



PARMLEY, LOCUM TENENS

COURT OF COMMON COUNCIL

11th September 2025
MEMBERS PRESENT

ALDERMEN

Alexander Robertson Martin Barr (Alderman)	Robert Charles Hughes-Penney (Alderman)	Christopher Makin (Alderman)
Sir Charles Edward Beck Bowman (Alderman)	Gregory Jones KC (Alderman & Sheriff)	Bronek Masojada (Alderman)
Professor Emma Edhem (Alderman)	Vincent Keaveny CBE (Alderman)	Jennette Rachel Newman (Alderwoman)
Alison Gowman CBE (Alderman)	Elizabeth Anne King, BEM JP (Alderwoman)	Sir Andrew Charles Parmley, (Alderman)
Prem Goyal CBE (Alderman)	Tim Levene (Alderman)	Kawsar Zaman (Alderman)
Martha Grekos (Alderwoman)	Sir Nicholas Stephen Leland Lyons (Alderman)	
Timothy Russell Hailes (Alderman)	Professor Michael Raymond Mainelli (Alderman)	

COMMONERS

Joanna Tufuo Abeyie MBE	Henry Nicholas Almroth	Jaspreet Hodgson, Deputy	Chief Commoner James
George Christopher	Colthurst, Deputy	Adam Michael Hogg	Henry George Pollard,
Abrahams	Bethany Coombs, Deputy	Ann Holmes, Deputy	Deputy
Tana Adkin KC	Anne Corbett, Deputy	Amy Horscroft	Anett Rideg
Munsur Ali	Elizabeth Corrin	Shravan Jashvantrai Joshi,	Gaby Robertshaw
Samapti Bagchi	Karina Dostalova	MBE	Ruby Sayed
Shahnan Bakth	Simon Duckworth, OBE DL	Florence Keelson-Anfu	Tom Sleigh, Deputy
Jamel Banda	Peter Gerard Dunphy,	Philip Kelvin	Sir Michael Snyder, Deputy
Brendan Barns	Deputy	Helen Ladele	Naresh Hari Sonpar
Matthew Bell	John Ernest Edwards,	Charles Edward Lord, OBE	Stephanie Steeden
The Honourable Emily	Deputy	JP	Stuart Peter James
Sophia Wedgwood Benn,	Helen Lesley Fentimen OBE	Antony Geoffrey Manchester	Thompson
Deputy	JP, Deputy	Vasiliki Manta	James Michael Douglas
Christopher Paul Boden,	John William Fletcher,	Tessa Marchington	Thomson CBE, Deputy
Deputy	Deputy	Paul Nicholas Martinelli,	Tumbridge, James
Keith David Forbes	John Foley	Deputy	William Upton KC
Bottomley, Deputy	Dawn Frampton	Tim McNally	Matthew Waters
Leyla Boulton	Steve Goodman OBE	Andrien Gereith Dominic	Jacqueline Roberts Webster
Tijs Broeke	Jason Groves	Meyers, Deputy	Mark Raymond Peter Henry
Simon Burrows	Madush Gupta, Deputy	Sophia Mooney	Delano Wheatley
Timothy Richard Butcher,	Mercy Haggerty	Suzanne Ornsby KC	Ceri Wilkins, Deputy
Deputy	Caroline Wilma Haines,	Leyla Ostovar	Philip Woodhouse
Dominic Gerard Christian	Deputy	Fraser Stuart Peck	Dawn Linsey Wright, Deputy
Lesley Cole	Josephine Hayes		Irem Yerdelen
Melissa Rachel Collett	Christopher Michael		
	Hayward, Deputy		

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 public minutes and non-public summary of the Court meeting on 24 July 2025 are correctly recorded.
4. Mayoral Engagements In the Lord Mayor's absence, there was no Report.
5. Policy Statement The Chairman of the Policy & Resources Committee took the opportunity to make a statement, welcoming Members back after recess and paying tribute to those officers involved in responding to the wildfires across the Corporation's Open Spaces. He continued by noting the impact of the tube strikers on City workers, and the recent launch of the City Living Resident Card. He informed Members of his recent visit to India, and the launch of the new Investment Hub. The Chairman was looking forward to working with the Government's new City Minister, the new Minister of State for Investment, alongside the entire reshuffled Cabinet and would be promoting the Square Mile at the various party conferences over the next few weeks.
6. Appointments The Court proceeded to consider the following appointments.
- (A) **Castle Baynard Educational Foundation & Alderman Samuel Wilson Fund** (three vacancies for three-year terms expiring in May 2028).
Nomination(s) received:-
Ruby Sayed
- Read.
- Whereupon the Lord Mayor declared Ruby Sayed to be appointed to the Castle Baynard Educational Foundation & Alderman Samuel Wilson Fund.
- (B) **City Chapter and Percy Trentham Charity** (one vacancy for a five-year term expiring in April 2030)
Nomination(s) received:-
Ruby Sayed
- Read.
- Whereupon the Lord Mayor declared Ruby Sayed to be appointed to the City Chapter and Percy Trentham Charity.
- (C) **Mitchell City of London Charity and Educational Foundation** (two vacancies for five-year terms expiring in March 2030)
Nomination(s) received:-
Ruby Sayed
- Read.
- Whereupon the Lord Mayor declared Ruby Sayed to be appointed to the Mitchell City of London Charity and Educational Foundation.

7. CITY OF LONDON POLICE AUTHORITY BOARD

(Tijs Broeke)

12 August 2025

Appointment of an Independent External Member to the City of London Police Authority Board.

The Court considered a Report concerning the re-appointment of an external member, namely, Sir Craig Mackey, to the City of London Police Authority Board for a four-year term commencing 11 September 2025.

Resolved- that the Court: Approve the re-appointment of Sir Craig Mackey to the City of London Police Authority Board for a four-year term, commencing on 11 September 2025.

