



KING, MAYOR

COURT OF COMMON COUNCIL

22nd May 2025
MEMBERS PRESENT

ALDERMEN

Alexander Robertson Martin Barr (Alderman)	Gregory Jones KC (Alderman & Sheriff)	Professor Michael Raymond Mainelli (Alderman)
Sir Charles Edward Beck Bowman (Alderman)	Vincent Keaveny CBE (Alderman)	Bronek Masojada (Alderman)
Professor Emma Edhem (Alderman)	The Rt Hon. The Lord Mayor, Alastair John Naisbitt King DL (Alderman)	Jennette Rachel Newman (Alderman)
Sir Peter Estlin (Alderman)	Elizabeth Anne King, BEM JP (Alderman)	Sir Andrew Charles Parmley, (Alderman)
Alison Gowman CBE (Alderman)	Dame Susan Langley, DBE (Alderman)	Kawsar Zaman (Alderman)
Prem Goyal OBE (Alderman)	Tim Levene (Alderman)	
Robert Charles Hughes-Penney (Alderman)	Sir Nicholas Stephen Leland Lyons (Alderman)	

COMMONERS

Joanna Tufuo Abeyie MBE	John Ernest Edwards, Deputy	Helen Ladele	Sushil Kumar Saluja
Tana Adkin KC	Susan Farrington	Gregory Alfred Lawrence	Ruby Sayed
Shahnan Bakth	Helen Lesley Fentimen OBE JP, Deputy	Charles Edward Lord, OBE JP	Hugh Selka
Jamel Banda	Anthony David Fitzpatrick	Antony Geoffrey Manchester	Oliver Sells KC, Deputy
Brendan Barns	John William Fletcher, Deputy	Vasiliki Manta	Dr Giles Robert Evelyn Shilson
Matthew Bell	John Foley	Tessa Marchington	Alethea Silk
The Honourable Emily Sophia Wedgwood Benn, Deputy	Dawn Frampton	Paul Nicholas Martinelli, Deputy	Tom Sleigh, Deputy
Nicholas Michael Bensted-Smith JP	Marianne Bernadette Fredericks, Deputy	Tim McNally	Sir Michael Snyder, Deputy
Christopher Paul Boden, Deputy	Sarah Helen Gillinson	Andrien Gereith Dominic Meyers, Deputy	James St John Davis
Keith David Forbes Bottomley, Deputy	Madush Gupta, Deputy	Sophia Mooney	Stephanie Steeden
Leyla Boulton	Mercy Haggerty	Alastair Michael Moss, Deputy	Mandeep Thandi
Tijs Broeke	Caroline Wilma Haines, Deputy	Benjamin Daniel Murphy, Deputy	Stuart Peter James Thompson
Simon Burrows	Josephine Hayes	Deborah Oliver TD	James Michael Douglas
Timothy Richard Butcher, Deputy	Christopher Michael Hayward, Deputy	Suzanne Ornsby KC	Thomson CBE, Deputy
Dominic Gerard Christian	Jaspreet Hodgson, Deputy	Leyla Ostovar	James Richard Tumbridge
Lesley Cole	Stephen Hodgson	Fraser Stuart Peck	Matthew Waters
Melissa Rachel Collett	Adam Michael Hogg	Chief Commoner James Henry	Jacqueline Roberts Webster
Henry Nicholas Almroth Colthurst, Deputy	Ann Holmes, Deputy	George Pollard, Deputy	Mark Raymond Peter Henry
Bethany Coombs, Deputy	Amy Horscroft	Jason Paul Pritchard	Delano Wheatley
Anne Corbett, Deputy	Sandra Jenner	Nighat Qureishi, Deputy	Philip Woodhouse
Elizabeth Corrin	Shravan Jashvantrai Joshi, MBE	Anett Rideg	Dawn Linsey Wright, Deputy
Peter Gerard Dunphy, Deputy	Florence Keelson-Anfu	Gaby Robertshaw	Irem Yerdelen
		David Sales	

