



# MAINELLI, MAYOR

## COURT OF COMMON COUNCIL

20th June 2024  
MEMBERS PRESENT

### ALDERMEN

Alexander Robertson Martin Barr (Alderman)  
Professor Emma Edhem (Alderman)  
Sir Peter Estlin (Alderman)  
Alison Gowman, CBE (Alderman)  
Martha Grekos (Alderwoman)

Timothy Russell Hailes, JP (Alderman)  
Robert Picton Seymour Howard (Alderman)  
Vincent Keaveny CBE (Alderman)  
Alastair John Naisbitt King, DL (Alderman)  
Dame Susan Langley, DBE (Alderwoman & Sheriff)

Tim Levene (Alderman)  
The Rt Hon. The Lord Mayor, Alderman  
Professor Michael Raymond Mainelli (Alderman)  
Jennette Rachel Newman (Alderwoman)  
Simon Pryke (Alderman)  
Sir William Anthony Bowater Russell (Alderman)

### COMMONERS

Joanna Tufuo Abeyie MBE  
Rehana Banu Ameer, Deputy  
Randall Keith Anderson, Deputy  
Jamel Banda  
Brendan Barns  
Matthew Bell  
The Honourable Emily Sophia Wedgwood Benn  
Nicholas Michael Bensted-Smith JP  
Christopher Paul Boden, Deputy  
Keith David Forbes Bottomley, Deputy  
Timothy Richard Butcher, Deputy  
Michael John Cassidy CBE  
Dominic Gerard Christian  
Henry Nicholas Almroth Colthurst, Deputy  
Anne Corbett  
Aaron Anthony Jose Hasan D'Souza  
Simon Duckworth, Deputy OBE  
DL  
Peter Gerard Dunphy, Deputy

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

Elizabeth Anne King, BEM JP (Alderwoman)  
Natasha Maria Cabrera Lloyd-Owen, Deputy  
Charles Edward Lord, OBE JP, Deputy  
Paul Nicholas Martinelli, Deputy  
Andrew Paul Mayer  
Catherine McGuinness CBE  
Andrew Stratton McMurtrie JP  
Timothy James McNally  
Wendy Mead OBE  
Andrien Gereith Dominic Meyers, Deputy  
Brian Desmond Francis Mooney, Deputy BEM  
Alastair Michael Moss, Deputy  
Eamonn James Mullally  
Benjamin Daniel Murphy  
Suzanne Ornsby KC  
Graham Packham  
James Henry George Pollard, Deputy  
Nighat Qureishi, Deputy

Anett Rideg  
David Sales  
Ruby Sayed  
Ian Christopher Norman Seaton MBE  
Hugh Selka  
Oliver Sells KC  
Sir Michael Snyder, Deputy  
James St John Davis  
Mandeep Thandi  
James Michael Douglas  
Thomson, Deputy  
James Richard Tumbridge  
Shailendra Kumar Kantilal Umradia  
William Upton KC  
Jacqueline Roberts Webster  
Ceri Wilkins  
Philip Woodhouse  
Dawn Linsey Wright, Deputy  
Irem Yerdelen

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 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 visits to Japan and Singapore
5. Policy Statement There was no statement.
6. Appointments The Court proceeded to consider the following appointments:  
*\* denotes a Member standing for re-appointment*
- (A) **Licensing Committee** (One vacancies)  
(No contest)
- Nominations received:-**  
Dr Joanna Tufuo Abeyie
- Read.
- Whereupon the Lord Mayor declared Dr Joanna Tufuo Abeyie to be appointed to the Licensing Committee.
- (B) **Hampstead Heath, Highgate Wood & Queens Park Committee** (Two vacancies)  
(No contest)
- Nominations received:-**  
Alderman Alison Gowman
- Read.
- Whereupon the Lord Mayor declared Alderman Alison Gowman to be appointed to the Hampstead Heath, Highgate Wood & Queens Park Committee.
- (C) **Freedom Applications Sub-Committee** (One vacancy)  
(No contest)
- Nominations received:-**  
Deputy Madush Gupta
- Read.
- Whereupon the Lord Mayor declared Deputy Madush Gupta to be appointed to the Freedom Applications Sub (Policy and Resources) Committee.
- (D) **London Road Safety Council** (One vacancy)  
(No contest)

**Nominations received-**

\*Alderman Alison Gowman

Read.

Whereupon the Lord Mayor declared Alderman Alison Gowman to be appointed to the London Road Safety Council.

7. **FINANCE COMMITTEE**

**(Deputy Henry Nicholas Almroth Colthurst)**

4 June 2024

**(A) Central London Forward – Pioneer Support**

The Court considered a report of the Finance Committee relating to additional grant funding and an increase in contract value.

*Resolved* – That the Court approves:

- The signing of an addendum to the Finance and Costings Framework with DWP to enable the receipt of additional funding up to the value of £1.5m.
- The increasing of the contract value of Pioneer Support to reflect the additional funding.

4 June 2024

**(B) Central London Forward (CLF) – Universal Support**

The Court considered a report of the Finance Committee relating to new grant funding for an employment programme.