8. 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:

Alisa Ansari-Nezhad <i>Simon Phillip Bannister</i> <i>John Edward Slater</i>	a Student <i>Citizen and Blacksmith</i> <i>Citizen and Blacksmith</i>	Elmbridge, Surrey
Nigel David Bacon <i>Ald. Prem Babu Goyal, CBE</i> <i>Ald. Michael Raymond Mainelli</i>	a Chamber of Commerce Chief Executive <i>Citizen and Goldsmith</i> <i>Citizen and World Trader</i>	Essex
Matthew Thomas Baird <i>Gwenllian Mari Rhys</i> <i>Jonathan Martin Averbs</i>	a Political Adviser <i>Citizen and Glass Seller</i> <i>Citizen and Fletcher</i>	Croydon, London
Colin Clive Baldwin <i>Roy Phillips</i> <i>Robert James Phillips, VR</i>	a Pilot <i>Citizen and Musician</i> <i>Citizen and Skinner</i>	Haslemere, Surrey
Carl Wilhelm Magnus Bergholtz <i>Sophia Abigail Mooney, CC</i> <i>Ald. Alastair John Naisbitt King, DL</i>	a Banker <i>Citizen</i> <i>Citizen and Blacksmith</i>	Wandsworth, London
Stephen William Bolton <i>Russell David Pridgeon</i> <i>Revd. Christopher John Damp</i>	an Operations Director, retired <i>Citizen and Scientific Instrument Maker</i> <i>Citizen and Stationer & Newspaper Maker</i>	Warrington, Cheshire
Atticus Branch <i>Colin Trevor Gurnett</i> <i>John Charles Jordan</i>	an E-Commerce Executive <i>Citizen and Wheelwright</i> <i>Citizen and Glover</i>	Hackney, London

Thomas James Broad <i>Ald. Prem Babu Goyal, CBE</i> <i>Samapti Bagchi, CC</i>	an Accountant <i>Citizen and Goldsmith</i> <i>Citizen</i>	Brentwood, Essex
Franklin Roy Bruno, MBE <i>The Rt. Hon The Lord Mayor</i> <i>Ald. Robert Picton Seymour</i> <i>Howard</i>	a Boxer, retired <i>Citizen and Blacksmith</i> <i>Citizen and Gardener</i>	Essex
Colin John Burke <i>John Piers Williamson</i> <i>Ian Rex Peacock</i>	a Financial Services Company Director <i>Citizen and Currier</i> <i>Citizen and International Banker</i>	Wimbledon, London
Emmanuelle Eva Yolaine Bury <i>Ald. Prem Babu Goyal, CBE</i> <i>Christopher Michael</i> <i>Hayward, Deputy</i>	a Banker <i>Citizen and Goldsmith</i> <i>Citizen and Pattenmaker</i>	Kensington & Chelsea, London
Beauman Sing Tat Chong <i>Andrew Stratton</i> <i>McMurtrie, JP</i> <i>The Honourable Mrs</i> <i>Virginia Lovell</i>	an Information Technology Company Director, retired <i>Citizen and Salter</i> <i>Citizen and Barber</i>	Winchester, Hampshire
Hugh Alexander Christie <i>Robert Maurice Andrews</i> <i>Simon John McMenemy,</i> <i>VR</i>	a Barrister & Solicitor <i>Citizen and Gold & Silver Wyre</i> <i>Drawer</i> <i>Citizen and Fletcher</i>	Toronto, Ontario, Canada
Ruth Elizabeth Clapton <i>Timothy James McNally,</i> <i>CC</i> <i>David James Sales, CC</i>	a Solicitor <i>Citizen and Glazier</i> <i>Citizen and Insurer</i>	Bromley, London
Ernest Michael Cleave <i>Robert Maurice Andrews</i> <i>Jeffrey Richard Lewis</i>	a Mining Company Chief Executive <i>Citizen and Gold & Silver Wyre</i> <i>Drawer</i> <i>Citizen and International Banker</i>	Oakville, Ontario, Canada
Dr Harry Tenumu Conway <i>Adewale Oladele-Ajose</i> <i>Oluwatosin Ajose</i>	a Diplomat <i>Citizen and Poulter</i> <i>Citizen and Poulter</i>	Milton Keynes, Buckinghamshire
Sarah Nicola Cosby <i>Stephen David Willis</i> <i>Dr Millan Sachania</i>	a Governance Manager <i>Citizen and Musician</i> <i>Citizen and Musician</i>	Haringey, London
Dr Rohit Kumar Dasgupta <i>Munsur Ali, CC</i>	a Professor of Economics & Local Councillor <i>Citizen and World Trader</i>	Newham, London

<i>Jason Pritchard, CC</i>	<i>Citizen</i>	
Geoffrey Richard Day <i>Roy Phillips</i> <i>Robert James Phillips, VR</i>	a Pilot, retired <i>Citizen and Musician</i> <i>Citizen and Skinner</i>	Boston, Lincolnshire
Melissia Dyan Dembrosky <i>Ald. Timothy Russell Hailes, JP</i> <i>Madush Gupta, Deputy</i>	a Banking Executive <i>Citizen and Pewterer</i> <i>Citizen and Pewterer</i>	Billericay, Essex
Unmesh Desai <i>Munsur Ali, CC</i> <i>Jason Pritchard, CC</i>	a Local Government Councillor <i>Citizen and World Trader</i> <i>Citizen</i>	Newham, London
Kate Antonia Donovan <i>James Michael Douglas Thomson, CBE, Deputy</i> <i>Robert Anthony Atkin, MBE</i>	a Cost Management Director <i>Citizen and Grocer</i> <i>Citizen and Security Professional</i>	Oxfordshire
Daniel John Drogman <i>James Richard Tumbridge, CC</i> <i>Jason Scott Groves, CC</i>	a Software Company Chief Executive <i>Citizen and Clothworker</i> <i>Citizen and Communicator</i>	Loughton, Essex
Thomas William Drogman <i>James Richard Tumbridge, CC</i> <i>Jason Scott Groves, CC</i>	a Software Company Director <i>Citizen and Clothworker</i> <i>Citizen and Communicator</i>	Islington, London
Conor John Farrelly <i>Ald. Timothy Russell Hailes, JP</i> <i>Madush Gupta, Deputy</i>	a Business Consultant <i>Citizen and Pewterer</i> <i>Citizen and Pewterer</i>	Dublin, Ireland
Elizabeth Roman Fullerton Rome <i>James St John Davis, CC</i> <i>Oliver Matthew St John Davis</i>	an Independent Non-Executive Director <i>Citizen and Gardener</i> <i>Citizen and Woolman</i>	Wandsworth, London
Michelle Louise Grasty <i>Jamel Banda, CC</i> <i>Nicholas Julian Goddard</i>	a School Administrator <i>Citizen and Poulter</i> <i>Citizen and Barber</i>	Epsom, Surrey
Alison Michelle Griffin <i>Ald. Prem Babu Goyal, CBE</i> <i>Christopher Michael Hayward, Deputy</i>	Chief Executive of London Councils <i>Citizen and Goldsmith</i> <i>Citizen and Pattenmaker</i>	Greenwich, London

