Item No: 3



MAINELLI, MAYOR

COURT OF COMMON COUNCIL

23rd May 2024 MEMBERS PRESENT

ALDERMEN

Alexander Robertson Martin Barr (Alderman) Sir Charles Edward Beck Bowman (Alderman) Professor Emma Edhem (Alderman) Sir Peter Estlin (Alderman) Alison Gowman (Alderman) Prem Goyal OBE (Alderman) Timothy Russell Hailes (Alderman) Robert Charles Hughes-Penney (Alderman) Vincent Keaveny CBE (Alderman) Alastair John Naisbitt King DL (Alderman) Dame Susan Langley, DBE (Alderwoman & Sheriff)

Tim Levene (Alderman)
Nicholas Stephen Leland Lyons (Alderman)
The Rt Hon. The Lord Mayor, Alderman
Professor Michael Raymond Mainelli
(Alderman)

Christopher Makin (Alderman) Bronek Masojada (Alderman & Sheriff) Jennette Rachel Newman (Alderwoman) Sir Andrew Charles Parmley, (Alderman) Susan Jane Pearson (Alderwoman) Simon Pryke (Alderman) Kawsar Zaman (Alderman)

COMMONERS

Dr Joanna Tufuo Abeyie MBE George Christopher Abrahams Munsur Ali Rehana Banu Ameer, Deputy Randall Keith Anderson, Deputy Jamel Banda Brendan Barns Matthew Bell The Honourable Emily Sophia Wedgwood Benn Nicholas Michael Bensted-Smith Ian Bishop-Laggett Christopher Paul Boden, Deputy Keith David Forbes Bottomley, Deputy Tijs Broeke Timothy Richard Butcher, Deputy Henry Nicholas Almroth Colthurst. Deputy Aaron Anthony Jose Hasan D'Souza Simon Duckworth, Deputy OBE Chief Commoner Peter Gerard Dunphy, Deputy

Mary Durcan JP John Ernest Edwards, Deputy Helen Lesley Fentimen OBE JP John William Fletcher, Deputy John Foley Dawn Frampton Marianne Bernadette Fredericks, Deputy Steve Goodman OBE John Griffiths Jason Groves Madush Gupta, Deputy Caroline Wilma Haines Christopher Michael Hayward, Deputy Jaspréet Hodgson Ann Holmes, Deputy Michael Hudson Wendy Hyde Henry Llewellyn Michael Jones MBE Shravan Jashvantrai Joshi, Deputy MBE

Elizabeth Anne King, Deputy BFM JP Gregory Alfred Lawrence Frances Leach Natasha Maria Cabrera Lloyd-Owen Charles Edward Lord, OBE JP, Deputy Paul Nicholas Martinelli, Deputy Andrew Paul Mayer Catherine McGuinness CBE Timothy James McNally Wendy Mead OBE Brian Desmond Francis Mooney, Deputy BEM Alastair Michael Moss, Deputy Benjamin Daniel Murphy Deborah Oliver TD Suzanne Ornsby KC Graham Packham Judith Pleasance James Henry George Pollard, Deputy Henrika Johanna Sofia Priest

Nighat Qureishi, Deputy David Sales Ian Christopher Norman Seaton MBE Oliver Sells KC Dr Giles Robert Evelyn Shilson, Deputy Paul Singh Naresh Hari Sonpar James St John Davis Mandeep Thandi James Michael Douglas Thomson, Deputy Luis Felipe Tilleria William Upton KC Jacqueline Roberts Webster Mark Raymond Peter Henry Delano Wheatley Ceri Wilkins Philip Woodhouse Irem Yerdelen

- 1. Apologies The apologies of those Members unable to attend this meeting of the Court were noted.
- 2. Declarations There were none.

3. Minutes Resolved - That the Minutes of the last Court are correctly recorded.

4. Mayoral Engagements

The Lord Mayor provided the Court with an update on his recent engagements, including trips to Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates, the visit of the King of Lesotho and the Easter Banquet.

Policy Statement

The Chairman of the Policy and Resources Committee took the opportunity to make a statement, reflecting on the City Corporation's achievements over the previous civic year and looking forward to the challenges and opportunities for the upcoming year.

6. Appointments

The Court proceeded to consider the following appointments

* Denotes a Member standing for re-appointment by the Court of Common Council.

(A) Freedom Applications Sub (Policy and Resources) Committee (Two vacancies)

(No contest)

Nominations received-

*Dominic Christian

Read.

Whereupon the Lord Mayor declared Dominic Christian to be appointed to the Freedom Applications Sub (Policy and Resources) Committee.

(B) Committee of Aldermanic Almoners, Common Council Governors and Donation Governors of Christ's Hospital (Four Members)

(No contest)

Nominations received-

*Deputy Giles Shilson

Read.

Whereupon the Lord Mayor declared Deputy Giles Shilson to be appointed to the Committee of Aldermanic Almoners, Common Council Governors and Donation Governors of Christ's Hospital.

7. POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE

(Deputy Christopher Michael Hayward)

9 May 2024

(A) City of London Corporation: Small and Medium Enterprise (SME) Strategy The Court considered a report of the Policy and Resources Committee concerning proposals for the adoption of a Small and Medium Enterprise Strategy.

The Chairman introduced the report and outlined the ambitions of the Small and Medium Enterprise (SME) Strategy.

In the ensuing debate, a number of Members spoke in support of the proposals, remarking on the extensive consultation and work that had gone into its drafting. Members also sought assurance that there would be an ambitious marketing and communications plan to support the Strategy, and asked the Chairman to consider how start-ups and smaller SMEs operating from serviced offices could be reached for the City Occupiers database.

Closing the debate, the Chairman took the opportunity to thank Paul Singh, for his work in developing the strategy as Lead Member for Small and Medium Enterprises. He also thanked all officers who had been involved in the generation of the Strategy. Addressing the comments made by Members, he agreed that a marketing strategy would need to be developed once the SME Strategy had been approved. He also agreed that there was further work to do in accessing SMEs operating from serviced offices, and noted that the City Corporation's Community Engagement team was expanding its resource.

Resolved – That the Court approves the Small and Medium Enterprise Strategy.

11 April 2024

(B) Destination City Governance

The Court considered a report of the Policy and Resources Committee the governance of the Destination City Programme.

The Chairman introduced the report, noting that it sought approval for one of the recommendations from the Paul Martin review to provide clarity over the governance of the Destination City Programme.

A Member, also the Deputy Chair of the Culture, Heritage and Libraries Committee, welcomed the outcome of the review and the renewed mandate and additional officer resources which were to be invested in that Committee. They felt this would allow the Committee to lead and be accountable for the cultural strategy which was a cornerstone of Destination City. They noted that the report only addressed one of the two recommendations related to governance from the Martin Review and therefore asked the Chairman of the Policy and Resources Committee for assurance that that the work on the establishment of a cross-cutting Partnership Board, would not be ignored.

A Member expressed their concerns about the accretion of power to the Policy and Resources Committee alongside an erosion of outward authority to private partners. They felt that the recommendations caused an imbalance in governance and took the Culture, Heritage and Libraries Committee to be under the Policy and Resources Committee. A Member, also the Chair of the Culture, Heritage and Libraries Committee, stated that their Committee was working in partnership with Policy and Resources on Destination City, and culture would be a fundamental part of it.

A Member warned that the Destination City Programme had originally been designed to help increase footfall in the City to support food and beverage

industries, but felt it was now being hijacked by a cultural agenda. They asked that it be remembered that areas beyond be culture be included in Destination City.