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 the Business and Trade Dinner, the 100th Anniversary of the Pikemen and Musketeers, the Annual Lord Mayors Children's Party, the VE Day 80th Anniversary Celebrations and international trips to Switzerland, Qatar, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates.
- The Lord Mayor also reported on the signing of the Mansion House Accords on 13th May 2025, and updated the Court on the launch of two more City Belonging Networks: the Neurodiversity in the City and City Mental Health Network.
5. Policy Statement
The Chairman of the Policy and Resources Committee took the opportunity to make a statement, reflecting on recent achievements since the last meeting of the Court and looking forward to the upcoming opportunities and challenges over the next few years.
6. Appointments
The Court proceeded to consider the following appointments.
- (A) **Capital Buildings Board** (One vacancy)
(Contest)
- Nominations received:-**
James Tumbridge
Philip Woodhouse
- Read.
- (B) **Equality, Diversity & Inclusion Sub-Committee** (Two vacancies)
(Contest)
- Nominations received:-**
Dr Joanna Abeyie
Josephine Hayes
David Williams
- Read.
- (C) **Hampstead Heath, Highgate Wood & Queens Park Committee** (Three vacancies)
(No contest)
- Nominations received:-**
Karina Dostalova
- Read.

Whereupon the Lord Mayor declared Karina Dostalova to be appointed to the Hampstead Heath, Highgate Wood & Queens Park Committee.

- (D) **Natural Environment Board and West Ham Park Committee** (One vacancy)
(No contest)

Nominations received:-
Karina Dostalova

Read.

Whereupon the Lord Mayor declared Karina Dostalova to be appointed to the Natural Environment Board and West Ham Park Committee.

- (E) **Digital Services Committee** (Three vacancies)
(No contest)

Nominations received:-
Philip Kelvin

Read.

Whereupon the Lord Mayor declared Philip Kelvin to be appointed to the Digital Services Committee.

- (F) **Licensing Committee** (Four vacancies)
(No contest)

Nominations received:-
Samapti Bagchi
Alderman Prem Goyal
Matthew Waters

Read.

Whereupon the Lord Mayor declared Samapti Bagchi, Alderman Prem Goyal and Matthew Waters to be appointed to the Licensing Committee.

- (G) **Health and Social Care Scrutiny Committee** (One vacancy)
(No contest)

Nominations received:-
Alderwoman Elizabeth King

Read.

Whereupon the Lord Mayor declared Alderman Elizabeth King to be appointed to the Health and Social Care Scrutiny Committee.

(H) **Education Board** (One vacancy)

(No Contest)

Nominations received:-

Timothy McNally

Read.

Whereupon the Lord Mayor declared Timothy McNally to be appointed to the Education Board.

(I) **Board of Governors of the London Museum** (Two vacancies)

(Contest)

Nominations received:-

Elizabeth Corrin

Sarah Gillinson

Gaby Robertshaw

Read.

(J) **Trust for London** (One vacancy)

(Contest)

Nominations received:-

Alderwoman Elizabeth King

Philip Woodhouse

Read.

The Court was advised that Philip Woodhouse had, since the publication of the Summons, indicated his desire to withdraw his name from nomination for this position. Consequently, he sought and obtained the Court's leave to do so.

Whereupon the Lord Mayor declared Alderwoman Elizabeth King to be appointed to the Trust for London.

The Court proceeded, in accordance with Standing Order No.10, to ballot on each of the contested vacancies, including those listed at Item 7(A) on the agenda. The Lord Mayor appointed the Chief Commoner and the Chairman of the Finance Committee, or their representatives, to be the scrutineers of the ballots.

Resolved – That the votes be counted at the conclusion of the Court and the results printed in the Summons for the next meeting.

- (A) The Court proceeded to consider the appointment of eight Common Councillors to the Honourable Irish Society, for terms of three years.

**denotes a Member standing for re-appointment*

Nominations received:-

Matthew Bell
 Deputy Keith Bottomley
 *Deputy Anne Corbett
 Anthony Fitzpatrick
 Dawn Frampton
 *Shravan Joshi
 Fraser Peck
 Gaby Robertshaw
 *Deputy Oliver Sells
 *Philip Woodhouse
 *Deputy Dawn Wright

The Court was advised that Deputy Oliver Sells had, since the publication of the Summons, indicated his desire to withdraw his name from nomination for these positions. Consequently, he sought and obtained the Court's leave to do so.