*Resolved* – That the Court approves:

- CLF acting as the accountable body for Universal Support, and managing the programme on behalf of member authorities, including the development of the procurement strategy, as approved by CLF Board;
- The signing of any associated grant agreements with DWP to enable receipt of the funding, as approved by CLF Board;
- The delegation of funding to member authorities that want to deliver the programme direct;
- The signing of associated grant agreements with these member authorities;
- That the Court delegates to the Finance Committee the authority to vary the grant agreements with DWP, vary grant agreements with member authorities delivering the programme and vary the contract with the provider commissioned to deliver the programme (following the approval of a procurement strategy).

4 June 2024

**(C) Emergency and Temporary Accommodation Placements**

The Court considered a report of the Finance Committee relating to the provision of

emergency and temporary accommodation for homeless households.

The Chairman of the Finance Committee spoke to draw Members attention to the need to review the City Corporation's Procurement Code, to ensure that the spending committees had greater oversight over their associated procurement exercises.

*Resolved* – That the Court:

- Approves the procurement strategy via a direct award call-off from the YPO framework (Commissioning Solution ref 1017 / Commissioning Solution 2 ref 001231) to the Access Group.
- Authorises the Community and Children's Services Director to approve the two-year extension, should it be required.

## 8. **PLANNING AND TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE**

**(Deputy Shravan Joshi)**

16 May 2024

### **(A) Utility Infrastructure Strategy**

The Court considered a report of the Planning and Transportation Committee concerning a Utility and Infrastructure Strategy.

The Chairman spoke to introduce the report, noting the importance of high-quality infrastructure for stakeholder confidence in the City Corporation's ability to deliver growth. The strategy sought to implement a holistic and coordinated approach and had been welcomed by companies and developed through a consultation process which had helped to capture resident concerns.

*Resolved* – That the Court approves the adoption of the final Utility Infrastructure Strategy.

16 May 2024

### **(B) Bank Junction Improvements (All Change at Bank): Traffic mix and Timing review update**

The Court considered a report of the Planning and Transportation Committee concerning Bank Junction.

Introducing the report, the Chairman of the Planning and Transportation Committee said a choice on changing the restrictions had been promised, and a fair debate. He thanked officers for their work. He regretted that, in effect, voting for or against the recommendation would result in the same outcome (i.e. no change).

He therefore moved an Amendment with the effect of giving Members a clear vote in favour of making changes at Bank Junction, or no change. A yes vote would allow the Committee to begin the process of exploring a traffic order. If the amendment was lost, the debate would return to the original motion to approve no change. He hoped that the debate would consider all factors and reminded Members of the background to the improvements at Bank Junction.

Alderwoman Grekos rose to make a point of order. She felt that the amendment

contravened Standing Order 11.4, which stated that ‘Any Amendment so moved shall relate to the subject matter of the Motion and shall not have the effect of negating the Motion.’ Alderwoman Grekos felt the amendment negated the original motion by the Planning and Transportation Committee that there should be no change to the current restrictions at Bank Junction and called on the Lord Mayor to rule that the motion was inadmissible.

It was confirmed that the purpose of this Standing Order was to facilitate debate and allow for clear decision-making, and the prohibition on negatory amendments was part of this. The Town Clerk had discussed this with the Lord Mayor and, as the amendment was substantively different to a ‘no’ vote and remained in the spirit of facilitating a clear debate and vote by Members, the Lord Mayor would not uphold the point of order.

Deputy Keith Bottomley seconded the amendment, saying that he was in full agreement of the proposal to re-admit licensed Hackney Carriages to Bank Junction, at all times, on a trial basis. He had supported restriction of general traffic in 2017 but felt that the changes made since then had been the cause of the improved safety, rather than the exclusion of black cabs. Deputy Bottomley also asked Members to consider factors such as the role black cabs played in supporting in the Square Mile’s leisure and visitor offer. He noted that there was business support for the trial, from several Wardmotes.

Finishing his statement, the Deputy Chairman said that it was important to note that the trial would be subject to further modelling, design work and approvals before implementation. He felt this was a proportionate and cautious approach and one which can be monitored and evaluated for impact throughout. He encouraged Members to add their support and vote for the amendment.

*Amendment* - To amend the recommendation as follows:

“That this Honourable Court:-

- **approves** Option 2: Pursue a change to the restrictions, under an experimental traffic order, to allow taxi access at all times while continuing to restrict other traffic, including private hire vehicles and powered two wheelers, between 7am – 7pm, Monday – Friday, except for access to Cornhill from Princes Street. (This is subject to further modelling, design work and approvals)

~~Option 1: No change to current restrictions, with Bank junction continuing to operate as it currently does, i.e. bus and cycle only, 7am – 7pm, Monday – Friday, except for access to Cornhill from Princes Street.”~~

Several Members spoke for and against the amendment.

A Member cited evidence that the restrictions were causing many black cab drivers to avoid the entire City, and that this could have a negative impact on accessibility, women’s safety and the Square Mile’s economic activity.

*Resolved* – That the question be now put.

Upon the question being put, the Lord Mayor declared the Amendment to be carried.

Debate then resumed on the substantive report, as amended.