Daniel Joel Harris	a Technology Risk Consultant	Peterborough, Cambridgeshire
<i>Naresh Hari Sonpar, CC</i>	<i>Citizen</i>	
<i>Timothy James McNally, CC</i>	<i>Citizen and Glazier</i>	
The Rt Hon Sir John Henry Hayes, CBE	a Member of Parliament	Spalding, Lincolnshire
<i>The Rt. Hon. Sir Robert George Alexander Balchin</i>	<i>Citizen and Goldsmith</i>	
<i>Nigel Anthony Chimmo Branson, JP</i>	<i>Citizen and Haberdasher</i>	
Garry Ronald Hilditch	a Creative Director	Loughton, Essex
<i>Terry Kenneth Morris</i>	<i>Citizen and Pewterer</i>	
<i>Anthony Norman Taylor</i>	<i>Citizen and Fletcher</i>	
Brian David Hunt	an Underwriting Manager	Teddington, Middlesex
<i>Donald Howard Coombe, MBE</i>	<i>Citizen and Poulter</i>	
<i>Martin Bernard Robinson</i>	<i>Citizen and Poulter</i>	
Zinzan Douglas Ralph Hunter	a Research Analyst	Hammersmith & Fulham, London
<i>The Rt. Hon The Lord Mayor</i>	<i>Citizen and Blacksmith</i>	
<i>Sophia Abigail Mooney, CC</i>	<i>Citizen</i>	
William Michael Jackson	a Minister of Religion	Hounslow, London
<i>David William Henderson-Begg</i>	<i>Citizen and Tin Plate Worker Alias Wire Worker</i>	
<i>Revd William Jeremy Hugh Crossley</i>	<i>Citizen and Glover</i>	
Mohammed Athair Khan	a Chamber of Commerce Director	Newcastle upon Tyne, Tyne and Wear
<i>Shahnan Bakth, CC</i>	<i>Citizen and Draper</i>	
<i>Ald. Prem Babu Goyal, CBE</i>	<i>Citizen and Goldsmith</i>	
Oli Khan, MBE	an Entrepreneur & Restaurateur	Luton, Bedfordshire
<i>Ann-Marie Jefferys</i>	<i>Citizen and Glover</i>	
<i>Anne Elizabeth Holden</i>	<i>Citizen and Basketmaker</i>	
Margaret King, MBE JP	a Fashion Brand Company Director	Wandsworth, London
<i>Susan Liv Keane, JP</i>	<i>Citizen and Glazier</i>	
<i>Dr Iain Reid</i>	<i>Citizen and Ironmonger</i>	
Adam Luke, JP	a Magistrate & Civil Servant	Lambeth, London
<i>Naresh Hari Sonpar, CC</i>	<i>Citizen</i>	
<i>Timothy James McNally, CC</i>	<i>Citizen and Glazier</i>	

John Swan Lauder Machray <i>John Alexander Smail</i> <i>Stephen James Osborne</i>	an Environmental Manager, retired <i>Citizen and Distiller</i> <i>Citizen and Chartered Secretary & Administrator</i>	Maidenhead, Berkshire
Mohamed Saif Ullah Malik <i>Shahnan Bakth, CC</i> <i>Ald. Sir Peter Kenneth Estlin</i>	a Bank Chief Executive <i>Citizen and Draper</i> <i>Citizen and International Banker</i>	Kensington & Chelsea, London
Felix Nicholas May <i>Ald. Timothy Russell Hailes, JP</i> <i>Madush Gupta, Deputy</i>	a Student <i>Citizen and Pewterer</i> <i>Citizen and Pewterer</i>	Lambeth, London
John Denis McGowan <i>Ald. Vincent Thomas Keaveny, CBE</i> <i>Amanda Josephine Keaveny</i>	a Property Development Company Director <i>Citizen and Solicitor</i> <i>Citizen and Fletcher</i>	Hertfordshire
Martina Elizabeth McKenzie, MBE <i>Ald. Prem Babu Goyal, CBE</i> <i>Aaron Anthony Jose Hasan D'Souza, CC</i>	a Business Federation Director <i>Citizen and Goldsmith</i> <i>Citizen</i>	County Antrim, Northern Ireland
Martin Gerard McTague, OBE <i>Ald. Prem Babu Goyal, CBE</i> <i>Aaron Anthony Jose Hasan D'Souza, CC</i>	a Business Federation Chair <i>Citizen and Goldsmith</i> <i>Citizen</i>	County Durham
Luke Andrew Middleton <i>Ald. Timothy Russell Hailes, JP</i> <i>Madush Gupta, Deputy</i>	a Localisation Consultancy Chief Executive <i>Citizen and Pewterer</i> <i>Citizen and Pewterer</i>	Dublin, Ireland
Amanda Susan Mond <i>Brendan Anthony Michael Barns, CC</i> <i>James Michael Douglas Thomson, CBE, Deputy</i>	an Investment Analyst <i>Citizen and Cordwainer</i> <i>Citizen and Grocer</i>	Westminster, London
Kevin Robert Mulcahy <i>Randall Keith Anderson</i> <i>Henry Nicholas Almroth Colthurst, Deputy</i>	an I.T. Assistant Director <i>Citizen and Information Technologist</i> <i>Citizen and Grocer</i>	Billericay, Essex
Jeremy Mullins <i>Ald. Prem Babu Goyal, CBE</i> <i>Ald. Elizabeth Anne King, BEM, JP</i>	an Audit Manager, retired <i>Citizen and Goldsmith</i> <i>Citizen</i>	Hornchurch, Essex