Other matters raised included how the City Corporation could be flexible when it came to supporting cultural events and whether there was an update on the appointment of a lead officer for culture.

In response, the Chairman of the Policy and Resources Committee said that all recommendations from the Martin Review would be implemented. He agreed that the City Corporation needed to be flexible in seeking opportunities for events. The Martin Review had shown that the City Corporation should work with outside expertise, which strengthen the case for a cross-cutting Partnership Board. The Town Clerk was looking to make the appointment of a cultural lead officer. The Chairman rejected the comments about the accretion of power by the Policy and Resources Committee. He reminded members that decision-making power at the City Corporation was exercised through Committees. The partnerships with the private sector were there to help provide outside expertise.

Resolved – That the Court agrees to align accountability for the refreshed Destination City Programme to the Policy & Resources Committee while noting that accountability for the Culture Strategy remains with the Culture, Heritage & Libraries Committee.

8. **CORPORATE SERVICES COMMITTEE**

(Deputy Alastair Michael Moss)

10 April 2024

Member-led Recruitment Procedures

The Court considered a report of the Corporate Services Committee relating to procedures for Member-led recruitment.

The Chairman introduced the report, explaining that the Member-led recruitment procedures had not kept up to date with the City Corporation's recruitment needs since their last adjustment in 2021, reflecting on the recruitment of the Chief People Officer and the new People Strategy.

The Chairman also informed the Court of an amendment he wished to move which would allow the various Natural Environment Committees to have a greater say in the appointment of the Executive Director, Environment.

Moss, A., Deputy; Hayward, C., Deputy Amendment - To amend the recommendation as follows: "That Members:

- agree the updated Member-Led Recruitment Procedure and Table of Roles, as detailed in Appendix 1, subject to the following amendments:
 - a) Page 80, paragraph 12, to read "Recruitment for Member-led roles should be led by <u>a</u> the Chair <u>to be agreed by the Panel (as described in the 'Voting Final Interview Panel Members' section of the Procedure) the</u>

Employing Committee first mentioned listed in Annex 1".

- b) Page 81, the sixth bullet (in relation to appointments with more than one Employing Committee), to read "The Chair will be <u>determined by the</u> <u>Panel</u> the Chair of the first mentioned Employing Committee as outlined on Annex 1."
- c) Page 82, paragraph 21, to read "In the case of a re-evaluated roles with an existing incumbent (e.g. when responsibilities have significantly increased and the role has been evaluated at a higher grade and salary), then placement of the incumbent into the re-evaluated role may be made directly with agreement by the first mentioned Chair(s) of the Employing Committee(s), the Chair of Policy and Resources Committee, the Chair of Corporate Services Committee, the Town Clerk & Chief Executive and the Chief People Officer. While this situation sits outside recruitment explicitly, it is relevant in relation to the grade and salary notes contained in Annex 2."
- d) The Employing Committees listed against the Executive Director of Environment (page 89) be revised to include Natural Environment Board, West Ham Park Committee, Hampstead Heath, Highgate Wood and Queens Park Committee and the Epping Forest and Commons Committee.
- Note that further consideration is to be given to Environment Department appointments; and
- Agree to authorise your Policy and Resources Committee and Corporate Services Committee to determine the final Panel arrangements for the relevant Environment Department officer appointments."

A Member, also the Chair of the City Bridge Foundation (CBF) Board, raised concerns about the consultation with CBF in the generation of the proposals. He noted the legal duty of the Board to act in the best interests of the charity and observed a possible conflict in the proposed panel make-up for the recruitment of the Managing Director of the Board. The Member felt that the Chairman of Policy and Resources Committee's presence on the panel might be a breach of the charities' conflict of interest policy. In the interest of avoiding a further amendment, assurance was sought from the Chairman of the Policy and Resources Committee that they would elect not serve on the recruiting panel as and when a new Managing Director of the Foundation was recruited.

The Chairman of Policy and Resources spoke to share these concerns, and expressed regret for any oversights in consultation. He provided his assurance that he would recuse himself from any panel considering the appointment of the Managing Director of CBF.

A Member asked for clarification on the position of whether the serving Chair of Policy and Resources Committee could also sit on the CBF Board. It was agreed that this would be clarified by correspondence following the meeting.

Closing the debate, the Chair of the Corporate Services Committee said that the recommendations offered flexibility for the panels to deal with recruitment in an

agile way to help the City Corporation attract the best talent in a competitive market.

Resolved - that Members:

- Agree the updated Member-Led Recruitment Procedure and Table of Roles, as detailed in Appendix 1 subject to the following amendments:
 - a) Page 80, paragraph 12, to read "Recruitment for Member-led roles should be led by a Chair to be agreed by the Panel (as described in the 'Voting Final Interview Panel Members' section of the Procedure).
 - b) Page 81, the sixth bullet (in relation to appointments with more than one Employing Committee), to read "The Chair will be determined by the Panel.
 - c) Page 82, paragraph 21, to read "In the case of a re-evaluated roles with an existing incumbent (e.g. when responsibilities have significantly increased and the role has been evaluated at a higher grade and salary), then placement of the incumbent into the re-evaluated role may be made directly with agreement by the first mentioned Chair(s) of the Employing Committee(s), the Chair of Policy and Resources Committee, the Chair of Corporate Services Committee, the Town Clerk & Chief Executive and the Chief People Officer. While this situation sits outside recruitment explicitly, it is relevant in relation to the grade and salary notes contained in Annex 2."
 - d) The Employing Committees listed against the Executive Director of Environment (page 89) be revised to include Natural Environment Board, West Ham Park Committee, Hampstead Heath, Highgate Wood and Queens Park Committee and the Epping Forest and Commons Committee.

9. CIVIC AFFAIRS SUB-COMMITTEE

(Tom Sleigh)

22 April 2024

Applications for Hospitality

The Court considered a report of the Civic Affairs Sub-Committee concerning applications for the provision of hospitality by the City of London Corporation to mark the Holocaust Memorial Day Ceremony and Reception, the 100th Anniversary of the Pikemen and Musketeers and the 100th Anniversary of the Privileged Regiment status being granted to the Royal Regiment of Fusiliers.

Resolved - That the Court of Common Council approves that hospitality application within this report be granted, and that arrangements are made under the auspices of the Policy and Resources Committee for the Holocaust Memorial Day Ceremony and Reception, and under the auspices of the Civic Affairs Sub-Committee for the remaining events; the costs to be met from City's Cash within approved parameters

10. Resolutions of the Annual Wardmotes were considered as follows:-

Ward of Aldersgate - 20th March 2024

- (i) "This Wardmote resolves to request the Corporation of the City of London to fully implement its Considerate Lighting Charter in the Barbican+Golden Lane Neighbourhood immediately by:
 - i) measuring the baseline levels of pollution from artificial light at night in Aldersgate and Cripplegate;
 - ii) setting a target for reducing such light pollution within 12 months; and adequately resourcing and running a pilot project, with community involvement, to achieve the target."
- (ii) "That the City of London supports a group of Common Councillors, City of London Officers, Anchor Management and Tudor Rose Court Residents' Association Officers to call to account the management of Tudor Rose Court, the only residential facility for elderly people in the City"

Resolved – That both resolutions be referred to the Planning & Transportation Committee for consideration and any necessary action.

Ward of Bassishaw - 21st March 2024

"That the Corporation of London be asked to urgently expedite the review of restrictions at Bank Junction and that Black Cab access be restored to the Bank Junction 24/7 and 365 days per year".