Joshi, S.,  
Deputy;  
Bottomley, K.,  
Deputy

Estlin, Sir Peter,  
Alderman,;  
Hailes, Timothy,  
Alderman

Several Members spoke against the amended motion. They noted that the report had concluded that the restrictions had not had negative consequences, and that diluting them could lead to reputational damage for the City Corporation. Members also commented that a reduction in black cab activity had been seen across London and was not an issue restricted to the City. It was also noted that the original objective of the restrictions had been to address safety at the Junction, and that this had been successfully achieved. Members warned that the potential for an increase in traffic through a reintroduction of black cabs would reduce road safety. It was also noted that providing more space to pedestrians in the public realm had been a consistent policy of the City Corporation, and that the reintroduction of taxis would be a regressive step.

A Member, also the Deputy Chairman of the Planning and Transportation Committee, noted that there was mixed opinion about the safety risks of reintroducing black cabs, the economic impact and the impact on accessibility.

Other Members spoke in support the lifting of restrictions. Some spoke from their personal experience of trying to navigate the City with accessibility issues, and the inclusive benefits of access to black taxis.

During the debate, several Members reiterated their concerns at the procedural methods by which the Court had been led to debate on the amended motion.

*Resolved* – That the question be now put.

*Murphy, B.;*  
*Mayer, A.*

The Chairman of the Planning and Transportation Committee concluded the debate by addressing some points of the points raised by Members. The Chairman of the Planning and Transportation Committee concluded the debate by addressing some points of the points raised by Members. He reiterated his firm belief that TfL would consider all proposals openly and fairly, with no suggestion of any conclusion having already been reached. Speaking to the concerns over procedure, he hoped that Members do understand the reasoning for his amendment. He felt that the debate had aired the differing opinions of the Court, and had shown that the City Corporation could adapt. He gave his assurance that however the Court voted, he would execute its wishes to the best of his ability.

The Town Clerk confirmed that the motion as amended was to allow for a trial. If Members voted to support it, they would be for the trial, subject to due process. A vote against the amended motion would not allow for a trial, and support the status quo.

Upon the report being put, the Lord Mayor declared it to be carried, as amended.

A Division being demanded and granted, there appeared:-

*For the Affirmative – 57*

#### ALDERMEN

Barr, A.R.M.

Edhem, E.

Estlin, Sir Peter

Hailes, T.R. J.P

Howard, R.P.S

Keaveny, V.T., C.B.E.

King, A.J.N., D.L.

Langley, Sheriff Dame

Newman, J.

Pryke, S.

Russell, Sir William

Susan  
COMMONERS

Abeyie, J. T, M.B.E  
Ameer, R.B., Deputy  
Banda, J.  
Benn, E. S. W.  
Bensted-Smith, N.M., J.P.  
Boden, C. P., Deputy  
Bottomley, K.D.F., Deputy  
Butcher, T., Deputy  
Colthurst, H.N.A., Deputy  
D'Souza, A. A. J. H.  
Duckworth, S.D'O.,  
O.B.E.,D.L., Deputy  
Dunphy, P.G., Deputy  
Fletcher, J.W., Deputy  
Foley, J. R.  
Groves, J.

Haines, C.W  
Holmes, A., Deputy  
Horscroft, A.  
Hyde, W.M  
Jones, H.L.M., M.B.E.  
Joshi, S.J., M.B.E., Deputy  
Lord, C.E., O.B.E., J.P.,  
Deputy  
Martinelli, P.N., Deputy  
Mayer, A.P.  
McNally, T. J.  
Mead, W., O.B.E.  
Meyers, A.G.D., Deputy  
Moss, A.M., Deputy  
Murphy, B.D  
Ornsby, S., K.C.  
Packham, G.D.

Pollard, J.H.G., Deputy  
Qureishi, N., Deputy  
Rideg, A.  
Sales, D.  
Sayed, R.  
Seaton, I.C.N., M.B.E.  
Selka, H.  
Snyder, Sir Michael,  
Deputy  
St. John-Davis, J.  
Thomson, J.M.D., Deputy  
Tumbridge, J.R.  
Upton, W., K.C.  
Woodhouse, P.  
Wright, D.L., Deputy  
Yerdelen, I.

*For the Negative – 21*

ALDERMEN

Gowman, A.J., C.B.E.  
Grekos, M.

COMMONERS

Anderson, R.K., Deputy  
Barns, B.  
Bell, M.  
Corbett, A  
Durcan, J.M. J.P.  
Edwards, J.E., Deputy  
Fentimen, H., O.B.E., J.P.

Fredericks, M.B., Deputy  
Goodman, S. O.B.E  
Griffiths, J. D. M.  
Hudson, M.  
King, E. A., B.E.M. J.P.,  
Deputy  
Lloyd-Owen, N.M.C.,  
Deputy

McGuinness, C.S., C.B.E.  
McMurtrie, A.S., J.P.  
Mooney, B.D.F., B.E.M.  
Deputy  
Mullally, E.  
Sells, O., K.C.  
Webster, J.