Michael Thomas Penny <i>Christopher James Caine</i> <i>Clive Anthony Hawkins</i>	a Solicitor, retired <i>Citizen and Maker of Playing Cards</i> <i>Citizen and Glover</i>	Torquay, Devon
Dr Felipe Eduardo Portela De Paulo <i>Matthew David Dupee</i> <i>Steven John Turner</i>	a Lawyer <i>Citizen and Maker of Playing Cards</i> <i>Citizen and Arts Scholar</i>	Botafogo, Rio De Janeiro, Brazil
Annie Renee Quaradeghini <i>David Charles Johnson</i> <i>Lin Wong</i>	a Property Management Company Director, retired <i>Citizen and Management Consultant</i> <i>Citizen and Management Consultant</i>	Westminster, London
Professor Muttukrishnan Rajarajan <i>Madush Gupta, Deputy</i> <i>Ald. Timothy Russell Hailes, JP</i>	a Professor of Security Engineering <i>Citizen and Pewterer</i> <i>Citizen and Pewterer</i>	Watford, Hertfordshire
Dr Nesrine Ramadan <i>Ald. Michael Raymond Mainelli</i> <i>David Anthony Bickmore</i>	a Neuroscientist & Entrepreneur <i>Citizen and World Trader</i> <i>Citizen and Wax Chandler</i>	Thiais, France
Maria Inmaculada Rios Ternerero <i>John Alexander Smail</i> <i>Anne Elizabeth Holden</i>	a Solicitor <i>Citizen and Distiller</i> <i>Citizen and Basketmaker</i>	Lewisham, London
Bevan Wynn Roberts <i>Wg Cdr Edna Felicity Partridge</i> <i>Sandra Diane Cahill, DL</i>	a Horticulture Business Owner <i>Citizen and Founder</i> <i>Citizen and Glover</i>	Caterham, Surrey
Captain Earl Patrick Shea, KC <i>Robert Maurice Andrews</i> <i>Jeffrey Richard Lewis</i>	a Barrister & Solicitor <i>Citizen and Gold & Silver Wyre Drawer</i> <i>Citizen and International Banker</i>	Toronto, Ontario, Canada
Zilah Ruth Skerritt <i>Wendy Mead, OBE, CC</i> <i>Paul Nicholas Martinelli, Deputy</i>	a Cable Manufacturing Company General Manager <i>Citizen and Glover</i> <i>Citizen and Butcher</i>	Woodford, Essex
Rory Neil Slater <i>David Alastair Morgan-Hewitt</i> <i>Philippe Roland Rossiter</i>	a Hotelier <i>Citizen and Innholder</i> <i>Citizen and Innholder</i>	Sevenoaks, Kent
Tatjana Slykova <i>Simon Phillip Bannister</i> <i>John Edward Slater</i>	a Media Consultancy Chief Financial Officer <i>Citizen and Blacksmith</i> <i>Citizen and Blacksmith</i>	Elmbridge, Surrey

Gavin Renwick Starks <i>Madush Gupta, Deputy</i> <i>Ald. Timothy Russell Hailes, JP</i>	a Data Infrastructure Company Chief Executive <i>Citizen and Pewterer</i> <i>Citizen and Pewterer</i>	Tower Hamlets, London
Charlie George Stock <i>Jonathan Charles Mead</i> <i>Barry John Frederick</i> <i>Theobald-Hicks of Danbury</i>	a Scaffolder <i>Citizen and Horner</i> <i>Citizen and Scrivener</i>	Gravesend, Kent
Holly Jean Stock <i>Jonathan Charles Mead</i> <i>Barry John Frederick</i> <i>Theobald-Hicks of Danbury</i>	an Accounts Assistance <i>Citizen and Horner</i> <i>Citizen and Scrivener</i>	Gravesend, Kent
Tracy Kathryn Stones <i>Lyn Litchfield</i> <i>Ann-Marie Jefferys</i>	a Wrist Wearables Company Director <i>Citizen and Coachmaker & Coach</i> <i>Harness Maker</i> <i>Citizen and Glover</i>	Leeds, West Yorkshire
Despina Tsatsas <i>Ald. Sir William Anthony</i> <i>Bowater Russell</i> <i>Tijs Broeke, CC</i>	a Theatre Producer <i>Citizen and Haberdasher</i> <i>Citizen and Goldsmith</i>	Islington, London
Asad Uddin <i>Ald. Kawsar Zaman</i> <i>Ald. Prem Babu Goyal, CBE</i>	a Charity Chief Executive <i>Citizen</i> <i>Citizen and Goldsmith</i>	Newham, London
Md Ahsanul Wadud <i>Ald. Kawsar Zaman</i> <i>Ald. Prem Babu Goyal, CBE</i>	a Legal Consultant <i>Citizen</i> <i>Citizen and Goldsmith</i>	Havering, London
Jason Keith Iestyn Walker <i>Alan Keith Iestyn Walker</i> <i>John Donington Campbell, OBE, MA</i>	a Wealth Manager <i>Citizen and Painter-Stainer</i> <i>Citizen and Tallow Chandler</i>	Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, United States of America
Nicholas Edward Walker <i>Simon Victor Langton</i> <i>Paul Stephen Hollebone</i>	a Police Officer, retired <i>Citizen and Basketmaker</i> <i>Citizen and Chartered Accountant</i>	Surrey
Darren Oliver Walsh <i>David Alastair Morgan-Hewitt</i> <i>Philippe Roland Rossiter</i>	a Hotel Group Manager <i>Citizen and Innholder</i> <i>Citizen and Innholder</i>	Glossop, Derbyshire
Marc James Whitley <i>Wendy Mead, OBE, CC</i> <i>Mark Anthony Grove</i>	a College Lecturer <i>Citizen and Glover</i> <i>Citizen and Cook</i>	Westminster, London
Joshua Shawn Wilberger	a Civil Servant	Fredericksburg, Virginia, United States of America

Jeffrey Richard Lewis *Citizen and International Banker*
Brady Daine Brim-Deforest *Citizen and Fletcher*
of Balvaird Castle

Raymond Andrew Winstone an Actor Essex
The Rt. Hon The Lord Mayor *Citizen and Blacksmith*
Ald. Sir William Anthony *Citizen and Haberdasher*
Bowater Russell

Mark Steven Lozarito Wolfisz an Actuarial Consultant Tower Hamlets, London
Madush Gupta, Deputy *Citizen and Pewterer*
Ald. Timothy Russell Hailes, *Citizen and Pewterer*
JP

Gary Nolan Woods a Telecommunications Planner, retired Stevenage, Hertfordshire
John Alexander Smail *Citizen and Distiller*
Stephen James Osborne *Citizen and Chartered Secretary & Administrator*

Teresa Margaret Wren a Pensions Administrator, retired Ilford, Essex
Wendy Mead, OBE, CC *Citizen and Glover*
Patricia Agnes Campfield, *Citizen and Wheelwright*
MBE

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.