Resolved – That the resolution be referred to the Planning & Transportation Committee for consideration and any necessary action.

Ward of Candlewick – 21st March 2024

"Since the introduction of restrictions on Black Cabs across Bank Junction, both businesses and residents have suffered, most especially those who are less physically able and visitors who travel into the City from one of the London airports. We therefore resolve that the Corporation of London be asked to urgently expedite the review of these restrictions and that Black Cab access be restored to the Bank Junction 24/7 and 365 days per year"

Resolved – That the resolution be referred to the Planning & Transportation Committee for consideration and any necessary action.

Ward of Cordwainer - 21st March 2024

"That the Corporation of London be asked to urgently expedite the review of Bank Junction restrictions and that Black Cab access be restored to the Bank Junction 24/7 and 365 days per year".

Resolved – That the resolution be referred to the Planning & Transportation Committee for consideration and any necessary action.

Ward of Cripplegate – 2nd November 2023 and 20th March 2024

- (i) "This Wardmote respectfully requests that the Corporation of London acknowledges the important role of the Barbican & Golden Lane Neighbourhood Forum in local plan-making and policy development by:
 - a) Reflecting that role within the Corporation's 'Statement of Community Involvement'.
 - b) Reflecting that role within the text of the City Plan 2040, placing the Forum on a par with the non-statutory Business Improvement Districts in the City. The Barbican & Golden Lane Neighbourhood Forum, under the Localism Act 2011, has statutory standing as a consultee in City planning policy and development control from the date of designation by the City, and not from the date of the Neighbourhood Plan. The City owes the Forum a statutory duty of cooperation from that same date."

Resolved – That the resolution be referred to the Planning & Transportation Committee for consideration and any necessary action.

(ii) "The Wardmote resolves that officers investigate the reasons for delays incurred since the planning for Crescent House was granted in December 2023 and from that report to produce a critical path programme for delivery, to be shared with residents no later than July 2024, such programme to encompass all the milestones for internal approval processes, design and anticipated construction timetabling both for Crescent House and the entire Golden Lane Estate".

Resolved – That the resolution be referred to the Community & Children's Services Committee for consideration and any necessary action.

(iii) "The Wardmote resolves that the Landlord, Planners, Surveyors and other relevant City departments urgently seek agreement and funding for the parade of shops under Crescent House on Golden Lane Estate to remove external shutters which attract graffiti and prepare a programme of restoration of the street shop fronts and rear arcade, to enhance the attraction of the arcade in order that businesses can flourish as an important local amenity".

Resolved – That the resolution be referred to the Planning & Transportation Committee for consideration and any necessary action.

- (iv) The Wardmote resolves to request the Corporation of the City of London to fully implement its Considerate Lighting Charter in the Ward and surrounding neighbourhood by:-
 - (i) Measuring the baseline levels of pollution from artificial light at night in Aldersgate and Cripplegate; and
 - (ii) To set a target for reducing such light pollution within 12 months; and
 - (iii) To adequately resource and run a pilot project, with community

involvement, to achieve the target".

Resolved – That the resolution be referred to the Planning & Transportation Committee for consideration and any necessary action.

(v) "The Wardmote resolves to request the Corporation of London to immediately apply the abatement of 27% of structural repairs as set out in the Leases of Crescent House; or in the absence of this, to provide full reasons why this should not be done".

Resolved – That the resolution be referred to the Planning & Transportation Committee for consideration and any necessary action.

(vi) "The Wardmote resolves to call upon City Corporation to provide an adequate number of constantly available public toilets to satisfy both the existing need and the ambition of Destination City".

Resolved – That the resolution be referred to the Port Health and Environmental Services Committee for consideration and any necessary action.

Ward of Langbourn - 20th March 2024

- (i) "The Ward of Langbourn has become increasingly concerned about the lack of action by the City of London Corporation in adopting a sustainable strategy for Leadenhall Market, which will enable the Market and its tenants to flourish in the future. It is hereby resolved by this Wardmote to request the City of London Corporation:
 - To review the options to establish a more appropriate management and ownership structure for this iconic asset and make a decision as to future strategy no later than May 2024.
 - ii) To establish an action plan and timetable for implementation by September 2024".

Resolved – That the resolution be referred to the Investment Committee for consideration and any necessary action.

(ii) "That the Corporation of London be asked to urgently expedite the review of the Bank Junction restrictions and that Black Cab access be restored to the Bank Junction 24/7 and 365 days per year".

Resolved – That the resolution be referred to the Planning & Transportation Committee for consideration and any necessary action.

Ward of Lime Street - 20th March 2024

- (i) "The Lime Street Wardmote resolved that:
 - 1) City of London Corporation be asked to review the options to establish a more appropriate management and ownership structure for Leadenhall

Market and the Monument and make a decision as to future strategy as soon as it is possible and by no later than May 2024 and;

2) To establish an action plan and timetable for implementation by September 2024.

Such an action plan should also consider potential involvement of ECBid and also inclusion of the Monument in its considerations".

Resolved – That the resolution be referred to the Investment Committee for consideration and any necessary action.

(ii) "The City of London Corporation be asked to expedite the review these restrictions and that Licenced "Black Cabs" access to bank junction be restored 24/7 and 365 days of the year".

Resolved – That the resolution be referred to the Planning & Transportation Committee for consideration and any necessary action.

Ward of Portsoken – 20th March 2023

(i) "We welcome the consideration given by the City of London Corporation's Licensing Committee and Port Health and Environmental Services Committee to the issue of anti-social behaviour in Portsoken associated with the nighttime economy, and further encourage the relevant Committee to consider the installation of pop-up public conveniences at night-time economy hotspots in the City to address the common issue of street urination".

Resolved – That the resolution be referred to the Licensing Committee and the Port Health and Environmental Services Committee for consideration and any necessary action.

(ii) "We request that the City of London Corporation commit to a thorough independent review of estate management on the Middlesex Street Estate given the lack of progress on various longstanding issues and projects within the Estate"

Resolved – That the resolution be referred to the Community & Children's Services Committee for consideration and any necessary action.

(iii) "That the relevant Committee consider whether current tenants of the City of London Corporation have the same options as leaseholders with regards to installation of sprinklers, and where a current tenant opted out then sprinklers be installed on a change of tenant".

Resolved – That the resolution be referred to the Community & Children's Services Committee for consideration and any necessary action

(iv) "That the relevant Committee and/or Department of the City of London

Corporation investigate whether there was a statutory nuisance or health and safety hazard under the Housing Health and Safety Rating System in the Mansell Street Estate with regard to pest infestation, and any necessary steps taken to resolve any nuisance identified".

Resolved – That the resolution be referred to the Community and Children's Services Committee and the Port Health and Environmental Services Committees for consideration and any necessary action.

Ward of Tower – 20th March 2024

(i) "That the City Corporation be urged to recommend changes to the proposed City Plan 2040 before its submission to the Secretary of State to ensure that the area bounded by Minories, Aldgate High Street, Jewry Street, Crutched Friars, Coopers Row and the City's southern boundary continues to be designated as an area for office-led development"

Resolved – That the resolution be referred to the Planning & Transportation Committee for consideration and any necessary action.

(ii) "This Wardmote resolves that the City Corporation be asked diligently to expedite its review of the traffic arrangements at Bank."

Resolved – That the resolution be referred to the Planning & Transportation Committee for consideration and any necessary action.

