

<b>Committee(s):</b> Planning & Transportation	<b>Dated:</b> 03/10/2023
<b>Subject:</b> Update on activity relating to Wardmote resolutions from the Wards of Aldersgate and Candlewick	<b>Public</b>
<b>Which outcomes in the City Corporation's Corporate Plan does this proposal aim to impact directly?</b>	N/A
<b>Does this proposal require extra revenue and/or capital spending?</b>	<b>N</b>
<b>If so, how much?</b>	<b>N/A</b>
<b>What is the source of Funding?</b>	<b>N/A</b>
<b>Has this Funding Source been agreed with the Chamberlain's Department?</b>	<b>N/A</b>
<b>Report of:</b> Interim Executive Director, Environment	<b>For Information</b>
<b>Report author:</b> Bruce McVean and Peter Wilson, Environment Department	

### Summary

At its last meeting, this Committee received Wardmote resolutions from the Wards of Aldersgate, relating to the dangerous use of pavements and walkways by people riding bikes and scooters, and Candlewick, relating to public realm improvements in the Ward and the building development on Abchurch Lane. This report provides an update on the activity underway in relation to these resolutions.

Activity to tackle the riding of cycles and e-scooters on pavements includes:

- The City of London Police targeting dangerous and nuisance behaviour by people cycling or using e-scooters.
- The City of London Corporation preparing to request authority from the Commissioner to adopt Community Safety Accreditation Scheme (CSAS) powers, including the ability to enforce cycling on the pavement.
- Officers working with Lime and Forest to improve parking compliance for dockless cycles. This includes operators fining and banning users who leave bikes in such a way as to cause an obstruction.

Current and recent projects to improve the public realm, accessibility and user experience of streets in the Ward of Candlewick include:

- Pavement widening along the length of King William (Due to commence Spring 2024).
- Improvements to Nicholas Lane and Cannon Street (Completed February 2023).
- TfL are also at the early stages of developing proposals to improve Monument junction (Start date t.b.c.).
- Improvements to Abchurch Lane to be delivered as part of the S278 for the development over the new underground entrance (Start date t.b.c.).

Officers have raised concerns about the hoardings around the development on Abchurch Lane with TfL who have responded positively. An update will be provided to the Candlewick Ward Newsletter.

## **Recommendation(s)**

Members are asked to note the report.

### **Main Report**

#### **Background**

1. At its last meeting, this Committee received Wardmote resolutions from the Wards of Aldersgate and Candlewick.
2. The resolution from the Ward of Aldersgate:
  - a. “The Aldersgate Wardmote deplors the dangerous use of pavements and walkways by bicycles and scooters and electric versions thereof and urges the Grand Court of Wardmote to take action to prevent such abuse of the pavements and walkways.”
3. The resolution from the Ward of Candlewick:
  - a. “The Ward of Candlewick commented that they were keen to continue working closely and collaboratively with officers at the City Corporation to get the maximum impact for the Ward of Candlewick from a public realm perspective, and to develop and deliver a plan that would work well long term and provide accessible and user-friendly streets across the City.”
  - b. “With regard to progress of the building development on Abchurch Lane, the Ward of Candlewick asked that this matter be raised with the City Corporation’s officers and an update provided in a future Candlewick Ward Newsletter. In the event that the project was unlikely to be completed in the near future, scope to have the hoardings updated would also be explored with officers from the Planning and Transportation Department.”
4. Members noted the wardmote resolutions and requested Officers to report back to the next meeting on the progress made against the Wardmote resolutions.

#### **Current Position**

##### Resolution from the Ward of Aldersgate

5. The use of pavements by people riding cycles or e-scooters is illegal and enforcement against this is undertaken by the City of London Police.
6. In addition to engagement and enforcement as part of routine policing activity, the City Police have recently completed 12-weeks of specific activity targeting dangerous and nuisance behaviour by people cycling or using e-scooters. This was being undertaken by a new cycle squad under Operation Lewis.
7. The first eight weeks of the operation has resulted in:
  - a. 1573 visible hours on patrol.

- b. 3256 key messages around crime prevention (theft and snatches) and cycle safety delivered.
  - c. 976 cycle offence warnings, i.e. engagement at the roadside, where other people can see the individual being stopped and spoken to, and with details taken.
  - d. 299 fixed penalty notices with the option of online cycle safety course or £50 fine.
  - e. 38 e-bikes seized.
8. To complement the City Police's role, a report is being drafted to enable the City Corporation to request authority from the Commissioner to adopt Community Safety Accreditation Scheme (CSAS) powers. This would enable several police-type functions to be undertaken by accredited individuals or organisations.
  9. CSAS powers include the ability to enforce cycling on the pavement and to issue Fixed Penalty Notices for certain offences.
  10. Liaison between the City Corporation and City Police in relation to dangerous and nuisance cycling is led by the Transport Strategy team through the Road Danger Reduction Partnership.
  11. The Transport Strategy team also lead on the management of dockless cycles and e-scooter hire.
  12. E-scooter hire is permitted through the City Corporation's participation on the London-wide trial. The parking of rental e-scooters in designated bays is a requirement for all operators in this trial, and there are high levels of compliance from users.
  13. Two operators – Lime and Forest – currently have agreements to operate dockless cycle hire in the City of London. Other operators largely respect this agreement and do not allow their users to end hires in the Square Mile. Note that dockless cycle hire schemes fall outside the existing legislative framework and the City Corporation does not have powers to prevent dockless cycle hire schemes from operating in the City.
  14. Despite the City Corporation's longstanding requirement for dockless cycles to be parked in designated bays, there are ongoing issues with users ending hires outside of designated parking areas, which can result in an obstruction.
  15. Officers are continuing to work with Lime and Forest to raise issues and improve parking compliance. This includes operators fining and banning users who leave bikes in such a way as to cause an obstruction, as well pushing messaging to their users on parking requirements.
  16. The Government has stated its plans to introduce controls to enable the regulation of the dockless vehicle rental market. This would extend to rental bikes as well as e-scooters. A timetable for the legislative process has not yet been confirmed.
  17. London Council's Transport and Environment Committee (TEC) has been considering how to address the current unregulated approach to dockless cycle rental services. London Councils and TfL are working on a proposal to have a single coordinated contract let on behalf of London Councils, London local