*Abstentions – 1*

Mainelli, M. R., The Rt. Hon. The Lord Mayor

*Resolved* – That this Honourable Court:-

- approves Option 2: Pursue a change to the restrictions, under an experimental traffic order, to allow taxi access at all times while continuing to restrict other traffic, including private hire vehicles and powered two wheelers, between 7am – 7pm, Monday – Friday, except for access to Cornhill from Princes Street. (This is subject to further modelling, design work and approvals).

9. Motions  
Fletcher, J.W.,  
Deputy  
Dunphy, P.G.,  
Deputy;

**(A) By Deputy John Fletcher**

*Resolved* - That Munsur Ali be appointed to the Community & Children's Services Committee, in the room of Jason Pritchard, for the Ward of Portsoken.

10. 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.

|   |  |   |
|---|--|---|
| <p><b>Simon Robert Armitage</b><br/><i>His Honour Judge Mark Lucraft</i><br/><i>Fiona Josephine Adler</i></p>                       | <p>a Poet<br/><i>Citizen and Founder</i><br/><i>Citizen and Tobacco Pipe Maker &amp; Tobacco Blender</i></p>                     | <p>Kirklees, West Yorkshire</p>         |
| <p><b>James Cornelius Batten</b><br/><i>CC Gregory Alfred Lawrence</i><br/><i>CC Henry Llewellyn Michael Jones MBE</i></p>          | <p>a Professional Boxer, retired<br/><i>Citizen and Butcher</i><br/><i>Citizen and Common Councillor</i></p>                     | <p>Dartford, Kent</p>                   |
| <p><b>Mohammed Alam Begi</b><br/><i>Gwenllian Mari Rhys</i><br/><i>Arthur Peter Rawlinson</i></p>                                   | <p>a Teacher<br/><i>Citizen and Glass Seller</i><br/><i>Citizen and Glass Seller</i></p>   | <p>Eltham, London</p>                   |
| <p><b>Nicholas Anthony Betts</b><br/><i>Major Anthony Hugh Samuel Gabb, TD</i><br/><i>David Anthony Bickmore</i></p>                | <p>a Test Automation Specialist<br/><i>Citizen and Wax Chandler</i><br/><i>Citizen and Wax Chandler</i></p>                      | <p>Swale, Kent</p>                      |
| <p><b>Jonathan David Ames Bond</b><br/><i>Richard George Turk</i><br/><i>Edward Gradosielski, BEM</i></p>                           | <p>a Shipbroking Company Director<br/><i>Citizen and Shipwright</i><br/><i>Citizen and Wax Chandler</i></p>                      | <p>Bromley, London</p>                  |
| <p><b>Alison Mary Emmins</b><br/><i>Stephen Emmins</i><br/><i>David Woodward</i></p>  | <p>a Secretary<br/><i>Citizen and Security Professional</i><br/><i>Citizen and Furniture Maker</i></p>                           | <p>Redbridge, Essex</p>                 |
| <p><b>Roger Walton Ferguson</b><br/><i>Ald. Sheriff Bronislaw Edmund Masojada</i><br/><i>CC Catherine Sidony McGuinness CBE</i></p> | <p>An Asset Management Company President, retired<br/><i>Citizen and Insurer</i><br/><i>Citizen and Solicitor</i></p>            | <p>North Palm Beach, Florida, U.S.A</p> |
| <p><b>Neil John Goode</b><br/><i>Major Anthony Hugh Samuel Gabb, TD</i><br/><i>David Anthony Bickmore</i></p>                       | <p>a Corporate Hospitality Company Director, retired<br/><i>Citizen and Wax Chandler</i><br/><i>Citizen and Wax Chandler</i></p> | <p>Sevenoaks, Kent</p>                  |
| <p><b>Richard Garnet Cuthbert Keeson</b><br/><i>Major Anthony Hugh Samuel Gabb, TD</i><br/><i>David Anthony Bickmore</i></p>        | <p>an Army Officer<br/><i>Citizen and Wax Chandler</i><br/><i>Citizen and Wax Chandler</i></p>                                   | <p>Royal Tunbridge Wells, Kent</p>      |