Ward of Walbrook - 20th March 2024

"That the Corporation of London be asked to urgently expedite the review of these restrictions and that Black Cab access be restored to the Bank Junction 24/7 and 365 days per year".

Resolved – That the resolution be referred to the Planning & Transportation Committee for consideration and any necessary action.

A Member, a Deputy for the Ward of Farringdon Without, noted that the Resolutions from their own Wardmote had not been included. They acknowledged that it was in the same terms as others captured, and rather than posing an amendment, advised that they would seek clarification as to why it had not been included outside of the meeting.

11. Motions Joshi, S., Deputy; Packham, G.

By Deputy Shravan Joshi

Motion - "That this Court of Common Council of the City of London Corporation commits to tackling the growing issue of inappropriately parked and obstructive dockless bikes within the City of London, while continuing to call for stronger legislation from national government. It resolves that, in the absence of the additional powers granted by central legislation on micromobility that are needed, the Court calls on operators to comply with our requirements and manage their fleets in line with available parking capacity and to prevent obstructions.

Furthermore, that the City Corporation urgently explores additional options to tackle the challenge such as enhanced fining zones and additional parking bays.

The Court further resolves that it supports the work of the Greater London Authority and Transport for London approach and commits to joining a future pan-London non-docked micromobility contract that aims for a legally binding contract with clear rules and expectations and centralised capacity to manage the contract and measure performance through TfL and London Councils."

Deputy Shravan Joshi informed the Court that he was proposing the motion after gaining a better understanding of the situation that the Square Mile was facing with dockless bikes (or "e-bikes"). He had conferred with officers, met with dockless bike operators and discussed the issue with London Councils.

Deputy Joshi outlined the usage figures of the two main e-bike providers (Lime and Forest). Tens of thousands of journeys were made on dockless bikes within the Square Mile each month, and their popularity continued to grow.

Deputy Joshi regretted that dockless bikes were often not parked correctly, which causes risks and safety threats. From the outset of the introduction of e-bikes in the Square Mile, the City Corporation had sought to address this issue of by requiring the bikes to be parked in designated bays. There was, however, an increasing shortage of available spaces on the City's streets, and so officers had asked dockless bike operators to manage capacity and ensure that bikes were appropriately parked or removed.

Officers had been in continuous conversation with service operators, but without proper legislation, companies could not be sanctioned. Meetings had been arranged with the two largest operators, and assurances had been given that they would do more.

It was clear that issues raised were shared among many other inner-London boroughs. A pan-London contract would go a long way towards holding the operators to account. The Planning and Transportation Committee had recently approved its intent to sign up to such a contract. The details were still confidential while further support was fostered, but the terms of the contract would be presented to Members for consideration. In the absence of legislation from central government, the wording of the motion before Members this day, had been agreed with the City Remembrancer so the City could push for better regulation of the bikes. It was expected that a report would soon be submitted to the Streets and Walkways Sub-Committee to explore where additional cycle bays could be added to meet demand.

Graham Packham seconded the motion, noting that while the rental e-bike scheme had had a positive impact in providing a solution to pollution in the City, he agreed that the parking of the bikes was posing an increasingly serious problem. Poorly-parked bikes created a hazard to mobility-impaired pedestrians and other users such as people with small children and buggies. Efforts to engage with the operators had not proved successful. The City Corporation had no powers to directly manage or regulate dockless bikes, and there was little sign that the

government would introduce legislation to grant these powers. Mr Packham said that progress required three things to happen: the City Corporation's highway officers must work with the operators to identify additional suitable bike parking locations; the operators needed to crack down on users who flouted the rules and parked in inconsiderate locations; and primary legislation. The pan-London contract would not be in force immediately and would not completely solve the problem. It was important to take action to make progress in the meantime. Mr Packham said that the Streets and Walkways Sub-Committee would prioritise increasing parking provision, and vigorously challenge operators to provide tangible proof that they would impose penalties and bans on repeat offenders.

During the ensuing debate, several Members spoke in support of the motion. They agreed with the concerns about the usage of e-bikes in the Square Mile, and also referred to behaviour by cyclists more generally, including delivery bikes parked outside restaurant/takeaway venues. It was suggested that any moves to change primary legislation could include bringing certain offences by cyclists into the Road Traffic Act. A Member said that it was important to consider what mechanisms could be used, including fines for incorrect parking and rewards when users parked bikes correctly. It was also suggested that traditional, non-electronic bikes should be encouraged.

The pan-London dialogue was welcomed as an effective way of gaining the attention of central government.

A Member sought clarification on the governance behind the motion coming directly before the Court rather than via the relevant Committee(s).

A Member noted the point that e-bikes were used for convenience, and their usage might indicate wider issues with accessing public transport. They warned of the potential contradiction between encouraging people to come to the City, but also complaining about a popular method for travelling to it.

Deputy Joshi closed the debate and addressed the points raised by Members. A London-wide approach was required to tackle the issue as the nature of usage meant that a ban within the Square Mile alone would not work. The motion had been introduced by individual Members, and any future necessary decisions would return to the Court through the relevant Committees. He felt that the Motion before the Court was appropriately focused on the issue of inappropriately parked dockless bikes, rather than on the behaviour of cyclists more widely. He agreed there needed to be more use of penalties and bans to encourage users in parking habits however, he expressed caution as a neighbouring borough had been invoiced following its attempts to impound bikes. The City Corporation was promoting active travel and would work with all modes of transport. The motion was not aimed at discouraging cyclists, but at operators to ensure responsible operation of e-bikes across London.

Resolved unanimously – That this Court of Common Council of the City of London Corporation commits to tackling the growing issue of inappropriately parked and obstructive dockless bikes within the City of London, while continuing to call for stronger legislation from national government. It resolves that, in the absence of the

additional powers granted by central legislation on micromobility that are needed, the Court calls on operators to comply with our requirements and manage their fleets in line with available parking capacity and to prevent obstructions. Furthermore, that the City Corporation urgently explores additional options to tackle the challenge such as enhanced fining zones and additional parking bays.

The Court further resolves that it supports the work of the Greater London Authority and Transport for London approach and commits to joining a future pan-London non-docked micromobility contract that aims for a legally binding contract with clear rules and expectations and centralised capacity to manage the contract and measure performance through TfL and London Councils.

12. 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.

Nathaniel Stewart Agnew The Rt. Hon The Lord Mayor Deputy Christopher Michael Hayward	a City Scholar Citizen and World Trader Citizen and Pattenmaker	Bloomsbury, London
Deputy Officepries imender naymara	onzen ana rationmaker	
Damon Anqi Aitken	a City Scholar	Bloomsbury, London
The Rt. Hon The Lord Mayor	Citizen and World Trader	
Deputy Christopher Michael Hayward	Citizen and Pattenmaker	
Reena Anand	a Consultancy Director and Founder	Pinner, Middlesex
The Rt. Hon The Lord Mayor	Citizen and World Trader	
Ald. Alastair John Naisbitt King, DL	Citizen and Blacksmith	
Julian Hoffmann Anton	a Data Visualisation Designer	Forest Hill, London
The Rt. Hon The Lord Mayor	Citizen and World Trader	
Ald. Alastair John Naisbitt King, DL	Citizen and Blacksmith	
Dr Pankaj Kumar Arora	A City Scholar	Bloomsbury, London
The Rt. Hon The Lord Mayor	Citizen and World Trader	
Deputy Christopher Michael Hayward	Citizen and Pattenmaker	
Anwesh Banerjee	A City Scholar	Bloomsbury, London
The Rt. Hon The Lord Mayor	Citizen and World Trader	
Deputy Christopher Michael Hayward	Citizen and Pattenmaker	
David Olufemi Oluyemi Babatunde Bankole	A City Scholar	Bloomsbury, London
The Rt. Hon The Lord Mayor	Citizen and World Trader	
Deputy Christopher Michael Hayward	Citizen and Pattenmaker	
Alexander Hugh McCormack Begbie, CBE	a Financial Services Organisation Chief Executive	Edinburgh, Scotland
Deputy Christopher Michael Hayward	Citizen and Pattenmaker	
Deputy Keith David Forbes Bottomley	Citizen and Pattenmaker	

