Resolutions from the Annual Wardmotes

To be presented on Thursday, 22nd May 2025

To the Right Honourable The Lord Mayor, Aldermen and Commons of the City of London in Common Council assembled.

The Resolutions from the Annual Wardmotes are set out below for the consideration of the Court: -

A - Ward of Aldersgate - 19th March 2025

"The Ward of Aldersgate seeks an independent enquiry into the 'Speak for the City' campaign. The campaign invests some hundreds of thousands of pounds, with stated performance measures to:

- increase the number of contested wards at the 2025 and 2029 elections:
- increase the number of voters at the 2025 and 2029 elections; and
- increase the number of candidates at the 2025 and 2029 elections.

This year the Ward of Aldersgate will democratically elect members to represent our citizens.

However in 14 of the 25 City of London wards there will be no elections and by default there will be fewer voters exercising their democratic right. Either the 'Speak for the City' campaign has failed or the system of election to Common Council has failed. In either case an independent enquiry is called for".

[Policy & Resources Committee]

B - Ward of Bishopsgate - 19th March 2025

"This Wardmote resolves to request the City of London Corporation to reintroduce Ward Newsletters to help engage with the wide range of businesses, residents and students in Bishopsgate on the topics which matter to them most"

[Policy & Resources Committee]

C - Ward of Cripplegate – 19th March 2025

- a) "This Cripplegate Wardmote:
- i) Notes that several Members of the Court of Common Council have been appointed Lead Members including for Climate Action and Sustainability. However, there is no Lead Member for Urban Greening and Biodiversity, despite the importance of the same to residents, workers, students and visitors, as well as to wildlife, within the Square Mile. Despite this importance, there are areas with significant biodiversity deprivation, as acknowledged in the draft City Plan 2040. Its Chapter 12 Open Spaces and Green Infrastructure specifically includes both Urban Greening and Biodiversity;
- ii) Agrees that increasing Urban Greening and Biodiversity benefits the health and wellbeing of residents, workers, students and visitors, particularly in areas of deficiency in access to public open space. Also, such increase in other areas will improve their health and wellbeing; and
- iii) Resolves to request the Court of Common Council to appoint a Lead Member for Urban Greening and Biodiversity charged with ensuring City Corporation takes all necessary steps to increase urban greening and biodiversity enhancement independently of any requirements for the same in planning applications and other development proposals.

[Planning and Transportation Committee]

b) "The Ward of Cripplegate commented that on election day 2025, electors in Cripplegate Ward will have a choice of ten candidates standing for eight Common Council seats but in fourteen of the 25 City of London wards voters will not be able to take part in elections as the number of candidates is the same as the number of seats available.

The Cripplegate Wardmote therefore seeks an investigation into the process which has failed to deliver a fully democratically elected group of members to Common Council".

[Policy & Resources Committee]

D - Ward of Dowgate - 19th March 2025

"This Wardmote resolves to request that the City of London Corporation reintroduce Ward Newsletters to help engage with the wide range of businesses, livery companies and residents in Dowgate Ward on topics which matter to them. The City of London Corporation works hard across many sectors and these initiatives should be better communicated alongside the wards representatives' efforts."

[Policy & Resources Committee]

(N.B. Following their consideration at the Grand Court of Wardmote, these Resolutions have informally been referred to officers of the relevant Service Committees, so as to assist them in responding without delay following their formal consideration by the Court of Common Council and its relevant Committees.)