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|--|---|---|
| <p><b>John Michael Kennedy</b><br/> <i>David O'Reilly</i><br/> <i>Ald. Vincent Thomas Keaveny</i><br/> <i>CBE</i></p>                                | <p>a Financier<br/> <i>Citizen and Educator</i><br/> <i>Citizen and Solicitor</i></p>   | <p>Willesden, London</p>                |
| <p><b>Ruth Leas</b><br/> <i>Ald. Sheriff Bronislaw Edmund Masojada</i><br/> <i>Sharon Lesley Constançon</i></p>                                      | <p>a Bank Chief Executive<br/> <i>Citizen and Insurer</i><br/> <i>Citizen and Chartered Secretary &amp; Administrator</i></p>                 | <p>Barnet, London</p>                   |
| <p><b>Dr Joseph Marc André Levesque, OMM</b><br/> <i>Justin Giles Joseph Morin-Carpentier</i><br/> <i>James Anthony Drabble</i></p>                  | <p>a Historian and Canadian Military Officer, retired<br/> <i>Citizen and Tyler &amp; Bricklayer</i><br/> <i>Citizen and Arts Scholar</i></p> | <p>Ottawa, Ontario, Canada</p>          |
| <p><b>His Excellency Jeremiah Kingsley Mamabolo Nyamane</b><br/> <i>The Rt. Hon The Lord Mayor Deputy Christopher Michael Hayward</i></p>            | <p>a Diplomat<br/> <i>Citizen and World Trader</i><br/> <i>Citizen and Pattenmaker</i></p>  | <p>Trafalgar Square, London</p>         |
| <p><b>Robert John Midgley</b><br/> <i>Jacqueline Chan</i><br/> <i>Rafael Steinmetz Leffa</i></p>   | <p>a Civil Servant<br/> <i>Citizen and Gold &amp; Silver Wyre Drawer</i><br/> <i>Citizen and International Banker</i></p>                     | <p>Westminster, London</p>              |
| <p><b>Jayson Milkias</b><br/> <i>CC Timothy James McNally</i><br/> <i>CC David James Sales</i></p>   | <p>a Financial Services Company Managing Director<br/> <i>Citizen and Glazier</i><br/> <i>Citizen and Insurer</i></p>                         | <p>Clapham, London</p>                  |
| <p><b>Edmund John Anthony Murphy</b><br/> <i>Ald. Alison Jane Gowman</i><br/> <i>Ald. Alastair John Naisbitt King, DL</i></p>                        | <p>a Financial Services Programme Manager<br/> <i>Citizen and Glover</i><br/> <i>Citizen and Blacksmith</i></p>                               | <p>Bath, Somerset</p>                   |
| <p><b>Annette LaPorte Nazareth</b><br/> <i>Ald. Sheriff Bronislaw Edmund Masojada</i><br/> <i>CC Catherine Sidony</i><br/> <i>McGuinness CBE</i></p> | <p>a Lawyer, retired<br/> <i>Citizen and Insurer</i><br/> <i>Citizen and Solicitor</i></p>  | <p>North Palm Beach, Florida, U.S.A</p> |
| <p><b>David John Postings</b><br/> <i>Deputy Christopher Michael Hayward</i><br/> <i>Deputy Keith David Forbes Bottomley</i></p>                     | <p>a Finance Industry Association Chief Executive<br/> <i>Citizen and Pattenmaker</i><br/> <i>Citizen and Pattenmaker</i></p>                 | <p>Bournemouth, Dorset</p>              |
| <p><b>Simon David Roberts</b><br/> <i>Edward Gradosielski, BEM</i><br/> <i>Richard George Turk</i></p>   | <p>a Financial Services Company Director<br/> <i>Citizen and Wax Chandler</i><br/> <i>Citizen and Shipwright</i></p>                          | <p>Southend-on-Sea, Essex</p>           |

|   |   |                              |
|---|---|------------------------------|
| <b>Rosalind Theresa Scanlon</b><br><i>Vincent Dignam</i><br><i>John Paul Tobin</i>  | a Playwright and Theatre Director<br><i>Citizen and Carman</i><br><i>Citizen and Carman</i>                                   | Wimbledon, London            |
| <b>Philip Victor Selby</b><br><i>Kevin Malcolm Everett</i><br><i>Richard Evans</i>  | a Banker, retired<br><i>Citizen and Fletcher</i><br><i>Citizen and Educator</i>   | Reigate and Banstead, Surrey |
| <b>Prof. Dr Luciano Francesco Silighini Garagnani Lambertini</b><br><i>Ann-Marie Jefferys</i><br><i>Anne Elizabeth Holden</i>   | a Director and Movie Producer<br><i>Citizen and Glover</i><br><i>Citizen and Basketmaker</i>                                  | Saronno, Lombardy, Italy     |
| <b>Elizabeth Sliman</b><br><i>Richard Leslie Springford</i><br><i>Sir David Hugh Wootton</i>                                    | an Events Manager<br><i>Citizen and Carman</i><br><i>Citizen and Fletcher</i>   | Lewisham, London             |
| <b>Brian Thomas Smith</b><br><i>Terry Kenneth Morris</i><br><i>Martin Stewart Earle</i>   | an Events and Travel Company Director<br><i>Citizen and Pewterer</i><br><i>Citizen and Builders Merchant</i>                  | Chichester, West Sussex      |
| <b>Dr Yvonne Veronica Thompson, CBE, DL</b><br><i>The Rt. Hon The Lord Mayor</i><br><i>Ald. Alastair John Naisbitt King, DL</i> | a Business Network Founder<br><i>Citizen and World Trader</i><br><i>Citizen and Blacksmith</i>                                | Stockwell, London            |
| <b>Lance John Tucker</b><br><i>Dudley John Tucker</i><br><i>Stanley Liu</i>   | a Window Cleaning Company Owner<br><i>Citizen and Poulter</i><br><i>Citizen and Butcher</i>                                   | Swindon, Wiltshire           |
| <b>George Robert Warren</b><br><i>CC Gregory Alfred Lawrence</i><br><i>CC Henry Llewellyn Michael Jones MBE</i>                 | a Security Guard<br><i>Citizen and Butcher</i><br><i>Citizen and Common Councillor</i>  | Dartford, Kent               |
| <b>James Simon Watkins</b><br><i>Ald. Prem Babu Goyal OBE</i><br><i>Deputy Rehana Banu Ameer</i>                                | a Head of Policy and Public Impact<br><i>Citizen and Goldsmith</i><br><i>Citizen and Common Councillor</i>                    | Harrow, London               |
| <b>The Hon. Stephen Hartwig Willoughby Watson</b><br><i>Lord Mountevans</i><br><i>Jeremy Mark Fox</i>                           | an Engineering Company Chief Executive<br><i>Citizen and Shipwright</i><br><i>Citizen and Stationer &amp; Newspaper Maker</i> | Gloucestershire              |
| <b>Derek White</b><br><i>Kevin Malcolm Everett</i><br><i>Richard Evans</i>  | a Bank Official, retired<br><i>Citizen and Fletcher</i><br><i>Citizen and Educator</i>  | Barnet, London               |
| <b>Neal Simon Wilkinson</b><br><i>Deputy Brian Desmond Francis Mooney BEM</i>   | an Insurance Underwriter<br><i>Citizen and Common Councillor</i>  | Hertford, Hertfordshire      |