9. Motion
Wheatley, M.
R.P. H. D.
Lord, C.E., OBE,
JP

By Mark Raymond Peter Henry Delano Wheatley

Motion –

1. “That This Honourable Court notes that:-

- a. The City of London Corporation has a unique and complex role in the provision, management, and oversight of housing within and beyond the Square Mile. We own and manage several housing estates both within and outside the City boundaries, and it engages with residents, stakeholders, and external agencies on a wide range of housing-related issues, including affordability, quality, and safety.
- b. At present, these functions are divided between a number of our various Committees and Sub-Committees.
- c. In light of the evolving nature of housing policy, the growing strategic importance of housing in the Corporation’s service delivery and reputation, and in recognition of feedback from residents and Members alike, there is

increasing interest in reviewing whether a dedicated Housing Committee of the Court of Common Council should be established.

- d. Such a committee could provide more focused oversight, strategic leadership, and accountability for the Corporation's housing responsibilities. However, given the implications of such a structural change, this Court affirms that a period of careful consideration, consultation, and evidence-gathering is essential.
2. Notwithstanding the provisions of Standing Order 26(1), which requires that any new Sub-Committee or Working Party shall be subject to the approval of the Policy & Resources Committee, and Standing Order 26(2) which sets out the process of appointment for Chairs and Deputy Chairs of Sub-Committees¹ this Honourable Court consequently agrees:
- a. To establish a task and finish Working Party to consider whether or not the Court of Common Council should create a dedicated Committee that would oversee the City Corporation's housing functions that are currently under the auspices of the Community & Children's Services Committee and Barbican Residential Committee.
 - b. That such a Working Party shall be composed of no more than twelve Members, to be elected by the full Common Council at the next formal meeting of the Court.
 - c. That no fewer than six Members of the Working Party, shall be residents within the City of London.
 - d. That the Chair and Deputy Chair of the Working Party be elected by the Working Party's membership, at its first meeting.
 - e. The Working Party shall be expected to:
 - i. Call upon internal and external experts to provide evidence or advice as required.
 - ii. Use existing resource or make resource bids (as required) via its parent committee to seek resident opinion to ensure that the voices of tenants, leaseholders, and other housing stakeholders are heard and considered diligently.
 - iii. Examine governance models in other local authorities or relevant bodies for comparative purposes
 - f. The Working Party shall report into the Policy & Resources Committee that will be required to make a recommendation back to the Court with its findings and recommendations within twelve months of first convening. The report should include:
 - i. An assessment of the current governance arrangements for all housing functions within scope.
 - ii. Analysis of the benefits and risks of creating a single dedicated Housing Committee.
 - iii. A summary of all stakeholder engagement.
 - iv. A recommendation on whether to proceed with the establishment of such a committee, and if so, proposals for its remit and structure."

In opening the debate, Mr Wheatley commented that, at its June meeting, the Court acknowledged its historic neglect of social housing. At its previous meeting, the Court had committed to explore all options to accelerate the renovation of the City's Housing Estates; Officers had been acting at pace and Members were appreciative of the resourcing efforts.

Supporters of this Motion believed that, without the correct governance structures the resourcing will be to no good end. The Court of Common Council adopted a Committee System but there was no single Committee for the entirety of its housing structure and provision.

Mr Wheatley reminded Members that Lord Lisvane's Governance Review in 2020 included the recommendation to establish a Housing Committee; that recommendation was considered over the following year, and it was decided to defer that decision to this civic year. Whilst the Movers of this Motion were not pre-judging that decision, they were recommending and seeking the Court's approval to create a structure and process through which the best possible decision can be taken. The Movers wished a number of Members to convene to go deep into these issues, supported by officers and expert guidance, which would include residents, and in a deliberative, consensual, and measured fashion consider the evidence before them.

Seconding the Motion, Charles Edward Lord emphasised the City Corporation's proud record of being the provider of municipal housing,; however, we have a situation with our housing stock that is lamentable as a result of neglect.

Charles Edward Lord believed that one of the reasons for this neglect was the governance arrangements for housing; they reminded Members that in 2002, the changes to the Community and Children's Services Committee were made in conjunction with the decision to merge the former Housing Department with Social Services and Education. When it came to the Department itself, putting social services with housing and education meant that the statutory Director, now the Executive Director for the Department must be a social worker, as a consequence of which the Corporation lost leadership at the executive level from someone who had a background in housing management. The Community and Children's Services Committee covered a number of local authority functions, as a consequence of which, it was felt that it could not provide a level of scrutiny and oversight that the housing stock required.

The Chairman of the Policy & Resources Committee informed the Court that he had spoken to Honourable Members over the past few weeks and it had been apparent that there was some appetite for the establishment of a Working Party to investigate the governance around the City Corporation's housing arrangements; equally, many colleagues had relayed concerns about timing and not diverting focus from ongoing efforts to fix the Estates. Therefore, the Chairman wished to Move an Amendment to the Motion which he hoped Mr Wheatley would support; the Amendment had two substantive parts; firstly, to alter membership of the Working Party, amending 2b and deleting 2c, and secondly, to specify when the Working Party would first meet, amending 2d. The Chairman had prepared this Amendment and provided it to the Town Clerk, who in turn, had circulated it to honourable Members of the Court for their consideration upon arrival this day.

The Chairman proposed that the Court amended the proposed Membership under point 2b to ensure input from the relevant Committees, that is to say, the Chair or Deputy Chair of the Community and Children's Services Committee, the Housing Management and Almshouses Sub-Committee, the Barbican Residential Committee, and the Policy & Resources Committee; those responsible for, and knowledgeable of, housing, and, in the case of Policy & Resources, governance, within their briefs.

The Chairman also proposed the deletion of 2c, which specifies a number of residential Members; the inclusion of those ex-officio Members will place some residential Members on to the Working Party, but substantively this relates to City residents only, and it was important to note that many of those living in our housing live outside of the City. He also felt it was important that the Court did not artificially narrow our engagement aspirations with those living in our housing by virtue of having a small number of residential Members on the Working Party, the City needed to be broad and inclusive in that engagement and listen to what all our residents think. The Chairman wanted to see a full consultation with residents as part of the Working Party's activities.

Regarding 2d, the Chairman was conscious of the organisation's limited resource, the Housing Team were busy working on the recently announced Social Housing Inspection and progressing long overdue repairs to our Estates, laying the groundwork for our transformative Housing Investment Programme. The Governance and Member Services Team was also at capacity. Therefore, the Chairman proposed that 2d was altered to amend the start date of the Working Party; this would allow for the organisation to properly identify and allocate the required resource from officers in both departments. The Chairman hoped that it was clear that this was not a delay tactic; He concluded by expressing his hopes that Members would concur that this Amendment would provide officers the time to organise resourcing arrangements for this Working Party, should the Court decide to support it.

