



## **COURT OF COMMON COUNCIL – 26<sup>th</sup> June 2025**

### **QUESTIONS SUMMARY**

1. **Alderman Robert Hughes-Penney to ask a question of the Chair of the Investment Committee concerning Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) investment:-**

*“The investment world has changed materially over the last two or three years in the way it is considering and applying the ESG agenda. In particular there are questions about the economic cost of the green and net zero priorities and how these are causing a drag on economic growth. In addition, as this is Armed Forces Week there is the question whether defence stocks should continue to be excluded as part of ESG filters in the light of increasing geo-political tensions. Please can the Chair update the Court on the ESG policies as they relate to aerospace and defence stocks that the Investment Committee has put in place for the asset managers responsible for running the Corporations assets and investment portfolios.”*

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2. **Tim McNally to ask a question of the Chairman of the Culture, Heritage and Libraries Committee concerning Blue Plaques:-**

*“When enquiring about having a blue plaque put on the site of the former Fletchers’ Hall in St Mary Axe I was told that “I regret to inform you that the scheme is currently paused and not accepting new applications as we await a future review of the scheme’s resources, funding, and criteria. The timescales for this review have yet to be established.”. Can the Chairman please let me know when this important way of visually recording the history of the City of London will be resumed?”*

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3. **Deputy Madush Gupta to ask a question of the Chairman of the Policy and Resources Committee concerning 5G and Digital Infrastructure:-**

*“In the Square Mile mobile networks over promise and under deliver. Recent independent tests show that nearly 40% of the time, when a phone claims to be on 5G, it’s actually running on 4G. This digital mirage is misleading and commercially damaging. High-speed, always-available connectivity is the critical in the City. Global markets, fintech innovation, trading floors — all depend on fast, reliable data. Yet, too often, residents, workers and visitors find themselves without any service, let alone service sufficient to conduct business-critical functions.*

*We are paying for premium services without performance. As a matter of urgency, will you hold mobile network operators to account to deliver the connectivity that the world’s leading financial district expects and deserves? I am happy to assist by using real world*

*data to challenge Telco's that they are dishonest to us by putting 5G on the phone display when they provide 4G or worse."*

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**4. John Foley to ask a question of the Chairman of the Policy and Resources Committee concerning celebrations for VJ Day.**

*"On May 8th last month the City celebrated the 80th anniversary of VE Day. The date marks the end in 1945 of the Second World War in Europe.*

*However, the war was far from over. It continued in the Pacific and South East Asia for more than three months. The end of that war – the official end of the Second World War – is commemorated annually on August the 15th as VJ Day. VJ Day is also a reminder of the several hundred thousand British, Commonwealth and Allied Forces personnel still at war in the Far East who, somewhat out of the spotlight in Britain, became known as The Forgotten Army.*

*Does the Corporation have any plans to mark this 80th anniversary, either here in the City or with representation at a national ceremony, or perhaps with a contribution to a relevant charity?"*

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**5. Munsur Ali to ask a question of the Chairman of the Policy and Resources Committee concerning conflict in the Middle East:-**

*"Does the CPR agree we risk being complicit as an organisation by being silent when we have been so vocal during Ukraine and Russia conflict, provided funds for Ukraine, raised flags, held vigils in the City and more, as well as holding a one minute silences immediately after October 7th, therefore being inconsistent, damaging the reputation and real democratic independence, of this historic organisation to speak out boldly?*

*And will he be bold enough to lead this organisation in finally speaking out and to condemn without diluting, by specifically acknowledging the killings of Palestinians, including their children, the destruction of their homes, hospitals and places of worship?"*