- (B) The Court noted that Alderman Robert Howard would continue to serve for a further term as one of the appointed Aldermen on The Honourable The Irish Society, having previously been appointed for a term expiring in March 2025.

8. Resolutions from the Grand Court of Wardmote Resolutions of the Annual Wardmotes were considered as follows:-

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."

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

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"

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

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.”

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

- 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”.

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

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."

Resolved – That the resolution be referred to the Policy & Resources Committee for consideration and any necessary action

9. POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE

(Deputy Christopher Michael Hayward)

8 May 2025

Standing Order Revisions – Property Transaction Thresholds

The Court considered a report of the Policy and Resources Committee concerning an uplift to the Property Transaction Thresholds in the relevant Standing Orders.

Members of the Court were informed of an error in the report at Appendix 1, which referred to Standing Order 55. In accordance with the Standing Orders approved by the Court on 6th March, the relevant Standing Order should be stated as Standing Order 54.

Resolved - that:-

1. The changes to the property transaction thresholds in Standing Orders be approved. as set out at paragraph 5 and in Appendix 1; and
2. The Town Clerk be authorised to make the necessary amendments to the Officer Scheme of Delegations, in accordance with these revisions.

10. Motions The Court received two motions, both pertaining to appointments to Ward Committees.

*Corbett, A.,
Deputy; Pollard,
J. H. G., Deputy*

(A) *Resolved* - That Jacqueline Webster be appointed to the Barbican Residential Committee as a residential representative for the Ward of Cripplegate (Without)."

*Thomson, J.M.D.,
Deputy, CBE;
Pollard, J. H. G.,
Deputy*

(B) *Resolved* - "That Alderwoman Jennette Newman be appointed to the Planning and Transportation Committee in the room of Alethea Silk for the Ward of Walbrook."

11. 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:

Malcolm Douglas Best

*Colin Trevor Gurnett
John Charles Jordan*

a Haulage Contractor, retired

*Citizen and Wheelwright
Citizen and Glover*

Durham

Wg Cdr Adam Stephen Collins

*Wing Commander Simon
Charles Meade, OBE
Mark Sutherland Johnson*

a Royal Air Force Officer

*Citizen and Woolman
Citizen and Woolman*

Lincolnshire

Kevin David Craven

Jeremy Mark Fox

Peter James Bottomley

an Aerospace Trade

*Organisation Chief Executive
Citizen and Stationer & Newspaper
Maker
Citizen and Draper*

Haslemere, Surrey

Stuart Frederick Jay <i>Jeffrey Charles Williams</i> <i>Paresh Bhanji Modasia</i>	a Quality and Standards Officer <i>Citizen and Carmen</i> <i>Citizen and Apothecary</i>	Wiltshire
Kamal Hussain Khan <i>Munsur Ali, CC</i> <i>Ald. Prem Babu Goyal, OBE</i>	an Integrated Offender Management Coordinator <i>Citizen and World Trader</i> <i>Citizen and Goldsmith</i>	Tower Hamlets, London
Jake Leslie Lewis <i>Dr Iain Reid</i> <i>Robert Constant</i>	a Passenger Ferry Company Director <i>Citizen and Ironmonger</i> <i>Citizen and Carman</i>	Bexley, London
Jerome Anthony McAlister <i>Dr Craig Paterson</i> <i>Rafe Heydel-Mankoo</i>	a Chief Clinical Instructor <i>Citizen and Tobacco Pipe Maker & Tobacco Blender</i> <i>Citizen and Scrivener</i>	Los Angeles, California, USA
Henry George Miller <i>John Charles Jordan</i> <i>Norman Edward Chapman</i>	an Electrical Contractor, retired <i>Citizen and Glover</i> <i>Citizen and Glover</i>	Hertfordshire
Dean Patrick Mortimer <i>John Malcolm Peter Cooper</i> <i>Admiral Sir George Michael Zambellas, GCB DSC DL</i>	a Publican <i>Citizen and Butcher</i> <i>Citizen and Shipwright</i>	Dorset
William Mould <i>Jeffrey Charles Williams</i> <i>Paresh Bhanji Modasia</i>	a Waste Disposal Worker <i>Citizen and Carmen</i> <i>Citizen and Apothecary</i>	Bath, Somerset
Gary Derek Paton <i>Beverley William George Fitzgerald</i> <i>George Charles Moss</i>	an Insurance Consultant <i>Citizen and Insurer</i> <i>Citizen and Insurer</i>	East Sussex
Gianni Ram <i>Dep. Marianne Bernadette Fredericks</i> <i>Timothy James McNally, CC</i>	a Pensions Administrator <i>Citizen and Baker</i> <i>Citizen and Glazier</i>	Havering, London
Matthew Richard Telfer- Maleary <i>James St John Davis, CC</i> <i>Ald. Emma Edhem</i>	a Principal Risk Consultant <i>Citizen and Gardener</i> <i>Citizen and Woolman</i>	Harlow, Essex