Hayward, C.M.,
Deputy
Thomson, J. M.
D., CBE, Deputy

Amendment – That this Honourable Court agreed to delete paragraph 2c) and amend paragraphs 2b) and 2d), as follows:

“2b) That such a Working Party shall be composed of no more than twelve Members, comprising:

- eight Members to be elected by the full Common Council at the next formal meeting of the Court; and
- four ex-officio Members, namely the Chairmen (or nominated Deputy Chairmen) of the Community and Children's Services Committee, the Housing Management and Almshouses Sub-Committee, the Barbican Residential Committee, and the Policy & Resources Committee.”

“2d) That the Chair and Deputy Chair of the Working Party be elected by the Working Party's membership, at its first meeting which will be held no earlier than 1 March 2026 and no later than 31 March 2026.”

Deputy James Thomson seconded the Amendment, expressing his view that these changes ensured that the Working Party would have the right membership and was sufficiently resourced to explore all options for the best way forward for housing governance. He highlighted that the governance arrangements currently reflect the diverse nature of the City Corporation's housing, and, as the Chairman of Policy &

Resources had pointed out, it can be easy to forget that a large number of housing tenants live in boroughs around London and not in the Square Mile itself.

In February 2024, the Community and Children's Services Committee agreed that a comprehensive Review of governance arrangements should be undertaken in 2026. Deputy Thomson emphasised that a Review, guided by interested Members in the form of this Working Party, with the membership proposed by the Chairman of the Policy & Resources Committee, was the right approach. Whether this Working Party resolves that the current governance arrangements are the right ones or determines that something new was needed was for that Working Party to examine and bring back; the salient point was that it met its recommendations through deep and proper engagement with the Corporation's residents, both within the City and beyond, and it listened carefully to their views.

Ultimately, the City had to ensure that it was best positioned to deliver for residents across all our provision. An important step has been the appointment of a new officer team which was working at pace to improve conditions across the housing stock, together with Members on the various Committees dealing with housing who are also working very hard to deliver for those living in the housing that the City provides; the proposed extension of time is necessary for officer teams to progress this work, to focus on the Inspection that is currently in process, and to find the funding solution, all of which are moving at pace. With all this in mind, Deputy Thomson expressed his support for the Motion with the Amendments proposed by the Chairman of Policy and Resources which will create a more effective and efficient Working Party to carry out this Review. Furthermore, he acknowledged that Members would have different views on the outcomes of the Review but that was not for the Court to decide today; he hoped with that in mind that Members would support the Amended Motion.

During debate on the Amendment, Mr Wheatly remarked that he felt the Amendments improved the Motion; they addressed both composition and timing concerns that had been raised, so he was happy to take them and recommended that the Amended Motion be debated by the Court.

Broad support for the Amendment was expressed by a number of Members, but there were also concerns voiced over the timing. Some felt that, even with the delay, the Working Party would put unwelcome demands on already stretched officers, distracting them from delivering the necessary change.

There was a request that under 2d, that every effort be made to bring forward the dates of March 2026, if it became possible.

Reassurance was sought that that this initiative should take the opportunity to address all of the collective needs of all residents.

It was requested that if in due course a Housing Committee was established, that it was done so in a way that did not create a net increase in the number of Committees; this would also assist in terms of officer capacity.

The Chair of Community and Children's Services Committee, Deputy Helen Fentimen, stated that many Members were aware that there existed significantly different funding arrangements and priorities of our Estates; this was understood by the Barbican Residential Committee and the Community and Children's Services Committee between 18-24 months ago and at that time, in recognition of those differences, the management structures were separated so that the City Corporation could specifically focus on the issues pertinent to the Barbican Residential Estate

and those that were quite different for social housing estates. The City Corporation was undertaking a major and extensive workplan for social housing and the Barbican Residential Estate, in addition to dealing with the recently announced Housing Safety Regulation Inspection and as such, it was critical that officers were not taken off that important work and the best possible outcome was secured for our housing. However, the Amendments go some way to address these concerns, not least around timing; Members had already given their commitment to consider governance in 2026, and the change in timing proposed in the Amendment honoured this commitment. If the Court was minded to support a Review of Governance and agreed to the Amendments, she would feel much more willing to support the Motion.

Concern was expressed over the long suffering of residents as a result of the ongoing neglect to the housing provision.

It was commented that over 50% of the City's residential population did not live on the City's Housing Estates and that their needs should also not be underrepresented in any new committee regime.

Thanks were offered in response to the continued hard work and effort of officers within the Housing Team.

The Mover of the Amendment, the Chairman of the Policy & Resources Committee, rose to respond to the comments raised by honourable Members.

The Chairman stressed that for the City Corporation to retain credibility with its Resident Reset Policy, it was important that the organisation was seen to be transparent and that it honoured its commitment that were previously made to residents, so he hoped that the City was able to demonstrate to residents that it was not going to dictate to residents what form of governance housing would have without listening to them and the detailed deliberations of the Working Party.

The Chairman clarified that the revised timing had been calculated on the basis that; the Housing Inspection was not due to conclude until February 2026, and therefore March was the next logical date that should be targeted to allow for any potential overrun.

He agreed that the City Corporation should look at all views from across our housing estates on this matter and also that the Court should avoid encouraging any proliferation of new Committees.

The Chairman reiterated that a commitment had been made to come back to the Court at the beginning of 2026 and the Corporation had to honour that if it was to retain the confidence and trust of residents.

To conclude, the Chairman fully endorsed the tribute to those officers involved with these matters who had done an incredible job under huge pressure over the past few years.

As the Mover of the substantive Motion, Mr Wheatley concluded the debate by thanking colleagues for their contributions, he praised officers for all their hard work and expressed that he was happy to take the Amendment and hoped that it would be approved.

Upon the Amendment being put, the Lord Mayor declared it to be carried.

Resolved – That this Honourable Court agreed to delete paragraph 2c) and amend paragraphs 2b) and 2d) (to then become 2c), as follows:

“2b) That such a Working Party shall be composed of no more than twelve Members, comprising:

- eight Members to be elected by the full Common Council at the next formal meeting of the Court; and
- four ex-officio Members, namely the Chairmen (or nominated Deputy Chairmen) of the Community and Children's Services Committee, the Housing Management and Almshouses Sub-Committee, the Barbican Residential Committee, and the Policy & Resources Committee.”