23rd May 2024 Mario Claudio Beneventi a City of London Guide Royal Tunbridge Wells, Kent Guy Fairbank Citizen and Vintner David Harry and Citizen Stationer 8 Newspaper Maker **Simon Day-Lewis Bentley** a Bank Group Relationship Tonbridge, Kent Director Major Anthony Hugh Samuel Gabb, Citizen and Wax Chandler David Anthony Bickmore Citizen and Wax Chandler Staffordshire Professor Amanda Jayne University Vice **Broderick Kilminster** Chancellor The Rt. Hon The Lord Mayor Citizen and World Trader Citizen and Blacksmith Ald. Alastair John Naisbitt King, DL Josette Vinella Xamina Bushell-Speech and Drama Upper Holloway, School Principal London Mingo, OBE Citizen and World Trader The Rt. Hon The Lord Mayor Ald. Alastair John Naisbitt King, DL Citizen and Blacksmith **Lindsey Michelle Condron** a Chief of Operations Beckenham, Kent Citizen and World Trader The Rt. Hon The Lord Mayor Ald. Alastair John Naisbitt King, DL Citizen and Blacksmith William Anthony Marcus Carmody a Solicitor Hertfordshire Cooper Major Anthony Hugh Samuel Gabb, Citizen and Wax Chandler David Anthony Bickmore Citizen and Wax Chandler **Professor Frances Marie Corner,** Warden of Goldsmiths Oxfordshire Citizen and World Trader The Rt. Hon The Lord Mayor Citizen and Blacksmith Ald. Alastair John Naisbitt King, DL **Adrito Prottush Abir Das** a City Scholar Bloomsbury, London Citizen and World Trader The Rt. Hon The Lord Mayor Citizen and Pattenmaker Deputy Christopher Michael Hayward Ankur Desval Fehrani a City Scholar Bloomsbury, London The Rt. Hon The Lord Mayor Citizen and World Trader Deputy Christopher Michael Hayward Citizen and Pattenmaker **Alden James Neuman Eakins** a City Scholar Bloomsbury, London The Rt. Hon The Lord Mayor Citizen and World Trader Deputy Christopher Michael Hayward Citizen and Pattenmaker

Abdolkarim Fatehi, MBE a Chamber of Commerce Purley, Surrey Chief Executive

Ald. Prem Babu Goyal, OBE Citizen and Goldsmith

Deputy Rehana Banu Ameer Citizen and Common

Councillor

Professor Carina Jacqueline a Communication Professor Watford, Hertfordshire

The Rt. Hon The Lord Mayor Citizen and World Trader
Ald. Alastair John Naisbitt King, DL Citizen and Blacksmith

Fearnley

Vanessa Fernandes a Beauty and Aesthetics Colindale, London Company Managing Director The Rt. Hon The Lord Mayor Citizen and World Trader Ald. Alastair John Naisbitt King, DL Citizen and Blacksmith A City Scholar Matan Flum Bloomsbury, London Citizen and World Trader The Rt. Hon The Lord Mayor Citizen and Pattenmaker Deputy Christopher Michael Hayward an Astrophysics Professor Portsmouth, **Professor** Enrique **Balbas** Hampshire Gaztanaga The Rt. Hon The Lord Mayor Citizen and World Trader Ald. Alastair John Naisbitt King, DL Citizen and Blacksmith **Andrew Stanley Goldsmith** Greenwich, London a Lawyer Major Anthony Hugh Samuel Gabb, Citizen and Wax Chandler David Anthony Bickmore Citizen and Wax Chandler **Professor Martin John Graves** Magnetic **Physics** Cambridgeshire Professor The Rt. Hon The Lord Mayor Citizen and World Trader Ald. Alastair John Naisbitt King, DL Citizen and Blacksmith Angela Diana Greaves a Radio Presenter Uxbridge, London Citizen and World Trader The Rt. Hon The Lord Mayor Ald. Alastair John Naisbitt King, DL Citizen and Blacksmith Dr Ta-Wei Guu a City Scholar Bloomsbury, London The Rt. Hon The Lord Mayor Citizen and World Trader Deputy Christopher Michael Hayward Citizen and Pattenmaker a Vice Chancellor **Professor Jane Harrington** Greenwich, London Citizen and World Trader The Rt. Hon The Lord Mayor Ald. Alastair John Naisbitt King, DL Citizen and Blacksmith Sir Lenworth George Henry, CBE an Actor, Comedian, Writer Berkshire and Philanthropist The Rt. Hon The Lord Mayor Citizen and World Trader Munsur Ali, CC Citizen and Common Councillor **Professor Jennifer Mary Higham** University Vice Clerkenwell, London Chancellor The Rt. Hon The Lord Mayor Citizen and World Trader Ald. Alastair John Naisbitt King, DL Citizen and Blacksmith Molesey, Surrey John Bernard Holliday a Construction Company Consultancy Director Vincent Dignam Citizen and Carman John Paul Tobin Citizen and Carman **Ahamed Dowshan Humzah** a Portfolio Director Sydenham, London The Rt. Hon The Lord Mayor Citizen and World Trader Ald. Alastair John Naisbitt King, DL Citizen and Blacksmith

Pamoda Malshani Jayaweera A City Scholar Bloomsbury, London Citizen and World Trader The Rt. Hon The Lord Mayor Deputy Christopher Michael Hayward Citizen and Pattenmaker **Trevor Junior Lee Johnson Business** Brixton, London Head of Marketing The Rt. Hon The Lord Mayor Citizen and World Trader Ald. Alastair John Naisbitt King, DL Citizen and Blacksmith **Beatriz Kira** a University Lecturer City of London George Christopher Abrahams, CC Citizen and Butcher Citizen and Butcher Gregory Alfred Lawrence, CC Sofiia Kostytska A City Scholar Bloomsbury, London Citizen and World Trader The Rt. Hon The Lord Mayor Deputy Christopher Michael Hayward Citizen and Pattenmaker **Stephen Robert Hung Ying Lam** an Airline Pilot St Peters, South Australia, Australia Gerald Michael Edwards Citizen and Fruiterer Martin Victor Edwards Citizen and International Banker a City Scholar Anna Hope Landre Bloomsbury, London The Rt. Hon The Lord Mayor Citizen and World Trader Deputy Christopher Michael Hayward Citizen and Pattenmaker Samuel Zhe Feng Lee a City Scholar Bloomsbury, London The Rt. Hon The Lord Mayor Citizen and World Trader Deputy Christopher Michael Hayward Citizen and Pattenmaker **Peter Loftus** Engineering Derby, Derbyshire an Consultancy **Business** Director The Rt. Hon The Lord Mayor Citizen and World Trader Ald. Alastair John Naisbitt King, DL Citizen and Blacksmith **Robert Roman Lorenz** Westminster, London Clinic President and Surgeon The Rt. Hon The Lord Mayor Citizen and World Trader Ald. Alastair John Naisbitt King, DL Citizen and Blacksmith **Roger Price Marvin** a Mortgage Broker Homerton, London Major Anthony Hugh Samuel Gabb, Citizen and Wax Chandler David Anthony Bickmore Citizen and Wax Chandler Vivek Menon Wildlife Delhi, India Conservation **Executive Director** The Rt. Hon The Lord Mayor Citizen and World Trader

