

## City of London Corporation Committee Report

<b>Committee(s):</b> Corporate Services Committee – For Information	<b>Dated:</b> 08/01/2025
<b>Subject:</b> Health & Safety Update	<b>Public report:</b> For Information
<b>This proposal:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• delivers Corporate Plan 2024-29 outcomes</li> <li>• provides statutory duties</li> <li>• provides business enabling functions</li> </ul>	<b>Diverse Engaged Communities</b> <b>Leading Sustainable Environment</b> <b>Vibrant Thriving Destination</b> <b>Providing Excellent Services</b> <b>Flourishing Public Spaces</b> Health & Safety at Work Act 1974 People Strategy
<b>Does this proposal require extra revenue and/or capital spending?</b>	No
<b>If so, how much?</b>	£
<b>What is the source of Funding?</b>	N/A
<b>Has this Funding Source been agreed with the Chamberlain’s Department?</b>	N/A
<b>Report of:</b>	Deputy Town Clerk
<b>Report author:</b>	Oli Sanandres, Director of Health & Safety

### summary

This report provides the Corporate Services Committee with a regular health and safety update.

December 2024 saw the delivery of major milestone for the team with the launch of our Health & Safety Management framework and new tools for officers across the organisation to use to ensure we remain proactive and on track to lift the Safety culture at the City of London.

### Recommendation(s)

Members are asked to: Note the report.

## **Main Report**

### **Background**

1. Following Quadriga's external review of our Health & Safety arrangements, the Corporate Services Committee has received an update at each meeting outlining key areas of activity and progress made in addressing the gaps the Quadriga review identified, together with relevant other updates of note.
2. Given the relatively short time-frame between the last meeting and this one, coinciding with the Christmas break, this month's report is relatively brief but it is hoped provides Members with an informative update nevertheless.

### **Current Position**

3. To date, 20 of the 25 recommendations have been closed (i.e., 80%). This represents an increase of 16% in the successful close-down of the recommendations since the last report to your Committee.
4. A key element of this was the approval and launch of our Health & Safety framework, on 9 December 2024, which closed three major recommendations, viz.:-
  - i. We have established a minimum standard in terms of numbers and qualifications of health and safety advisers for the higher complexity areas of the Corporation.
  - ii. We have made IOSH (Institution of Occupational Safety and Health) approved Managing Safely training mandatory for all managers.
  - iii. We have introduced a centrally based software system, SafetyNet, which allows the recording and monitoring of risk assessments, together with the tracking and completion of remedial actions and accident reporting.
5. The remaining 20% are HR-linked, i.e., relate to Ambition25 and Occupational Health resource review, or relate to a review of Contractor Management and Construction (Design Management) Regulations 2015 procedures, and a review of the property management processes across the City of London Corporation. These are on track to be delivered by April.
6. Since the last meeting Quadriga have also been re-engaged to provide external independent assurance as to the steps taken in response to the initial audit, before the end of the current financial year.

### **Key Updates**

7. On 9 December 2024, the Corporate Health & Safety Team publicly launched the new Health & Safety Framework. The new framework applies to all Departments and Institutions of the City of London Corporation, clearly setting out the mechanisms for which we are centrally responsible and providing clear direction as to what is required locally. It also introduces and sets in place our new IT architecture, launching SafetyNet, our new SharePoint site for all safety policies, guidance, incident reporting & risk assessment tools.

8. In July 2024, the Health & Safety Executive (HSE) attended the City of London School and City of London Girls School for a routine review of asbestos management procedures, proposing several areas for action all of which were successfully completed by the schools over autumn. Subsequently, the Corporate Health & Safety Team has reviewed the City's asbestos management processes to incorporate these learning outcomes and advise these changes to all asbestos duty holders to further strengthen our system. Asbestos continues to be the greatest cause of work-related deaths in Great Britain and remains a key focus for health and safety management.

### **Corporate & Strategic Implications**

- Strategic implications - None
- Financial implications - None
- Resource implications - None
- Legal implications - None
- Risk implications - None
- Equalities implications - None
- Climate implications - None
- Security implications - None

### **Conclusion**

9. Significant progress has been made in addressing the recommendations identified in the Quadriga review, with 80% of the actions now completed, reflecting a 16% improvement since the last update. The launch of the new Health & Safety Framework and associated systems, such as SafetyNet, marks a critical milestone in strengthening health and safety governance across the City of London Corporation. Key initiatives, including mandatory IOSH-approved training and the establishment of minimum standards for high-complexity areas, underscoring the Corporation's commitment to fostering a robust safety culture.
10. Additionally, we are well enough re-established within our operations that we are now capturing lessons learned from external reviews, such as the HSE's evaluation of asbestos management, and effectively integrating learnings into central guidance. This, the basis for the continuous improvement cycle.
11. The City of London Corporation continues to demonstrate a proactive approach to embedding health and safety as a central component of our operations, ensuring compliance, improved risk management, and a safer working environment for all.

### **Appendices**

- None

### **Oli Sanandres**

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