*Ald. Alastair John Naisbitt King, Citizen and Blacksmith  
DL*

Read.

*Resolved* – That this Court doth hereby assent to the admission of the said persons to the Freedom of this City by Redemption upon the terms and in the manner mentioned in the several Resolutions of this Court, and it is hereby ordered that the Chamberlain do admit them severally to their Freedom accordingly.

11. Questions  
Deputy Ann  
Holmes to the  
Deputy  
Chairman of the  
Policy and  
Resources  
Committee

### **Standing Orders**

Deputy Ann Holmes asked a question of the Deputy Chairman of the Policy and Resources Committee, in the Chairman's absence, concerning the review of standing orders, and asked if it would be ready for the October Court.

Before replying to the question, the Deputy Chairman informed the Court, given the length of the debate at Item 8b and the fact there remained a number of items for decision on the agenda, he and the Chairman of the Community and Children's Services Committee, committed to providing written answers to any supplementary questions.

Replying to the question, the Deputy Chairman informed Members that officers expected to bring a scoping paper to July's meeting of the Policy and Resources Committee. This would map out the review process and provide detail of the methodology as requested. The Deputy Chairman felt that October was not a realistic timescale. The Deputy Chairman reminded Members that the Policy Chairman had said that the review should be completed in good time before the City-wide elections next year, and he confirmed that this remained the case.

Deputy Holmes asked a supplementary question, asking for further details on any recommendations from the review would be ready for approval by the Court in advance of the City-wide elections.

### **Member Allowances**

Philip Woodhouse, noting that Members had been consulted earlier in the year on proposals to introduce 'special responsibility allowances', asked the Deputy Chairman of the Policy and Resources Committee if he could confirm that these proposals would not be pursued.

Philip  
Woodhouse to  
the Deputy  
Chairman of the  
Policy and  
Resources  
Committee

In reply, the Deputy Chairman said that in July 2021 this Honourable Court asked for consideration to be given to a Special Responsibility Allowance, alongside the Members' Financial Support Policy. The Civic Affairs Sub-Committee had subsequently commissioned an external report, following which the views of all Members had been sought. The Deputy Chairman noted that the Court needed to reach a collective view, and remarked that a paper would be considered by Civic Affairs in the coming months. The final decision on any additional allowances would be a decision taken by the whole Court of Common Council.

Deputy Sir Michael Snyder asked a supplementary question, asking if the decision

would be decided by the Policy and Resources Committee before it could come back to Court, and if that body would take into account the strong feelings expressed by Members during the consultation.

Deputy Marianne Fredericks asked the Members could be provided with the evidence substantiating for greater evidence of diversity.

Deputy Edward Lord asked for assurance that a full equality impact assessment would be undertaken as part of the report.

Deputy Paul Martinelli asked the Deputy Chairman to clarify whether the policy on written answers to supplementary questions was permanent.

### **Housing provision**

Deputy James Thomson asked the Chairman of the Community and Children's Services Committee if she could outline the priorities and resource implications of the emerging housing strategy.

Deputy James Thomson to the Chairman of the Community and Children's Services Committee

In reply, the Chairman outlined the City Corporation's existing housing provision. This included the provision of social housing in the Square Mile and across London. Further housing provision was being developed, such as a recently completed scheme at Isledon House, which was fully allocated and occupied, and the Chairman understood that the residents were satisfied with their homes. A build programme had seen 77 new homes completed since 2016, with more under construction and in the pipeline. The waiting lists for households as of 19 June 2024 was 1,091.

The draft housing strategy demonstrated a commitment to social housing and had been developed in consultation with residents, staff and lead Members. It outlined the City Corporation's vision for successful delivery of housing services for residents of social housing, and the future supply of new housing over the next five years. The Community and Children's Services Committee would consider the strategy in September, following approval by the Housing Management and Almshouses Sub-Committee. The final sets of priorities were to: improve the quality of housing services, with particular reference to repairs and maintenance; to improve housing quality overall; to engage and listen to residents; improve building safety; and increase the supply of housing. The strategy aligned with national housing priorities and aimed to address the issues posed by the national housing crisis, particularly in terms of affordability, quality and safety.