Citizen and Blacksmith

Citizen and World Trader

Citizen and Pattenmaker

Bloomsbury, London

a City Scholar

Ald. Alastair John Naisbitt King, DL

Deputy Christopher Michael Hayward

Mallin Michael Moolman

The Rt. Hon The Lord Mayor

Ravendra Naidoo	a City Scholar	Bloomsbury, London
The Rt. Hon The Lord Mayor	Citizen and World Trader	
Deputy Christopher Michael Hayward	Citizen and Pattenmaker	
Lakshmi Narayanan	a Businessman	Frisco, Texas, United States of America
The Rt. Hon The Lord Mayor	Citizen and World Trader	
Ald. Robert Charles Hughes-Penney	Citizen and Haberdasher	
Ramata N'Diaye	a City Scholar	Bloomsbury, London
The Rt. Hon The Lord Mayor	Citizen and World Trader	
Deputy Christopher Michael Hayward	Citizen and Pattenmaker	
Julius Peter Ocen	a City Scholar	Bloomsbury, London
The Rt. Hon The Lord Mayor	Citizen and World Trader	
Deputy Christopher Michael Hayward	Citizen and Pattenmaker	
Professor Alexandra Olaya Castro	a Professor of Physics	Wimbledon, London
The Rt. Hon The Lord Mayor	Citizen and World Trader	
Ald. Alastair John Naisbitt King, DL	Citizen and Blacksmith	
Cristina Orrego Gómez	A City Scholar	Bloomsbury, London
The Rt. Hon The Lord Mayor	Citizen and World Trader	•
Deputy Christopher Michael Hayward	Citizen and Pattenmaker	
Paraskevi Paxinos	a Women's Business Network Chief Executive	Maida Hill, London
The Rt. Hon The Lord Mayor	Citizen and World Trader	
Ald. Alastair John Naisbitt King, DL	Citizen and Blacksmith	
Charles William Davidson Peattie, MBE	a Cartoonist	Kilburn, London
The Rt. Hon The Lord Mayor	Citizen and World Trader	
Ald. Alastair John Naisbitt King, DL	Citizen and Blacksmith	
Lady Mary Elizabeth Peters, LG CH	an Athlete and	Belfast, Northern
DBE	Philanthropist	Ireland
The Rt. Hon The Lord Mayor	Citizen and World Trader	
Ald. Sir William Anthony Bowater Russell	Citizen and Haberdasher	
Susan Petty	a Business Improvement District Executive Director	Bexley
Henry Charles Walter Price	Citizen and Scientific Instrument Maker	
Dominic Charles Huw Price	Citizen and Carman	
Bhola Vernon Andrew Courtney Ponan	an Old Bailey Clerk	Mitcham, Surrey
His Honour Judge Mark Lucraft	Citizen and Founder	
His Honour Judge Richard Marks	Citizen and Cook	
Thomas Bartholomew Powles	a Professor of Oncology	Victoria, London
The Rt. Hon The Lord Mayor	Citizen and World Trader	
Ald. Alastair John Naisbitt King, DL	Citizen and Blacksmith	

Andrew James Ranson, VR DL a Civil Servant Surbiton, Surrey Citizen and Wax Chandler Major Anthony Hugh Samuel Gabb, Citizen and Wax Chandler David Anthony Bickmore Hertfordshire **Paul Daryl Richardson** a Commercial Director Colin Roger Titmus Citizen and Air Pilot Keith Richard Stevens Citizen and Management Consultant **Emma Rousell** a Yeoman Warder Tower Hamlets, London Citizen and Merchant Taylor Ald. Nicholas Stephen Leland Lyons Felicity Ruth Lyons Citizen and Musician Paulette Dawn Simpson, CBE Wembley, Middlesex a Banker Citizen and World Trader The Rt. Hon The Lord Mayor Ald. Alastair John Naisbitt King, DL Citizen and Blacksmith **Edward Rupert Loben Slade** a Civil Servant Fulham, London Citizen and Wax Chandler Major Anthony Hugh Samuel Gabb, Citizen and Wax Chandler David Anthony Bickmore Professor Sir **David** a University Professor Cambridge, John Spiegelhalter Cambridgeshire The Rt. Hon The Lord Mayor Citizen and World Trader Ald. Alastair John Naisbitt King, DL Citizen and Blacksmith Varun Srivatsan a City Scholar Bloomsbury, London The Rt. Hon The Lord Mayor Citizen and World Trader Deputy Christopher Michael Hayward Citizen and Pattenmaker **Professor Karen Penelope Steel** a University Professor Essex Citizen and World Trader The Rt. Hon The Lord Mayor Citizen and Blacksmith Ald. Alastair John Naisbitt King, DL Wilson Alexander Symons a City Scholar Bloomsbury, London The Rt. Hon The Lord Mayor Citizen and World Trader Citizen and Pattenmaker Deputy Christopher Michael Hayward a City Scholar Bloomsbury, London Ilsa Tariq The Rt. Hon The Lord Mayor Citizen and World Trader Deputy Christopher Michael Hayward Citizen and Pattenmaker Russell Philip Taylor, MBE a Cartoonist and Journalist Hornsey, London The Rt. Hon The Lord Mayor Citizen and World Trader Ald. Alastair John Naisbitt King, DL Citizen and Blacksmith Jiyoung Alexandra Ueno-Park a Solicitor Marylebone, London The Rt. Hon The Lord Mayor Citizen and World Trader Elisabeth Mainelli Citizen and Mason **Professor** Jonathan Andrew a Music and Drama School Wiltshire Vaughan **Principal** Citizen and World Trader The Rt. Hon The Lord Mayor

Citizen and Blacksmith

Ald. Alastair John Naisbitt King, DL

Th Hon. Alice Louise Walpole OBE The Rt. Hon The Lord Mayor Deputy Christopher Michael Hayward	a College Director Citizen and World Trader Citizen and Pattenmaker	Bloomsbury, London
Professor Sally Elizabeth Wheeler, OBE	a Vice Chancellor	West Ealing, London
The Rt. Hon The Lord Mayor	Citizen and World Trader	
Ald. Alastair John Naisbitt King, DL	Citizen and Blacksmith	
Professor Randall Shanley Whittaker The Rt. Hon The Lord Mayor Ald. Alastair John Naisbitt King, DL	a Drama School Principal and Chief Executive Citizen and World Trader Citizen and Blacksmith	Bexley
Guy Alexander Wynne-Jones	a Consultant Neurosurgeon	Newcastle Upon Tyne, Tyne and Wear
Major Anthony Hugh Samuel Gabb, TD	Citizen and Wax Chandler	Tyric dila Wedi
David Anthony Bickmore	Citizen and Wax Chandler	
Zheng Xu	a City Scholar	Bloomsbury, London
The Rt. Hon The Lord Mayor	Citizen and World Trader	
Deputy Christopher Michael Hayward	Citizen and Pattenmaker	
Mario Andres Yon Secaida	a City Scholar	Bloomsbury, London
The Rt. Hon The Lord Mayor	Citizen and World Trader	
Deputy Christopher Michael Hayward	Citizen and Pattenmaker	
Qurat-Ul-Ain Zafar	a City Scholar	Bloomsbury, London
The Rt. Hon The Lord Mayor	Citizen and World Trader	-
Deputy Christopher Michael Hayward	Citizen and Pattenmaker	
Lubna Binti Zulkifli	a City Scholar	Bloomsbury, London

13. 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:-

Acts Royal Assent

Citizen and World Trader Citizen and Pattenmaker

Pedicabs (London) Act 2024

The Rt. Hon The Lord Mayor

Deputy Christopher Michael Hayward

25th April 2024

Creates a regulatory framework for pedicabs operating in public places in greater London. Permits TfL to issue and enforce rules relating to licensing of pedicabs. Whilst the Act comes into force two months after Royal Assent, the Act enables TfL to make regulations to put in place a scheme and this would need to happen before the Act has any practical effect.

