <i>Deputy Graham David Packham</i> <i>Catherine Sidony McGuinness, CBE, CC</i>	a Consultant <i>Citizen and Upholder</i> <i>Citizen and Solicitor</i>	Holborn, London
<b>James Malcolm Woolley</b> <i>Richard Gary Stephen Miller</i> <i>John Charles Jordan</i>	a Publican <i>Citizen and Glover</i> <i>Citizen and Glover</i>	Leighton Buzzard, Bedfordshire

14.  
Appointments

The Court proceeded to consider the following appointments:

- (A) Three Members on the **Board of Governors of the City of London Freeman's School**, for the balances of terms expiring in July 2026, July 2024 and July 2023.

**Nominations received:-**

John Foley

Read.

Whereupon the Lord Mayor declared John Foley to be appointed to the Board of Governors of the City of London Freeman's School.

- (B) One Member on the **Capital Buildings Board** for the balance of the term expiring in April 2026.

**Nominations received:-**

Steve Goodman

Read.

Whereupon the Lord Mayor declared Steve Goodman to be appointed to the Capital Buildings Board.

- (C) Two Members on the **Member Learning and Development Steering Group**, for the remainder of the 2022/23 civic year.

**Nominations received:-**

Eamonn Mullally

Read.

Whereupon the Lord Mayor declared Eamonn Mullally to be appointed to the Member Learning and Development Steering Group.

- (D) Four Members on **The Honourable The Irish Society** for three year terms expiring in March 2026.

**Nominations received:-**

James Bromiley-Davis

John Foley

John Griffiths

Tim McNally

Alpa Raja

Hugh Selka

Read.

- (E) Four Members on the **Committee of Aldermanic Almoners, Common Council Governors and Donation Governors of Christ's Hospital**, for the balances of one vacancy expiring in March 2026, two vacancies expiring in March 2025 and one vacancy expiring in March 2024.

**Nominations received:-**

James Bromiley-Davis

Read.

Whereupon the Lord Mayor declared James Bromiley-Davis to be appointed to the Committee of Aldermanic Almoners, Common Council Governors and Donation Governors of Christ's Hospital.

- (F) Two Members on the **Mitchell City of London Charity and Educational Foundation**, for the a term expiring in March 2028 and the balance of a term expiring in March 2025.

**Nominations received:-**

Steve Goodman

\*Alderwoman Susan Pearson  
Ruby Sayed

Read.

- (G) One Member on the **City of London Reserves Forces and Cadets Association**, for a three year term expiring March 2026.

**Nominations received:-**

\*Deputy Simon Duckworth  
Nighat Qureishi  
Alpa Raja

Read.

- (H) Three Members on the **Guild Council of St Lawrence Jewry** for one year-terms expiring in March 2024.

**Nominations received:-**

James Bromiley-Davis  
\*Alderman Gregory Jones  
Deputy Charles Edward Lord

Read.

Whereupon the Lord Mayor declared James Bromiley-Davis, Alderman Gregory Jones and Deputy Charles Edward Lord to be appointed to the Guild Council of St Lawrence Jewry.

The Court proceeded, in accordance with Standing Order No.10, to ballot on each of the foregoing contested vacancies. The Lord Mayor appointed the Chief Commoner and the Chairman of the Finance Committee, or their representatives, to be the scrutineers of the ballots.

The Court noted that Alderman Sir William Russell would continue to serve his term as Governor of The Honourable The Irish Society having previously been appointed for a three-year term, expiring in March 2024.

The Court noted the appointment of Alderman Robert Howard, having previously been appointed for a term expiring in March 2025.

The Court endorsed the appointment of Alderman Gregory Jones for a second term of office on the Honourable the Irish Society, expiring in March 2026.

The Town Clerk also informed the Court that in accordance with the terms of the Charter for The Honourable The Irish Society, the Deputy Governor had been appointed by the Court of the Irish Society and was due to be installed later that day.

*Resolved* – That the votes be counted at the conclusion of the Court, and the results printed in the Summons for the next meeting, and communicated to Members as soon as they are available.

15. Motion

Contained within the summons, the Court was advised that the appointment of Mary Durcan to the Planning & Transportation Committee for the Ward of Castle Baynard had been granted by the Court under urgency procedures outlined in Standing Order 19 following the resignation of Martha Grekos from the Court of Common Council.

16. Questions

*Woodhouse, P., Deputy to the Chairman of the Policy and Resources Committee*

**Light Touch Governance Review**

Deputy Philip Woodhouse asked a question of the Chairman of the Policy and Resources Committee relating to the Light Touch Governance Review, seeking an action tracker showing what had been achieved under the review. He added that Lord Lisvane had been appointed to undertake the previous review as an independent advisor due to the perceived difficulties in doing it internally and asked the Chairman why it was felt that the City Corporation was now capable of doing a light touch review itself, and if it would not have been more suitable to invite Lord Lisvane to conduct it instead.

