

City of London Corporation Committee Report

Committee(s): Streets & Walkways Sub-Committee (For decision) Planning & Transportation Committee (For information)	Dated: 16/09/2025 21/10/2025
Subject: Legible London S106 funds	Public report: For Decision
This proposal: Delivers Corporate Plan 2024-29 outcomes	Diverse Engaged Communities Leading Sustainable Environment Vibrant Thriving Destination Flourishing Public Spaces
Does this proposal require extra revenue and/or capital spending?	Yes
If so, how much?	£245,000
What is the source of Funding?	Section 106 (Legible London)
Has this Funding Source been agreed with the Chamberlain's Department?	Yes
Report of: Executive Director Environment	
Report author: Samantha Tharme, City Operations	

Summary

The City of London is in the process of updating its existing Legible London wayfinding signage. This report seeks approval to allocate the ring-fenced S106 funds secured for this purpose to make these updates. The updates will include the installation of step-free diversion signage at City-managed public lifts.

Recommendation(s)

Members are asked to:

- Approve the allocation of £245,000 in S106 Legible London deposits to a project to update the City Corporation's Legible London signage.
- Note that the City Corporation will be entering into a contract with Trueform, the supplier of Legible London signage, via a call-off process under the Transport for London framework agreement.

Main Report

Background

1. The Legible London programme is a London-wide wayfinding programme managed by TfL which aims to provide a consistent wayfinding style and approach across Greater London. TfL coordinates the wider programme, including updates to the Legible London basemap.
2. The signs are City Corporation assets and it is the responsibility of the City Corporation to maintain and update them. The City Corporation owns and manages 319 Legible London signs, including 222 map-based signs and 97 directional only signs.
3. The City Corporation collects S106 contributions specifically for updates to its Legible London signage system, including for new signage where required.

Current Position

4. Most of the signs were first installed in phases between May 2019 and January 2021, with two more added in October 2022 by the new entrance at Bank station.
5. Almost all have not been updated since they were installed. Most of the signs are now between 4 and 6 years old. TfL recommend that the signs are updated at least every 5 years.
6. There have been around 100 individual changes to the Legible London basemap since the maps were first installed, including to building or business names, street layouts, and public toilet labels.
7. The City Corporation also manages multiple public lifts in the City of London, which currently do not have any step-free diversion signage in the event of a lift fault.
8. The City Corporation currently holds £245,000 in ringfenced S106 Legible London funding. This funding is collected specifically for installing and updating signage and legally cannot be used for other uses.
9. TfL holds £255,000 of funds for sign updates within the Square Mile which was approved and deposited with them when the signs were first installed.
10. Trueform Engineering Ltd have been appointed as the sole supplier on the Transport for London framework for the installation of and updates to Legible London signage, following a competitive procurement process. The framework is in place for the period from 1 August 2024 to 31 July 2026, with the option to extend by up to two years.

Proposal

11. Signage showing step-free diversions to be used in the event of a lift fault will be created as part of the Legible London programme and installed at City Corporation managed public lifts.

12. The expected total cost for updating the Legible London map signs and installing diversion signage at City-managed public lifts is £500,000. This includes costs for map artwork, signage materials and installation.
13. The deferred income (£255,000) held by TfL will be paid directly to the cartography and signage suppliers and will not be transferred back to the City Corporation. These funds will be used first, followed by the S106 funds when the deferred income has been spent.
14. To facilitate the required updates to Legible London signage, the City Corporation will enter into a contract with Trueform through a call-off arrangement under the existing Transport for London framework.
15. Should the committee approve the allocation as requested, we will initiate a project through the usual projects procedure which allows further approvals to be taken under delegation.

Corporate & Strategic Implications

16. Strategic implications – The allocation of S106 Legible London funds as described in this report supports the outcomes of the Corporate Plan, particularly Vibrant Thriving Destination, Flourishing Public Spaces and Leading Sustainable Environment. This project also supports the Transport Strategy and Destination City. This project complements the Destination City programme by ensuring key new visitor attractions such as viewing galleries and public spaces are highlighted, enabling people to navigate the City easily using new routes and changed street layouts, and ensuring the locations of community facilities like public toilets are up to date. The Legible London wayfinding system is a London-wide programme so has some limits on what local elements can be included, but we are liaising with the Destination City team on other wayfinding opportunities to further support the Destination City programme.
17. Financial implications – This project will use the full extent of the Legible London S106 funds currently held by the City of London. We will continue to collect Legible London S106 funds as developments go through the planning system and aim to increase the consistency with which we collect these funds to ensure we have sufficient to cover future updates.
18. Resource implications – Delivery of the updates project will require officer time, but most of the work will be delivered by TfL and their contracted artwork provider and signage manufacturers.
19. Legal implications – The S106 payments made and held for updating or improving Legible London signage will be spent on those purposes for which they are held in accordance with the City's obligations under the relevant S106 Agreements.
20. Risk implications – There are no risk implications arising from this report.
21. Equalities implications – There are no equalities implications arising from this report.

22. Climate implications – The signs are designed such that to update the maps only one part of the totems need to be replaced, rather than the entire totem, reducing the embedded carbon associated with these map updates. Having an up-to-date wayfinding system will also make it easier for individuals to choose to walk or wheel more journeys around the City.
23. Security implications – There are no security implications arising from this report.

Conclusion

24. The City's Legible London signage requires updating. It is proposed to allocate the £245,000 of ring-fenced Legible London update funds collected via S106 agreements to deliver these required updates including costs for artwork, materials and installation.
25. Subject to approval of the funding, the next steps will be to initiate a project to deliver the updates, and further approvals will be under delegated authority. The City Corporation will also enter into a call-off contract with Trueform, TfL's supplier of Legible London signage.

Appendices

None

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