Statutory Instruments

In Force

The Online Safety Act 2023 (Pre-existing Part 4B Services Assessment Start Day) Regulations 2024

22nd May 2024

Requires, as from 2 September 2024 or the date that the Office of Communications (OFCOM) publishes the first illegal content assessment guidance (whichever is the latest), video-Sharing

Platforms to complete risk assessments in relation to illegal content risks within a prescribed period of time

The Economic Growth (Regulatory Functions) (Amendment) 21st May 2024 Order 2024

Amends the Economic Growth (Regulatory Functions) Order 2017 which specifies the regulatory functions to which the duty in section 108 applies. Section 108 of the Deregulation Act 2015 provides that a person exercising a regulatory function to which section 108 applies must, when exercising that function, have regard to the desirability of promoting economic growth. This Order adds three additional named regulators: the Gas and Electricity Markets Authority, the Office of Communications and the Water Services Regulation Authority but excludes regulatory functions of those regulators relating to competition where those functions are concurrent with the competition functions of the Competition and Markets Authority and certain other regulatory functions for a limited time period.

The Deregulation Act 2015 (Growth Duty Guidance) Order 30th April 2024 2024

Revokes the previous Ministerial guidance on the growth duty under section 108 of the Deregulation Act 2015 (see above) and brings into force new guidance as to the performance of the duty under section 108. Regulatory bodies subject to the duty must have regard to the guidance in the exercise of relevant functions.

The new guidance entitled "Growth Duty: Statutory Guidance Refresh" has been issued and will be published on the <u>gov.uk</u> website.

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

Read.

14. Questions
Jason Groves
to the
Chairman of
the Policy and
Resources
Committee

US Office

Jason Groves asked a question of the Chairman of the Policy and Resources Committee, asking him to outline the short-term successes the City Corporation hoped to achieve after the recent opening of its US Office and, in light of the Chairman's recent visit to Washington and New York, what approach would be taken to expand the UK and US trade relationship for the remainder of the year?

In reply, the Chairman informed Members that the City Corporation's US Office had already seen some promising results and impact since launch. A new Managing Director had been employed, who was actively strengthening ties in key cities, working with the UK government and partners to expand the City Corporation's presence.

The Chairman's recent visit to Washington D.C.had proved incredibly useful in advocating on behalf of closer regulatory and trade partnership.

He had found a keen interest in the Washington D.C. in fostering deeper collaboration with the UK, particularly in emerging areas such as Artificial Intelligence, an area where the UK is perceived as taking a similar approach to the US. Conservative members of the policymaking community were also interested in resuming market access conversations, potentially through sectoral deals or more innovative approaches. The Chairman had faced several questions on how a potential change of British government might shape the UK's financial services agenda, with particular focus on the implementation of the secondary objective and attitudes towards risk and digitisation.

The Chairman had met with Commissioner, Caroline Pham at the Guildhall to cement our relationship with the Commodity Futures Trading Commission, and also with Bloomberg's External Head of Global Relations.

This promotional work aimed to enhance the City of London's reputation and market presence, promote UK IFPS firms in the US and present the UK as a compelling alternative to European centres, working closely with existing UK promotional bodies and the government to achieve these goals.

Jason Groves asked a supplementary question, asking if the Chairman agreed that the establishment of concierge services for potential investors could significantly increase potential investment. In reply, the Chairman agreed on the importance of foreign investors. He had recently given evidence to the House of Lords' Financial Services Regulation Committee and had picked up on the importance of establishing a promotional agency for the UK to attract foreign direct investment.

Greater London Assembly Elections

Tijs Broeke asked the Chairman of the Policy and Resources Committee if he

asked if the Chairman knew how turnout in the City compared to the last GLA election in 2021. The Chairman welcomed the opportunity to thank all of the officers who worked

would join him in thanking all City Corporation officers for their work in delivering a

successful Greater London Authority (GLA) election earlier this month. He also

hard to deliver the GLA election at the beginning of the month. He said that special thanks must go to the Electoral Services team for all of their work before, during and following the election.

The Chairman was pleased to inform the Court that at 42%, turnout in the City increased by two percentage points, compared to the 2021 GLA elections.

Tijs Broeke asked a supplementary question, asking the Chairman if he would agree to information about the deadlines for voter registration in advance of the General Election. In reply, the Chairman said that he understood the deadline to be 18 June 2024 and would ask for this to be widely promoted.

Tijs Broeke to the Chairman of the Policy and Resources Committee

Deputy Paul Martinelli to the Chairman of the Policy and Resources Committee

Sub-Committee Appointments

Deputy Paul Martinelli asked the Chairman of the Policy and Resources Committee if he felt that it would have been more appropriate to seek the Court's approval for his recent nomination of a Member to chair a sub-committee of the Policy and Resources Committee for an unprecedented seventh year, as had recently been for the Chair of the Barbican Residential Committee (BRC).

In reply, the Chairman regretted that the question was factually incorrect, and that he had acted entirely in accordance with advice from officers. He believed that the question referred to the Capital Buildings Board (CBB), a sub-committee which had only been constituted in 2022. The current Chairman of CBB had been in position since this time, and had therefore just begun his third year in office. The Chairman noted that even if the incumbent had served as the Board for longer than three years, this would still be compliant with the Standing Orders, previously agreed by this Honourable Court, as it was a sub-committee, not a grand committee and the limitations referenced only applied to grand committees.

The Member had been advised of several other sub-committees which had had Chairs who had served for longer than three years.

The Chairman reminded Members that he had undertaken to commission a review of the Standing Orders. Members were encouraged to write to the Town Clerk with any suggestions for this review. The final decision on any changes to the Standing Orders lay with Members.

Deputy Martinelli asked a supplementary question, noting that he disagreed with the interpretation of the governance provided by the Chairman. He accepted that the decision had been made, though felt that in doing so the Chairman had subverted the wishes of the Court and asked the Chairman why he had made the decision.

In reply, the Chairman said that he did not accept that he had ever attempted to subvert the wishes or intentions of any elements of the City Corporation's governance or Standing Orders. He had acted on the advice of the City Solicitor and the Town Clerk.

Oliver Sells asked if the Chairman agreed that there were advantages and a precedent in ensuring continuity of leadership when dealing with the type of major projects under the remit of CBB, which could take several years to complete. In reply, the Chairman agreed in principle that there had been an established norm for Committees with responsibility for major projects to retain Chairs for longer periods. He emphasised again that the Board had been established as a sub-committee in 2022 and that its Chairman therefore remained in his first three-year term.

Gregory Lawrence asked the Chairman if he could confirm that his register of interests included all masonic lodges to which he belonged. In reply, the Chairman said that he had declared his memberships in line with the advice he had received.