Responding, the Chairman of the Policy and Resources Committee emphasised that this was a light touch governance review. The review conducted by Lord Lisvane had been of a different magnitude entirely, and it was now for the City Corporation to take forward further measures and amendments to its governance as it so wished that had arisen in the period since. The light touch review was not intended to revisit Lord Lisvane's review.

An update on the Light Touch Governance Review came to the Policy & Resources Committee in February and was further discussed at the informal meeting of the Court in early March. This included an update on decisions made to date. An additional report would be brought forward to the Policy & Resources Committee in March after which all relevant recommendations would be submitted to the Court in April..

Deputy Woodhouse asked a supplementary question, informing the Court of his considerable concern over the current standards process, he asked the Chairman to consider working with all Members to find a suitable change to the current standards process.

The Chairman replied that he was aware of feelings amongst Members of the Court as to how the standards process worked. He felt that while this was not the occasion to discuss the standards process, he was always open to working with all Members of the Court and that it was essential to have a robust standards process.

**Lord Mayor's engagements**

*Wheatley, M., to the Chairman of the Policy and Resources Committee*

Mark Wheatley asked a question of the Chairman of the Policy and Resources Committee, reflecting on transparency and the City Corporation's public role, and asking if the Lord Mayor would commit to providing Members of the Court with a full written list of all the Lord Mayor's meetings on his overseas engagements.. Whilst the Lord Mayor's updates were greatly appreciated by all members of your

honourable Court. Mr Wheatley asked the Chairman if he would also commit to.

In reply, the Chairman of Policy and Resources said that it had fallen to him to respond to the question on behalf of the Lord Mayor. The Chairman said that the Lord Mayor's overseas engagement programme, supported by the Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office and the Department for Business and Trade, was crucial to delivering the City Corporation's priorities and objectives in growth markets overseas. He was aware that, in addition to verbal updates at Court, details of the Lord Mayor's engagements were set out in the monthly Member briefing. The Chairman informed Members that the Lord Mayor would be very happy to provide a full list of meeting that have taken place during an overseas visit to any Member on request, and to consider whether there was a suitable mechanism through which these details could be routinely shared with Members in future.

In response, Mr Wheatley invited the Lord Mayor to treat his question as a standard request on his behalf to be provided with this information on a regular basis. He also asked if further information could be provided on the advisory process when candidates for Lord Mayor were presented. He welcomed the open elections to the Court of Alderman, but said that it was his understanding that the Court of Alderman was advised by a Committee when nominating individuals to the Livery Companies for election to Lord Mayor, and suggested that this was a somewhat opaque process. He therefore asked if information could be provided as to the membership of this committee, and against what criteria they recommended candidates for progression.

The Chairman replied that he was sure that those details could be made available. It was correct to say that there was a panel advising the Court of Alderman on progression to the shrievalty, comprised in the majority by businessmen and woman, captains of industry and individuals from the Financial and Professional Services industry within the City of London, along with the Chairman of the Policy and Resources Committee and the Chief Commoner. The panel met annually, and makes recommendations to the Court of Alderman.

### **London Living Wage**

*Durcan, M., to  
the Chairman  
of the Policy  
and Resources  
Committee*

Mary Durcan asked a question of the Chairman of the Policy and Resources Committee, asking if he supported her in her request that Members and the Court did all they could to promote the London Living Wage. Though paying the London Living Wage presented an additional cost to employers, there were advantages such as reduced absenteeism and sick leave, making for employers to easier to recruit and retain staff, and showing a huge boost in staff morale and productivity. Organisations had to opt in, and Ms Durcan requested that all Members ask their employers if they were a London Living Wage accredited employer, and to ask them to join if they were not. She also requested that Members enquire as to whether their suppliers and subcontractors were also accredited. = She also asked the City Corporation to do all it could to advertise the London Living Wage so that London could be made a Living Wage City.

In reply, the Policy Chairman said that the London Living Wage was a life raft for many of London's workers, and at a time of increased costs it was more important

than ever that employers paid their staff a fair salary. He was proud to have launched the London Living Wage when serving as Deputy Chairman of Policy & Resources, and was proud of the City Corporation's continued support. He was also proud that all staff of the City Corporation received the London Living Wage, uprated as soon as annual increases were announced. The City Corporation also required its contractors to pay the living wage to their staff. The Policy Chairman undertook to look at the details of the campaign referenced by Ms Durcan, but agreed that London employers could do more and urged them to look at the campaign.