A separate, complementary asset management strategy was also under development, which would set out the City Corporation's plans for future investment in its housing stock. Combined, the strategies would provide a roadmap for areas of focus over the next five years. During the summer, the Assistant Director of Housing would be working to develop an action plan with timescales for delivery on each priority.

Regarding resourcing, many of the actions could and would be delivered through the Housing Revenue Account (HRA) and day-to-day operational management arrangements. Officers would also work to identify any funding arrangements

required over the HRA with regards to building safety and repairs and maintenance, and the Chairman noted that there was a significant backlog of issues. She also informed Members that the HRA was under pressure due to rising demand and the impact of regulatory and legislative burdens facing social housing providers. The City Corporation had a five-year funded programme of £65 million to invest in homes and provide new homes.

All opportunities to access grants would be considered, as would different models of housing development such as working with third-parties.

Deputy Elizabeth King, referring to a recent incident in which poor repairs and maintenance work had led to running sewage in the car parks and storage areas of the Golden Lane Estate over two consecutive weekends, asked for an update on the investigation on this and when Members could expect to see a full report. She also noted that the first communication with residents on this issue blamed residents for the sewage outflow.

In reply, the Deputy Chairman confirmed that she would provide an answer to this and all other supplementary questions in writing.

Catherine McGuinness asked for an update on residents expected to move into Black Raven Court, and for an update on the cost of the units there. She also asked for further information on the costs of the units on the Isledon Court estate, and how these costs and provisions compared with other providers.

Deputy Marianne Fredericks, noted that residents on various City housing estates had had no response to their complaints, and asked what was being done to improve the complaints service in terms of maintenance and repairs. She also asked that the response be communicated to residents, so they understand the processes.

### **Organisational Culture**

Deputy Rehana Ameer asked a question of the Deputy Chairman of the Policy and Resources Committee. She said that she was disturbed to see a growing toxic culture inside the City of London Corporation experienced by diverse elected Members and referred to her own personal experiences of racism and bullying. She noted that she had previously asked for an independent review of the City Corporation's organisational culture in relation to these issues to establish if the right policies, procedures and support systems were in place, and asked for an update.

In reply, the Deputy Chairman said that he was very sorry to hear of her experiences - no-one should endure racism and bullying.

He agreed that the alignment of strategy and culture was important. The recently agreed Corporate Plan and People Strategy included clear Equality Objectives reflected the importance placed on equity, equality, diversity and inclusion at all levels but the Deputy Chairman emphasised that Members and Officers must put that into practice.

On the specific question of a wider review of equality diversity and inclusion (EDI), the Deputy Chairman said that the EDI Sub-Committee had agreed that such a review should take place. He understood that it would be scoped further with the EDI Sub-Committee in the Autumn, by which point he hoped that the City have recruited a new Equalities Director to help progress this work.

In the meantime, the ongoing commitment to Equity, Equality, Diversity & Inclusion across the City Corporation was evidenced by the recent recalibration of the EED&I portfolio under the Chief Strategy Officer to align fully with the work implementing the Corporate Plan.

There had also been targeted activities demonstrating commitment to race equality and anti-racism including delivery against the Tackling Racism Taskforce Recommendations (each with a Chief Officer owner) and a Let's Talk About Racism event led by the Town Clerk. Another event would be held shortly.

With regards to Members of this Honourable Court, in Autumn of 2023, the Town Clerk, with the support of the Policy Chairman and past Chief Commoner, commissioned an independent review of Member behaviour from the Local Government Association. The Deputy Chairman understood that a proposed action plan with this review was due to be discussed at the Policy and Resources Committee, in the first instance, in July, having already been discussed by your Member Development sub-Committee.

Deputy Ameer asked a supplementary question, asking if the right set of actions had been taken to reach the desired outcomes. She believed that no member should be made to feel unsafe.

### **Network Events in the City**

Jason Groves, referring to the partnership between the Corporation and Link (the insurance industry-wide LGBTQ+ network) to deliver this year's City of London Pride event at Guildhall tonight, asked the Deputy Chairman of the Policy and Resources Committee if he would commit to working with the Remembrancers Department to partner with other such City organisations to deliver the similar network events.

In reply, the Deputy Chairman said that diverse and engaged communities were placed at the heart of the new Corporate Plan. The partnership with Link on the Pride event – which would be the largest Pride event ever held in Guildhall - was an example of how partnership and sponsorship can lead to success.

It was also a testament to the work carried out by the Remembrancers Team and the Campaigns and Community Engagement Team in connecting diversity networks across the Square Mile and working with them to improve the Corporation's events. In financially constrained times, the Deputy Chairman said it was important that the City Corporation could work in partnership with others to share the cost of this activity.

As the City Corporation looked to increase the number and variety of events it wanted to hold, the Deputy Chairman said it must also be flexible in working with

businesses to obtain sponsorship and to host events at their premises – as the City Belonging Project and Lord Mayor’s Appeal have done on numerous occasions.

He also recognised the ongoing success of the City Belonging Project, which has grown from a standing start to more than 2,000 sign-ups in the past year – hugely boosting the ability to engage with Square Mile networks and businesses and greatly increasing turnout at events.