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.

12. Questions

*Hughes-Penney,
R.C., Alderman
to the Chairman
of the Policy and
Resources
Committee*

Defence Preparations

Alderman Robert Hughes-Penney asked the Chairman of the Policy and Resources Committee how the City was planning to play its part in the United Kingdom's defence preparations, in light of the rising threats of aggression from around the world and given the City's historically supportive and proud associations and affiliations with the armed forces.

In response, the Chairman indicated his strong support for the UK Government's recent commitment to spend 2.5% of GDP on defence from 2027. Shared security would also play an important role in the new UK-EU reset trade deal, with the Government announcing an annual EU-UK dialogue on defence and UK participation in the EU's €150bn loans-for-arms fund. The Chairman provided several examples of the City's commitment to supporting the armed forces and defence sector, including a Defence Finance Roundtable hosted in April 2025 in partnership with the aerospace, defence and security industry, at which he had been joined by the Defence Procurement Minister, the Rt Hon Maria Eagle.

As a supplementary question, Alderman Hughes-Penney, noting that the next meeting of the Court would be during Armed Forces Week, asked whether the Chairman would undertake to establish a committee or working group focused on security, defence and resilience engagement in order to ensure these activities and plans were implemented and developed in an ongoing and strategic manner. In reply, the Chairman noted that the current demands of this work were being met through the Policy and Resources Committee, meaning that the formation of a committee or working group was not required. He did not feel there was enough work in this area to warrant a separate governance arrangement and cautioned that any potential expansion of governance arrangements should be subject to weighty consideration. The City of London Corporation would continue to engage with and provide support to the Armed Forces and the aerospace and defence industries. Furthermore, by pushing for growth and clarifying its contribution to strengthening the UK's economic security, the City Corporation would continue to use its expertise to support the UK's national security.

Simon Duckworth asked the Chairman if there were other ways in which the City Corporation could use smaller amounts of money to support the body of City of London reservist forces, noting the marked impact this could have on the retention of reservists. The Chairman acknowledged that more could be done to support the vital work of cadets and volunteers and indicated that this would be given priority on a case-by-case basis.

Deputy Benjamin Murphy asked the Chairman if he agreed that the City Corporation's Open Spaces provided a useful venue for armed forces training. The Chairman agreed and thanked Deputy Murphy for promoting his committee's work.

Jason Groves asked how the financial services and banking industries could support the UK government and its allies to scale up their defence, which was becoming increasingly important given the current geopolitical background. In reply, the Chairman highlighted the FPS sector's £110 billion tax contributions which supported the UK Government's defence budget. City Corporation officers were working to engage with the HM Government to determine the next steps on locating a defence bank in the Square Mile.

In response to a question from James Tumbridge on the defence sector often being viewed as a negative sector for investment, the Chairman agreed that work was needed to continue to drive investment in this sector. The Chairman reasserted that the defence of the nation would always remain a key priority for the City Corporation, as it would for the UK government.

*Fredericks, M.B.,
Deputy, to the
Chairman of the
Community and
Children's
Services
Committee*

Nursery and Childcare provision at The Aldgate School

Deputy Marianne Fredericks asked a question of the Chairman of the Community and Children's Services Committee, asking if she could inform the Court of the results of a recent survey carried out on the continuation in situ of the current nursery and childcare provision at Aldgate School.