### Foreign Policy

*Durcan, M., to  
the Chairman  
of the Policy  
and Resources  
Committee*

Addressing the Chairman of Policy and Resources, Munsur Ali referred to a question he had asked at a previous Court meeting on how the City Corporation decided on its engagement with and support for foreign nations. He felt that the City Corporation was at risk of being perceived to be selective with its sympathy.. Unless the nature of the City Corporation's support was properly clarified, the question would always pose a threat. He therefore asked the Chairman to clarify the City Corporation's policy on foreign affairs, the extent of its support, how it was decided and if it was fit for purpose.

The Chairman began his response by emphasising his pride in the City Corporation's support for the people of Ukraine in the face of Russian aggression. The Chairman said that the Corporation held an annual budget of £125,000 allocated to an International Disasters Fund, overseen by the Finance Committee. Donations from this fund were usually made in response to appeals by the Disasters Emergency Committee (DEC), which the Chairman said was a trusted and recognised partner in providing disaster support. Given the emergency nature of these appeals, donations were generally agreed under the urgency procedure by the Town Clerk in consultation with the Chairman and Deputy Chairman of the Finance Committee, in line with criteria agreed by the Finance Committee in 2021. During the 2022/23 financial year, £100,000 in donations had been made to the Bangladesh Flood Appeal, the Pakistan Flood Appeal and the Turkey-Syria Earthquake Appeal. In September 2017 and December 2019, two donations of £25,000 were made to the Rohingya Crisis Appeal. The Chairman said that some Members would recall that in 2020, the City Corporation stripped Aung San Suu Kyi of her Freedom, something that was not taken lightly. The City Corporation publicly condemned the humanitarian abuses being carried out in Myanmar.

The Chairman said that in 2022, the Court had passed a motion unanimously condemning the Russian invasion in the strongest possible terms. Such was the feeling of the Court, the motion had been amended to approve a contribution of £250,000 to support the humanitarian relief effort in Ukraine, in addition to the £25,000 that had already been donated through the processes previously outlined. The City Corporation had a clear policy on when donations were made in response to international disasters, and on the occasion of the Ukraine crisis, the Court had unanimously taken the view that the crisis was of sufficient urgency and severity that additional funding over and above the International Disaster Fund donation was justified.

Mr Ali asked a supplementary question, about the Corporation's activities beyond

and above the funds, especially in instances such as those the Policy Chairman had referred to where resource had not come from the disaster fund. He asked if the Chairman agreed that a more transparent and consistent policy was required, rather than those making the decisions simply identifying and sympathising with some nations over others, and if he did agree, what he would suggest.

The Chairman replied by referring Mr Ali to the Finance Committee's International Funds Donation Policy, agreed in January 2021 and which he believed set out a consistent policy. He would ask officers to circulate this policy alongside a list of appeals which had been donated to.

Tom Sleigh asked a supplementary question of the Policy Chairman, saying that he suspected all Members stood wholeheartedly behind the City Corporation's support of Ukraine. He said that the discussion had been focused on the humanitarian side of the issue but said that the aspect of choosing which countries to do business and encourage trade with was also important. As Ukraine moved away from Moscow, it would be looking west, but faced barriers in working with the UK. He asked if the Chairman would agree to discuss with officers what the City Corporation could do to encourage reduction of these barriers and play its part in improving trade between the Ukraine and the UK.

The Chairman replied, thanking Mr Sleigh and Sheriff Andrew Marsden for joining the London Chamber of Commerce's recent delegation to Ukraine which he felt was an incredibly worthwhile venture. He committed to speak to officers to see what might be possible.

Frances Leach felt that the key issue of availability of support for different contexts had not been addressed. She said the focus had been on the financial elements of the City Corporation's support, which she acknowledged was important, and referred to her experience with the DEC. She referred to the Corporation's cultural output, which with Destination City was becoming a huge part of the Corporation's agenda, and said she felt there were gaps in where the Corporation applied this cultural support. She therefore asked the Chairman to consider this alongside the financial considerations.

The Chairman agreed and undertook to take this away to consider further.

## 17. **POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE**

**(Deputy Christopher Michael Hayward)**

3 February 2023

### **Report of Urgent Action Taken: London Councils Grants Scheme 2023/24 Levy**

The Court was recommended to note action taken under urgency procedures related to the London Councils Grants Scheme 2023/24 Levy.

*Resolved* – That the report be received.