“2d) That the Chair and Deputy Chair of the Working Party be elected by the Working Party's membership, at its first meeting which will be held no earlier than 1 March 2026 and no later than 31 March 2026.”

Turning to the substantive (amended) Motion, a concern was once again raised over the capacity of those officers involved with housing matters who were working incredibly hard and that any risk of distracting them from their principle task to focus instead on governance changes must be avoided.

If the Motion was passed and the Working Party began its deliberations, it was asked that it took into account that the voice of Social Housing tenants who were often amongst the most vulnerable in society, was protected.

It was reflected that Court and the Community and Children's Services Committee had failed in their duties over these matters over the course of many years, and all Members as a consequence should be contrite about that. Some felt that the priority needed to be work, not governance. It was emphasised that the substantive work was not going to be delivered via this Working Party, and focus should be on the renovation programme which needed to be considerably accelerated.

Mr Wheatley concluded the debate concerning the substantive (amended) Motion by thanking Members for their contributions. He emphasised his fulsome support for the need for the Working Party, if approved, to represent and listen to all voices. He suggested that, with the Amendments in place, housing officers would avoid being unduly distracted from their core focus.

Mr Wheatley agreed that the Working Party was certainly not the answer to the renovation challenges, but he felt it would be the vehicle in which the Court would find the answer. The Working Party would, he hoped and trusted, find the answer. In conclusion, he thanked the Lord Mayor, the Town Clerk, officers, and fellow Members and hoped that at the end of the debate the Court would decide and resolve to address the question of governance of housing once and for all.

Upon the Motion being put, as amended, the Lord Mayor declared it to be carried.

1. *Resolved* – This Honourable Court notes that:-

- a. The City of London Corporation has a unique and complex role in the provision, management, and oversight of housing within and beyond the Square Mile. We own and manage several housing estates both within and outside the City boundaries, and it engages with residents,

stakeholders, and external agencies on a wide range of housing-related issues, including affordability, quality, and safety.

- b. At present, these functions are divided between a number of our various Committees and Sub-Committees.
 - c. In light of the evolving nature of housing policy, the growing strategic importance of housing in the Corporation's service delivery and reputation, and in recognition of feedback from residents and Members alike, there is increasing interest in reviewing whether a dedicated Housing Committee of the Court of Common Council should be established.
 - d. Such a committee could provide more focused oversight, strategic leadership, and accountability for the Corporation's housing responsibilities. However, given the implications of such a structural change, this Court affirms that a period of careful consideration, consultation, and evidence-gathering is essential.
2. Notwithstanding the provisions of Standing Order 26(1), which requires that any new Sub-Committee or Working Party shall be subject to the approval of the Policy & Resources Committee, and Standing Order 26(2) which sets out the process of appointment for Chairs and Deputy Chairs of Sub-Committees this Honourable Court consequently agrees:
- a. To establish a task and finish Working Party to consider whether or not the Court of Common Council should create a dedicated Committee that would oversee the City Corporation's housing functions that are currently under the auspices of the Community & Children's Services Committee and Barbican Residential Committee.
 - b. That such a Working Party shall be composed of no more than twelve Members, comprising:
 - eight Members to be elected by the full Common Council at the next formal meeting of the Court; and
 - four ex-officio Members, namely the Chairmen (or nominated Deputy Chairmen) of the Community and Children's Services Committee, the Housing Management and Almshouses Sub-Committee, the Barbican Residential Committee, and the Policy & Resources Committee.
 - c. That the Chair and Deputy Chair of the Working Party be elected by the Working Party's membership, at its first meeting which will be held no earlier than 1 March 2026 and no later than 31 March 2026.
 - d. The Working Party shall be expected to:
 - i. Call upon internal and external experts to provide evidence or advice as required.
 - ii. Use existing resource, or make resource bids (as required) via its parent committee to seek resident opinion to ensure that the voices of tenants, leaseholders, and other housing stakeholders are heard and considered diligently.

- iii. Examine governance models in other local authorities or relevant bodies for comparative purposes.
- e. The Working Party shall report into the Policy & Resources Committee that will be required to make a recommendation back to the Court with its findings and recommendations within twelve months of first convening. The report should include:
 - i. An assessment of the current governance arrangements for all housing functions within scope.
 - ii. Analysis of the benefits and risks of creating a single dedicated Housing Committee.
 - iii. A summary of all stakeholder engagement.
 - iv. A recommendation on whether to proceed with the establishment of such a committee, and if so, proposals for its remit and structure.”

10. CITY OF LONDON POLICE AUTHORITY BOARD

(Tijs Broeke)

23 July 2025

City of London Police: Annual Report 2024/25

The Court received a Report concerning the achievements of the City of London Police for the past financial year.

The Chair stated that he was very pleased to present the Report to the Court, it gave a good overview of the City of London Police’s progress and where it stands today. Recorded anti-social behaviour had continued to fall, the City had maintained the lowest rate of serious violence in the capital, and outcomes remained well above the national average.

The City Police were also focussing on everyday crimes that impact people; shoplifting, theft, phone snatching, and violence against women and girls. In 2024/25, the City Police launched Operation Swipe, to deter, detect, and prevent phone snatching, this combined targeted patrols with visible public messaging, including distinctive blue plaques marking hotspots and arrest locations; in the last quarter alone, snatch theft fell by 23% compared with the same period the year before.

Through intelligence led policing, resources are being directed to where they have the greatest effect. A quarter of violent offences occur in only 2% of the City’s streets; last year, over 11,000 additional patrol hours helped reduce serious violence and led to more than 250 arrests, making the City’s streets safer and making the Square Mile a premier destination for all.

Alongside this, the City Police continue to lead nationally in tackling fraud, economic and cybercrime. Operation Henhouse 3, a partnership initiative with the National Crime Agency, intensified investigations into fraud, resulting in 440 arrests and £19m recovered in seizures, a 52% increase in arrests compared to the previous year. The

City Police was also working with partners to establish a new service to replace Action Fraud later this year.

This summer's Peel Inspection graded the City Police outstanding for crime recording and good for both investigations and responses to the public, among the strongest results the City Police has ever received and bringing the City Police high up in the national Police Forces ranking. The outcome rate for violence against women and girls offences was now four times the national average; this was a testament to the Commissioner, his leadership team, and everyone working for the Police Service delivering high quality policing in the City of London.