In reply, the Chairman confirmed that a consultation on this matter had been undertaken between 24 March and 2 May 2025. Officers were currently preparing a 0-2 childcare policy, which would recommend a discretionary subsidy for childcare across the City. This would be considered at the June 2025 meeting of the Community and Children's Services Committee (CCS). The Chairman indicated that she did not want to pre-empt Members' decisions by discussing the matter in detail ahead of the June meeting, but assured Members that the consultation findings would be a core consideration in the agreement of any future policy.

As a supplementary question, Deputy Fredericks asked the Chairman to confirm that the nursery provision was included in the current provision for Aldgate School. She noted that the Chair of Governors at the Aldgate School had previously written to the Chairman and relevant officers to highlight misinformation being circulated regarding the nursery provision and asked the Chairman to acknowledge the confusion that had been caused.

In response, the Chairman said that numerous services were included as part of the surface level agreement with Aldgate School, with substantial conversations held with Aldgate School about the future provision of the Children's Centre Services, the Nursery and the 0-2 provision. The consultation findings on the latter would form part of the ongoing conversation about the future arrangements for all the services provided across the City, including for the Children's Centre and a hub for children's services. An existing agreement with Aldgate School meant that any information published by the City Corporation directly referring to the school would be jointly agreed by both parties before being published. This agreement also applied to information being published by Aldgate School regarding these topics.

Ruby Sayed, noting the importance of ensuring that childcare needs for the entire City were considered and that Members had an opportunity to highlight the specific childcare needs within their Wards, asked the Chairman to reassure the Court that there would be a thorough discussion of the survey results at the upcoming meeting of the Committee in June.

In reply, the Chairman indicated that a briefing would be held in advance of the meeting in June, given the complexity of the subject and the arrival of several new Members to the Committee in April 2025. This would enable all Members to ask questions in advance of the formal meeting and gain an understanding of the history of the issue thus far, to help provide a more informed discussion at the June meeting.

David Williams asked a supplementary question, querying whether the reference in the survey to the service of affordable childcare being a 'subsidy' did a disservice to

the difference between a public service and the service provided by Aldgate School for the last 22 years as part of an agreement to deliver children's centre services in the City of London.

In reply, the Chairman reiterated the City Corporation's responsibility to ensure that all children received the best service wherever it was provided, whether at Aldgate School or other providers, and that children's services were equally accessible across the City. The Chairman assured Members that the debate at the upcoming CCS meeting would be as detailed and thorough as Members wished to make it and she hoped that the Committee would be able to reach a conclusion and provide parents with the knowledge of what services and provisions they might and might not be able to access.

Jason Pritchard asked why Members had not yet been given sight of the consultation results. He proceeded to inform the Court that 75% of those surveyed ranked keeping the subsidy as their first choice, and 87% ranked removing it as their last. He continued to ask if the Chairman agreed that these results were unambiguous in their support for retaining the subsidy, and that the service should therefore be protected in its current standing.

In reply, the Chairman indicated that the survey had included numerous questions and views in addition to this question, and that the detail of the survey responses was still being analysed by officers. While there was no doubt about the support for the current provision in the Aldgate School, it would be improper to comment on one or two specific outcomes ahead of consideration of the full survey results at the upcoming Committee meeting.

Establishment of a Working Group to review housing provision

Mark Wheatley asked a question of the Chairman of the Policy and Resources Committee, asking whether he would commit to convening a Working Group of 12 Members of the Court to review the housing provision and consider the creation of a housing committee with grand committee authority. If so, Mr Wheatley asked if the Chairman would convene this working group within six months, with the request that the findings be submitted to Court within 12 months of the group convening.

For the benefit of the Court, the Chairman repeated the response he had provided when the same question had been asked on Mr Wheatley's behalf at the Policy and Resources Committee on 8 May 2025. Following three external reviews of the City Corporation's housing service, action was being taken to improve customer focus, contract and cost management, to implement a new housing strategy and develop an asset management plan. A report in February 2024 had considered that current governance arrangements were sufficient to oversee improvements in the service, but indicated that this would be reviewed again in February 2026. As such, the Chairman was reluctant to agree to any new processes or working groups in addition to those arrangements. Members would also have to consider whether a new Grand Committee was the right mechanism to consider housing provision, given the existence of the Housing Management and Almshouses Sub-Committee, the Barbican Residential Committee and the Barbican Estate Residents Consultation Committee.