## 18. **POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE AND FINANCE COMMITTEE**



(Deputy Christopher Michael Hayward and Deputy Henry Nicholas Almroth Colthurst Colthurst)

15 January 2023

### **Report of Urgent Action Taken: Eight Authority Pool**

The Court was recommended to note action taken under urgency procedures related to the London Councils Grants Scheme 2023/24 Levy.

*Resolved* – That the report be received.

19.  
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**

#### **Date in force**

#### **The Council Tax and Non-Domestic Rating (Demand Notices) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2023 No. 13**

31<sup>st</sup> January 2023

These Regulations amend Regulations from 2003 in relation to non-domestic rating demand notices. Under the 2003 Regulations, a rate demand notice served by the Common Council in its capacity as a billing authority must contain certain specified information. These Regulations amend the existing Regulations to update the information that must be provided in the demand notice concerning the non-domestic rating system and rate reliefs.

#### **The School and Early Years Finance (England) Regulations 2023 No. 59**

1<sup>st</sup> January 2023

These Regulations make provision for local authorities' financial arrangements in relation to the funding of maintained schools for the financial year 2023-2024. They set out the appropriate formulae in accordance with which local authorities must determine budget shares for schools maintained by them. The Regulations apply to the Common Council's funding of its maintained schools.

#### **The Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (England) (Amendment) Order 2023 No. 142**

31<sup>st</sup> January 2023

This Order amends an existing Order from 2015, which makes provision for local planning authorities and the Secretary of State to consult certain authorities or persons within certain categories, before issuing a grant of planning permission. This Order adds Active Travel England to the list of statutory consultees and sets out the categories of development for which this new Government agency must be consulted.

Read.

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

20. There were no ballots at the last Court.

Appointments

21. *Resolved unanimously* – that the sincere gratitude of the Court be given to

Resolutions

Packham. G.,  
Deputy;  
Colthurst, H. N.  
A., Deputy

Martha Grekos

for her service to the ward of Castle Baynard, the Court of Common Council and the City Corporation. While her time on the Court had been brief, she had served on ten committees and her knowledge as a planning lawyer had been particularly useful on the Planning and Transportation Committee, and the Court thanked her for her many contributions. Martha would also be remembered for progressing numerous ward issues, including her deep involvement with the Fleet Street Quarter BID. In taking its leave of Martha, the Court thanked Martha for her service and wished her well for the years to come.

22. Awards  
and Prizes

There was no report.

23. Docquets  
for the Hospital  
Seal.

There were no docquets for the Seal.

24. *Resolved* – 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 4 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act, 1972.

Duckworth,  
S.D., O.B.E.,  
D.L., Deputy;  
Colthurst, H. N.  
A., Deputy

25. Non-  
public minutes

*Resolved* – That the non-public minutes of the last Court held on 8 December are correctly recorded.

### **Locum Tenens**

The Town Clerk reported that the Lord Mayor now needed to depart the meeting in order to attend another official engagement. Accordingly, there was produced and laid in Court a Warrant, signed by the Right Honourable The Lord Mayor, appointing Alderman Ian Luder as Locum Tenens to transact all the business appertaining to the Office of Mayoralty of this City during his absence.

26. **CITY OF LONDON POLICE AUTHORITY BOARD AND FRAUD AND CYBER CRIME REPORTING AND ANALYSIS SERVICE PROCUREMENT COMMITTEE**  
The Court considered a joint report of the Police Authority Board and the Fraud and Cyber Crime Reporting and Analysis Service Committee presenting the Full

Business Case for the Fraud and Cyber Crime Reporting and Analysis Service.

27. **POLICE AUTHORITY BOARD AND FINANCE COMMITTEE**

The Court considered a joint report of the Police Authority Board and the Finance Committee on a contractual matter.

28. **PROPERTY INVESTMENT BOARD**

**(A) City's Estate: disposal of a long leasehold**

The Court considered a report of the Property Investment Board recommending the disposal of a long leasehold interest.

**(B) Report of Urgent Action Taken: City's Estate: Disposal of Freehold**

The Court considered a report of the Property Investment Board relating to a decision taken under urgency relating to the disposal of a freehold.

**(C) Report of Urgent Action Taken: City's Estate: Disposal of Freehold**

The Court considered a report of the Property Investment Board relating to decisions taken under urgency relating to the disposals of freeholds.

29. **CORPORATE SERVICES COMMITTEE**

The Court considered a report of the Corporate Services Committee relating a decision taken under urgency related to the creation of posts related to the Markets Co-Location Programme.

30. **POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE**

The Court considered a report of the Policy and Resources Committee relating a decision taken under urgency related to the Presentation of a Loyal Address to His Majesty The King on the occasion of his Accession on Thursday 9th March 2023.

**The meeting commenced at 10am and ended at 11.13am**

**THOMAS.**