authorities and TfL, to deliver services for rental e-bikes and e-scooters in London. The proposed launch of the new coordinated service is summer 2025.

18. Further details on our approach to managing dockless cycles is provided in the recent reports to the Streets & Walkways Sub Committee that are listed under background papers. A summary of legal advice on dockless bike obstructions and dangers is included as an appendix to these reports.

#### Resolution from the Ward of Candlewick – a. Public realm

19. Current and recent projects to improve the public realm, accessibility and user experience of streets in the Ward of Candlewick include:

- a. Upcoming pavement widening along the length of King William Street as part of the Pedestrian Priority Programme. Accessibility improvement include installing raised crossings at side street junctions. Widening the pavements will provide space for tree planting at several points along the street. Construction is due to start in spring 2024, following the completion of All Change at Bank.
- b. Improvements to Nicholas Lane and Cannon Street including pavement widening outside the new Underground entrance to Bank Station and raising the carriageway on Nicholas Lane. These works were completed in February 2023. A new crossing is due to be installed on Cannon Street by March 2024.
- c. TfL are at the early stages of developing proposals to improve Monument junction, with a focus on improving safety and accessibility for people walking and cycling. Officers will work with TfL to support this project. There is currently no date confirmed for when proposals will be ready to share with Members and stakeholders or for delivery.
- d. TfL are also finalising proposals to close Arthur Street at its junction with King William Street to vehicles (except cycles and emergency services vehicles). Arthur Street has been temporarily closed to vehicles at this point since 2015 to facilitate the Bank Station Capacity Upgrade (BSCU) works. The closure of this junction will provide more priority for people walking, improve the safety of people cycling and may provide opportunities for further public realm enhancements. There is currently no date confirmed for delivery.

20. Improvements to Abchurch Lane will be delivered as part of the S278 for the development over the new underground entrance. The details and programme for this are still to be confirmed.

21. In the longer term we will develop a Healthy Streets Plan for the Bank and Cheapside area. This will set the framework for further improvements to streets and the public realm in the area, including Candlewick ward. Work on the plan is expected to start in 2025 following completion of works at Bank and on King William Street and Cheapside. Ward Members and local stakeholders will be engaged as part of the plan development process.

#### Resolution from the Ward of Candlewick – b. Abchurch Lane development

22. The hoardings form the back edge of the footway to Cannon Street, Abchurch Lane and King William Street, this being the site extent for the Over Station

Development (OSD) associated with the Bank Station upgrade and new entrances. The hoardings are currently blue and have been in place since the commencement of works for the station delivery.

23. The hoardings are required to be retained as the development hits the non-operational phase, i.e. the commencement of the OSD.
24. Officers have raised this matter with TfL who have responded positively to the replacement of the existing hoardings with more aesthetically pleasing as part of the OSD scheme as it comes forward which will also be subject to any required hoarding license.
25. Discussions will be ongoing as the OSD works progress and engagement with the Wardmote and local stakeholders. An update reflecting this will be provided to the Candlewick Ward Newsletter.

### **Corporate & Strategic Implications**

Strategic implications

26. None

Financial implications

27. None

Resource implications

28. None

Legal implications

29. None

Risk implications

30. None

Equalities implications

31. None

Climate implications

32. None

Security implications

33. None

### **Conclusion**

34. A range of activities are being delivered by both the City Corporation and the City of London Police to tackle the dangerous riding of cycles and e-scooters on pavements and to reduce the number of dockless cycles that are parked outside designated bays.
35. Several projects to improve the public realm in the Ward of Candlewick have recently completed, are underway or will start soon. In the longer-term opportunities for further improvements will be identified through the development of a Healthy Streets Plan covering the area.

36. Officers have raised concerns about the hoardings around the development on Church Lane with TfL who have responded positively. An update will be provided to the Candlewick Ward Newsletter.
37. Members are asked to note the above activities that relate to the Wardmote resolutions from the Wards of Aldersgate and Candlewick that were received at the last meeting of this Committee.

## **Appendices**

- None

## **Background Papers**

- Dockless Cycles Policy and Legal Powers Update, Streets & Walkways Sub Committee, January 2023 - <https://democracy.cityoflondon.gov.uk/mgAi.aspx?ID=135779>
- Extended Review of Dockless Operator Lime, Streets & Walkways Sub Committee, July 2023 - <https://democracy.cityoflondon.gov.uk/mgAi.aspx?ID=141842>

### **Bruce McVean**

Assistant Director – Policy and Projects, Environment Department

T: 07928 655907

E: [bruce.mcvean@cityoflondon.gov.uk](mailto:bruce.mcvean@cityoflondon.gov.uk)

### **Peter Wilson**

Assistant Director – Development Management, Environment Department

T: 07563 374919

E: [peter.wilson@cityoflondon.gov.uk](mailto:peter.wilson@cityoflondon.gov.uk)