As a part of this project, the City Corporation was working with City Guides to take hundreds of members of the community on walking tours relating to women’s history, Black history and LGBTQ+ history.

The Deputy Chairman finished by saying he hoped to see many of Members of the Court at the Pride event that evening.

12. Ballot  
results

There were no ballots at the last Court.

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**

**Digital Markets, Competition and Consumers Act 2024**

24 May 2024

Provides an update to the protection of consumer rights.

**Victims and Prisoners Act 2024**

24 May 2024

Strengthens the rights of victims of crime and improve their treatment; to provide support for victims of major incidents; and to ensure the Parole Boards keeps public protection as its primary focus when making decisions to release people.

**Leasehold and Freehold Reform Act 2024**

24 May 2024

Makes wide-ranging changes to leasehold and freehold, for example lengthening the period by which leaseholders can extend their holding, removing the requirement for a new leaseholder to have owned their house for two years before they can extend their lease or buy their freehold, requiring greater transparency regarding leaseholders' service charges, prohibiting leasehold houses, introduces a presumption that each side will bear its costs on a lease extension. Much of the Act will be brought into force by subsequent statutory instruments.

**Statutory Instruments**

**In Force**

**Coroners (Suspension of Requirement for Jury at Inquest: Coronavirus) Regulations 2024**

24 May 2024

During the height of the corona pandemic, regulations were introduced to remove the need for a coroner's inquest in cases relating to coronavirus. The period of this exception was set to expire on 27 June 2024 and these Regulations extend the period to 27 June 2026.

**Retained EU Law (Revocation and Reform) Act 2023 (Commencement No. 2 and Saving Provisions) Regulations 2024** 24 May 2024

These Regulations are the second commencement regulations made under the Retained EU Law (Revocation and Reform) Act 2023 and, from 1 October 2024, enable a lower court or tribunal, which is bound by assimilated case law, to refer a point of law concerning assimilated case law to a higher court to decide. Also brings into force from 1 October a new procedure for the law officers of the UK Government and their counterparts in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland to refer a point of assimilated case law to a relevant higher court on a case which concluded in the lower courts. Confers on law officers of the UK Government or their counterparts a right to intervene in proceedings before a higher court where departure from assimilated case law is being considered.

**Recognition and Enforcement of Judgments (2019 Hague Convention etc.) Regulations 2024** 24 May 2024

These Regulations are preparatory to the 2019 Hague Convention coming into force in the UK in 2025. The Regulations provide for registration of judgments for the purposes of official recognition or enforcement and routes to challenge such a registration.

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

Read.

14.

Resolutions

*Resolved unanimously* – That the sincere congratulations of this Court be given to:-

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

Alderman Sir Nicholas Stephen Lyons DL

Lately Lord Mayor of this City, on his recent appointment by His Majesty the King as a Knight Bachelor for services to the financial sector, to the growth economy, and to financial literacy.

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

*Resolved unanimously* – That the sincere congratulations of this Court be given to:-

Alderman Alison Jane Gowman, CBE



On her recent appointment by His Majesty the King as a Commander of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire, for her public and voluntary services and sustainability.

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

*Resolved unanimously* – That the sincere congratulations of this Court be given to:-

Judith Finlay, CBE

Executive Director of the City of London's Community and Children's Services, lately Executive Director, Adults, Children and Public Health Services at Ealing Council, on her recent appointment by His Majesty the King as a Commander of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire, for her services to children and families

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

*Resolved unanimously* – That the sincere congratulations of this Court be given to:-

Gloria Anne Marie Garman, MBE,

the Head of Service for the City of London Adult Skills, Education and Apprenticeship Service, on her recent appointment by His Majesty the King as a Member of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire, in recognition of her services to Adult Education in London

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

*Resolved unanimously* – That the sincere congratulations of this Court be given to:-

Caroline Peta Hay, MBE

Chief Inspector at the City of London Police, on her recent appointment by His Majesty the King as a Member of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire, in recognition of her services to policing.

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

*Resolved unanimously* – That the sincere congratulations of this Court be given to:-

Elizabeth Whiteside Hearton Hannah, BEM

Chief of Staff for the Director of Environment, City of London Corporation, on her recent award by His Majesty the King of the British Empire Medal, for charitable services to Hospices and to Child Welfare in the City of London and East London.

15. Awards and prizes

There was no report.

16. Hospital seal

There were no docquets.

17.  
*Dunphy, P.,  
Deputy;  
Colthurst, H.,  
Deputy*

*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 (s) 2 and 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act, 1972; or relate to functions of the Court of Common Council which are not subject to the provisions of Part VA and Schedule 12A of that Act.

**Summary of exempt items considered whilst the public were excluded:-**

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

19. **Finance Committee**  
The Court considered a report of the Finance Committee concerning a contract award.

20. **Policy and Resources Committee**  
The Court considered a report of the Policy and Resources Committee concerning an acquisition.

This item was withdrawn with the approval of the Court.

21. **Comptroller & City Solicitor**  
The Court received a report of the Comptroller and City Solicitor in their capacity as monitoring officer.  
(Monitoring Officer)

**The meeting commenced at 1.00pm and ended at 3.45pm**

**THOMAS.**