

## **Service Charge Working Party Report to RCC. 11.11.24**

The Working Party met twice in the past fortnight to review:

- The 23/24 Outturn

An improved version with additional variance explanation has been produced and is on the RCC agenda.

- The 25/26 budget

The Budget is in the hands of the Chamberlain's department and just as happened last year the Working Party has not had the opportunity to see it. Consequently, just as last year it will not be presented to the November RCC unless it can be finalised in the next few days and a late paper accepted for the RCC.

This is particularly disappointing as we recall Mark Jarvis's commitment to the RCC and BRC following the 23/24 fiasco, to deliver an improved process to ensure that there was sufficient time for a proper review to take place.

There may well be a requirement yet again for Special RCC meeting.

This failure is unacceptable, putting the Barbican Estate Office and leaseholders' representatives in an impossible position. It is the view of the resident members of the Working Party that

the budgeting process dominated by the Chamberlain's

Department cannot be allowed to continue because it is only interested in the City's recovery of the service charge rather than ensuring that the budget process is robust and transparent.

The BEO, led by Dan Sanders, should be given full responsibility and accountability for the budget production and justification to leaseholders.