As a supplementary question, Mr Wheatley expressed the view that the decision taken in February 2024 to defer an outcome had denied residents good scrutiny of the Corporation's governance arrangements. He cautioned that Members must not

lose sight of their role to serve residents, asking the Chairman if he agreed that residents deserved the courtesy of a working group.

The Chairman said that the lack of investment in the City Corporation's housing estate was wholly unacceptable, and that housing provision had been pushed up the political agenda by Members and officers as a result. The City Corporation would need to look to private money and partnerships to improve the quality of housing and should consider the full list of governance options available before establishing a working party prematurely. Residents themselves should be consulted as part of this process.

Deputy Helen Fentimen, also the Chairman of the Community and Children's Services Committee, asked if the Chairman agreed the introduction of a new Committee structure risked disrupting the positive improvements that were currently being made. The Chairman agreed, highlighting that significant and positive work was underway, and reiterating that it was not the right time to review the governance structures around this issue.

Charles Edward Lord asked if the Chairman agreed that Member action was sometimes necessary. The Chairman agreed that Member action could be necessary on occasion and that it was important for Members to exercise their democratic decision-making powers. However, setting up ad hoc working parties to try to achieve these objectives would not be the correct route in this case.

13. **CITY OF LONDON POLICE AUTHORITY BOARD**

(Tijs Broeke)

12 February 2025

City of London Policing Plan 2025-28

The Court received a report setting out the City of London Police's priorities for the next three years and how they will be achieved.

Resolved – That Members note the report.

14. **POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE**

(Deputy Christopher Michael Hayward)

7 May 2025

Report of Urgent Action Taken: Exceptional Waiver to Standing Order 26(10)

Members received a report on action taken under urgency procedures concerning the temporary waiver of Standing Order 26, relating to the process for appointing Members to Sub-Committees, given a specific extenuating circumstance.

Resolved – That the report be received and its contents noted.

15. 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:-

Statutory Instruments**In Force****Police (Conduct, Performance and Complaints and Misconduct) (Amendment) Regulations 2025** 28th May 2025

Permits the Secretary of State to set probationary period for special constables, clarifies that a conviction for an indictable-only offence will always amount to gross misconduct, provides that, where gross misconduct is found, the outcome must be dismissal without notice unless exceptional circumstances apply. The Regulations allow notices, for instance in relation to officer performance, to be served by email rather than post. Where an officer receives a notice about performance, the Regulations set a default period of 3 months within which that officer should demonstrate sufficient improvement in performance. Introduces a default period of three months where an officer is served with a written improvement notice.

Read.

16. 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) SIX Members to the Policy and Resources Committee.

	Votes
Deputy Emily Benn	60 ★
*Deputy Keith Bottomley	60 ★
Deputy Timothy Butcher	14
Karina Dostalova	28
Deputy Simon Duckworth	23
Susan Farrington	13
Deputy Marianne Fredericks	22
*Deputy Caroline Haines	39 ★
Josephine Hayes	12
*Deputy Christopher Hayward	72 ★
Amy Horscroft	26
Greg Lawrence	32
Deputy Nighat Qureishi	27
*Philip Woodhouse	52 ★
Mark Wheatley	38
Irem Yerdelen	38 ★

NB:- following the ballot, Mark Wheatley and Irem Yerdelen received an equality of votes for the final vacancy. Mark Wheatley consequently sought the leave of the Court to withdraw his nomination, which was granted in accordance with the urgency procedures set out in Standing

Order 19. Irem Yerdelen is therefore appointed to the Policy and Resources Committee accordingly.