Gregory Lawrence asked a supplementary question, referring to the Chairman's declaration of a pecuniary interest with a company which was contracted with the

CBB. He asked the Chairman if he been granted a dispensation in accordance with the Member Code of Conduct to discharge functions in matters relating to this interest and, if not, if he would refer his decision back to the Court. In reply, the Chairman said that he would not discuss matters relating to a private company. He had declared his pecuniary interests and would always recuse himself from decisions if there was any business where these interests were engaged.

Deputy Alistair Moss asked the Chairman if he felt there was true public scrutiny of the decisions he made. In reply, the Chairman said that public scrutiny of the decisions made by the City Corporation's Committees were overseen by its officers, particularly in the City Solicitor's and Town Clerk's departments. The Chairman was satisfied that his decisions had been properly and openly and had not received advice suggesting otherwise.

Natasha Lloyd-Owen asked the Chairman if he agreed that oversight of the projects also rested with the responsible officers and the Chairman of the Policy and Resources Committee as the parent Committee, and if he felt that the time served as Chair of the Capital Buildings Board and its predecessor bodies was a matter of substance, and a committee with such a wide remit as that of CBB should have the same time commitments as grand committees. The Chairman replied that his role as Chairman of the Policy and Resources Committee did not give him direct oversight of major projects, as these were delegated to the Board. He felt it would be premature to speak on the time limits for Chair of the Board, but would wait to speak as part of the wider review into Standing Orders.

Sustainable finance

Irem Yerdelen to the Chairman of the Policy and Resources Committee

Irem Yerdelen asked the Chairman if he could provide further information on the specific achievements of the City Corporation's ambitions for sustainable finance which demonstrated progress in delivering the transition to net-zero, and how he believed that the forthcoming Net Zero Delivery Summit would showcase the UK as a leader in green finance.

In reply, the Chairman took the opportunity to thank Ms Yerdelen for her support in this area since becoming Lead Member for Sustainable Finance in December, 2023. He confirmed that the upcoming Net Zero Delivery Summit would showcase the UK as a leader in this area. It would be the third annual Summit, with the first being delivered in partnership with the UK COP26 Presidency and Glasgow Financial Alliance for Net Zero in 2022. The Summit provided a mid-point between each COP, at which the wider business community could take stock of progress. The event was a significant milestone in the sustainable finance calendar and provided a valuable opportunity to showcase the UK's expertise on the global stage.

The theme of this year's Summit was 'Finance Enabling Innovation,' with a focus squarely on delivering a whole economy transition. The event would bring together leaders in climate finance from a range of sectors to explore how the financial services sector can support their transition to net zero. The Chairman said that the Summit was evidence of the importance of the City Corporation's convening power, bringing together the people who can and will ensure the transition to net zero.

The Chairman was also pleased to inform the Court that, closer to home, there had been real progress in the City Corporation's transition to net zero. Its annual carbon emissions had been cut by 31%, with the open spaces used to remove around 16,000 tonnes of carbon from the atmosphere a year and only using renewable electricity since 2018.

Ms Yerdelen asked a supplementary question, seeking the Chairman's views on how the City Corporation was making the most of opportunities due to enhanced political jurisdiction. The Chairman replied to say that there were vast investment and financing needs to meet commitments. Businesses required stable policy in order to deploy their capital with confidence. Globally, there was increasing politicisation of net zero, and the Chairman said that it was a good time to debate the issue as the City Corporation sought to influence political parties during a general election. The Corporation was currently providing the secretariat for transition finance market review, and the Chairman looked forward to engaging with the incoming government on this.

Due to time constraints as set out in Standing Order 13, Deputy Charles Edward Lord requested that their question be withdrawn and submitted for the next meeting of the Court.

15. Ballot results

The Town Clerk reported the results of the several ballots taken at the last Court, as follows:-

Where appropriate:-

- * denotes a Member standing for re-appointment by the Court of Common Council.

 ^Denotes a Member who currently serves on the Committee in either an ex-officio capacity or as a representative of another Committee with appointment rights.

 * denotes appointed.
- (A) FIVE Members to the **Policy and Resources Committee**.

	Votes
*Deputy Rehana Ameer	21
Deputy Timothy Butcher	15
Deputy Simon Duckworth	18
*Deputy Marianne Fredericks	15
Steve Goodman	43 ★
Deputy Madush Gupta	21
Jaspreet Hodgson	35 ★
^Deputy Ann Holmes	36 ★
Greg Lawrence	28
^Deputy Andrien Meyers	47 ★
^Deputy Alastair Moss	36≯
^Ruby Sayed	10
Naresh Sonpar	29
Deputy Dawn Wright	30

(B) THREE Members to the City of London Policy Authority Board.

	Votes
*Jason Groves	61 ★
Deputy Madush Gupta	62 ★
*Alderman Timothy Hailes	76≯
Jacqui Webster	38

(C) THREE Members to the Gresham Committee (City Side)

Votes
58≯
43 ★
34
29
22
51 ★

(D) THREE Members to the Barbican Centre Board

	Votes
Brendan Barns	37
*^Tijs Broeke	49 ★
Aaron D'Souza	18
Alderman Nicholas Lyons	58≯
*Deputy Alpa Raja	21
Anett Rideg	60★
Jacqui Webster	22
Anett Rideg	

(E) FOUR Members to the **Board of Governors Guildhall School of Music and Drama**

	Votes
*Deputy Randall Anderson	80≯
Brendan Barns	63 ★
Caroline Haines	64 ★
Suzanne Ornsby	50≯
Deputy Alpa Raja	38

(F) ONE Member to the Health and Wellbeing Board

	Votes
Ruby Sayed	36
Ceri Wilkins	60 ★

(G) FOUR Members to the Community & Children's Services Committee

	Votes
Munsur Ali	49
Dawn Frampton	65 ★
Steve Goodman	83 ★
Natasha Lloyd-Owen	59 ★
Jacqui Webster	59 ★

Read.

16.

There were no resolutions.

17. Awards

There was no report, however, the Town Clerk with the Lord Mayor's consent noted that the Guildhall School of Music and Drama had been ranked top of the Complete University Guide's UK Arts, Drama & Music league table for the third year in a row.

18. Hospital Seal

There were no docquets to be sealed.

19.
Dunphy, P.,
Deputy;
Colthurst, H.,
Deputy

Resolved – That the public be excluded from the meeting for the following item of business below on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraph 1, 2 and 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act, 1972, or relates to functions of the Court of Common Council which are not subject to the provisions of Part VA and Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972.

Summary of items considered whilst the public were excluded:-

20. Non-public minutes

Resolved – That the non-public minutes of the last Court are correctly recorded.

21. **POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE**

(A) Change to Members' Financial Support Schemes Administration

The Court considered a report of the Policy and Resources Committee concerning proposed changes to the administration of the Members' Financial Support Scheme.

(B) City of London Academies Trust Expansion

The Court considered a report of the Policy and Resources Committee concerning the expansion of the City of London Academies Trust.

22. FINANCE COMMITTEE

(A) Market Cleansing Contract

The Court considered a report of the Finance Committee recommending a contract extension.

(B) Prestigious Sites Catering Contract

The Court considered a report of the Finance Committee recommending the award of a contract.

23. ADDRESS OF WELCOME

The Court considered proposals relative to hospitality associated with a visiting Head of State and the presentation of an Address of Welcome.

The meeting commenced at 1.00pm and ended at 3.22pm

THOMAS.