(B) FOUR Members to the **Investment Committee**

	Votes
#^Shahnan Bakth	49 ★
#Deputy Timothy Butcher	25
*Simon Duckworth OBE	35
Alderman Alison Gowman CBE	50 ★
Alderman Prem Goyal OBE	64 ★
#^Deputy Madush Gupta	43
#Stephen Hodgson	30
^Deputy Henry Pollard	53 ★

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

	Votes
^ Melissa Collett	60 ★
*Deputy Helen Fentimen OBE JP	66 ★
Deputy Benjamin Murphy	63 ★
Sushil Saluja	37
James Tumbridge	39

(D) FIVE Members to the **Board of Governors Guildhall School of Music and Drama**

	Votes
*Emily Benn	82 ★
*John Foley	75 ★
#Sandra Jenner	47
#Tessa Marchington	67 ★
*Suzanne Ornsby KC	67 ★
#Naresh Sonpar	60 ★

(E) FOUR Members to the **Education Board**

	Votes
Deputy Anne Corbett	66 ★
*Deputy Caroline Haines	74 ★
*Alderman Robert Howard	72 ★
Timothy McNally	37
*Naresh Sonpar	66 ★

(F) TWO Members to the **Gresham Committee (City Side)**

	Votes
#Jason Groves	36
Shravan Joshi MBE	37 ★
#Timothy McNally	17
#Fraser Peck	14
*Deputy Nighat Qureishi	59 ★
#Sushil Saluja	22

(G) SEVEN Members to the **Corporate Services Committee**

	Votes
Simon Burrows	52 ★
Lesley Cole	30
^Steve Goodman OBE	81 ★
*Deputy Christopher Hayward	72 ★
Stephen Hodgson	49 ★
Adam Hogg	36
Sandra Jenner	50 ★
*Timothy McNally	46
David Sales	49 ★
*James Tumbridge	62 ★

(H) THREE Members to the **Barbican Centre Board**

	Votes
Aaron D'Souza	56 ★
Karina Dostalova	54
*Alderman Sir William Russell	76 ★
*Irem Yerdelen	68 ★

(I) FIVE Members to the **City Bridge Foundation Board**

	Votes
*Deputy Henry Colthurst	93 ★
*Simon Duckworth OBE	63 ★
Deputy Henry Pollard	73 ★
Ruby Sayed	46
*Dr Giles Shilson	62 ★
*Deputy James Thomson CBE	88 ★

(J) THREE Members to the **Livery Committee**

	Votes
Nicholas Bensted-Smith JP	31
*Deputy Keith Bottomley	52 ★
Deputy Madush Gupta	24
Timothy McNally	13
Deputy Henry Pollard	57 ★
Fraser Peck	15
David Sales	26
*Irem Yerdelen	43 ★

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

	Votes
Samapti Bagchi	39
Deputy Anne Corbett	66 ★

Dawn Frampton	64 ★
Steve Goodman OBE	70 ★
Adam Hogg	38
Jason Pritchard	62 ★

(L) TWO Members to the **Culture Heritage and Libraries Committee**

	Votes
Matthew Bell	48
John Foley	69 ★
Sophia Mooney	66 ★

17. Resolutions There were no resolutions.

18. Hospital Seal There were no docquets to be sealed.

19. Awards There was no report.

20. Exclusion of the public. *Resolved* – That the public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business below on the grounds that they either involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraph 3 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act, 1972; 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; or relate to matters treated in confidence at the request of His Majesty's Government.

Pollard, J.H.G., Deputy;
Colthurst, H.N.A., Deputy

Summary of items considered whilst the public were excluded:-

21. Non-public minutes **(A) 9 January 2025**
Resolved – That the non-public minutes of the Court held on 9 January 2025 are correctly recorded.

(B) 25 April 2025
Resolved – That the non-public minutes of the last Court held on 25 April 2025 are correctly recorded.

22. **AUDIT AND RISK MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE**
The Court considered a report of the Audit and Risk Management Committee seeking approval of a Risk Appetite Statement, including review period.

23. **CIVIC AFFAIRS SUB-COMMITTEE**
The Court considered a report of the Civic Affairs Sub-Committee relating to the provision of hospitality.

24. **INVESTMENT COMMITTEE**
The Court received a report of Urgent Action Taken relating to a City Fund investment property freehold disposal.

The meeting commenced at 1.00pm and ended at 2.15pm

THOMAS.