These results truly underlined the vital contribution that the City Police, working with the Police Authority to ensure the Square Mile remains safe, secure, and dynamic for all who live, work, and visit it.

Resolved- that the Court noted the Report.

11. Ballot Results

There were no ballots taken at the last Court.

12. Questions Gupta, M Deputy to the Chairman of the Policy & Resources Committee

Electoral Review

Deputy Madush Gupta asked the Chairman of the Policy & Resources Committee about a commitment made to this Honourable Court 21 months ago by the Chairman. In January 2024, when Deputy Gupta raised the urgent matter of the City's long-overdue electoral review, the Chairman assured the Court that work would commence immediately after the March 2025 elections.

He asked the Chairman to commit to a specific completion date for this electoral review and future reviews after each election cycle?

To begin with, the Chairman clarified that the work referred to comprised of two separate Reviews. Firstly, a Ward Boundary Review, which would cover allocation of Councillors to Wards. Secondly, and separately, a Franchise Review looking at who could vote in City elections and how. He could not today commit to the Court a completion date for either as both could take a number of years and have significant resource considerations and noted that they would require phasing; the Boundary Review would need to take place before any Review of the Franchise.

When Deputy Gupta raised this matter last year, the Chairman spoke to the Town Clerk about the arrangements needed to prepare for a Review after the March City elections, and as those have passed, officers have now begun preliminary work on the Boundary Wards Review. He stressed that this is very likely to be a very large piece of work, taking well over a year. Officers were currently working on a scoping Report, so activity has been taking place, but this had not yet been progressed to the Court of Common Council. Officers have committed that a Report will be brought before the Policy & Resources Committee this year.

As to the Review of the Franchise, this would come after the Boundary Ward Review; it would involve a substantial piece of policy work to determine options and make recommendations, and significant resource would need to be identified for that work. Any changes to the Franchise would necessitate a private bill in Parliament which could not reasonably be taken forward the Markets Bill had completed its Parliamentary passage, which was still some way off.

Charles Edward Lord remarked that the Franchise would have a significant impact on a Ward Boundary Review because the Review would have predicated on, at least in part, the number of electors. As a consequence, Councillor Lord asked the Chairman whether he would consider sequencing it the other way round. The Chairman emphasised that the City Corporation had made a commitment to Parliament to undertake a Ward Boundary Review and that needed to be undertaken before a Bill was submitted to them regarding the Franchise. The decisions taken as a result of the Boundary Review, could massively impact how it seeks to review the Franchise, so Members need to be clear about things that the City Corporation can do. Work had started on the Ward Boundary Review but as per the experience at the last “stock” Review in 2010, completion took between 18-24 months; HM Government is looking to bring ahead an Elections Bill in order to make various electoral reforms, and with that in mind, it made more sense to wait until that is concluded before a Franchise Review in the City is undertaken to ensure it was aligned with any changes brought about by the Government. In short, the Chairman proposed that whilst the Elections Bill progresses, the City could proceed with the Ward Boundary Review ahead of the Franchise Review.

Leyla Bolton asked the Chairman for an explanation about why the Markets Bill had been held up by an objection in Parliament and when would the Court see a Report come back about the learnings from the progression of the Markets Bill.

The Chairman responded that the Bill was going through Parliament and, as in any democratic institution, Parliament must take into account any representations, and, where there are questions, it would inevitably delay the passage of the Bill. He could not confirm currently how long that delay was going to be, however, officers have advised that they did not believe that it would be a significant. He added that there will be learnings from this Bill, and thanked the Remembrancer’s Department for their work which had been proper and correct.

Mr Groves remarked that the City had been very fortunate in recent years to have a huge amount of planning activity in the Eastern Cluster, and that this marked a great sign of confidence in the City of London from developers. As a consequence, Mr Groves asked the Chairman whether he would agree that the Ward Boundary Review would look at the future worker population and not the current statistic given the pipeline of tall buildings we have coming in, especially in the Eastern Cluster.

The Chairman responded that Mr Groves had made an excellent point, and it was something which had been raised in previous Boundary Reviews. Fundamentally, decision makers needed to look ahead and take into account what all the information says about growth and planning and we must look to base our numbers around that.

Mr Goodman remarked that one of the issues of the Franchise at the City Corporation, was the absence of rolling registration. Mr Goodman shared the view that the optimal approach would be to undertake the Franchise Review first and then the Ward Boundary Review.

The Chairman responded that the issue of rolling registration had been raised previously and was a very valid point; he supported it but reminded the Court that it was not something which was in the Court’s gift to enact and instead required Parliamentary legislation. Given that it falls within the scope of the Franchise Review and the Corporation would only have one opportunity to go to Parliament with these matters, he wanted to make sure that any approach is coherent, well thought through,

and included all the changes that the Court would seek to make instead of being piecemeal. He stood by his original assertion that the Ward Boundary Review should come ahead of the Franchise Review.

Mansion House Compact and Accord

*Hayes, J. to the
Chairman of the
Policy &
Resources
Committee*

Ms Josephine Hayes asked, given that the Mansion House Compact and Accord encouraged British pension funds to be invested in technology, whether the Chairman of Policy and Resources would confirm that this Court of Common Council was conscious that one of the main reasons for the 2008 financial crisis was excessive risk-taking in the years leading up to it? In addition, recognising that the government had to bail out a number of lenders which were too big to fail, at immense cost to the UK taxpayer; and that since pension funds are responsible for safeguarding long term pensions for their members, British pension fund trustees must be left to decide what risks they are prepared to take, without being influenced to engage in high risk investments?

The Chairman emphasised that at their heart, the Mansion House Compact and Accord were about getting the best possible retirement outcomes for hardworking people across the country. Nothing in the Accord altered the legal, consumer, or fiduciary duties of the signatories or diluted wider regulatory protections. It must be recognised that only 30% of the UK's population are on track to receive a moderate standard of living in retirement, both these initiatives aim to tackle this by encouraging the deployment of capital into productive assets. The Accord built on the Compact with a voluntary agreement amongst the signatories that 10% of default funds would be invested into private markets with a minimum 5% targeted towards UK based assets.

It was noted that UK pension funds are materially underweight in these asset classes compared with our international peers, many of whom are giving much better pensions to their citizens. Specifically in relation to risk, the Chairman assured Ms Hayes that as part of the City Corporation's extensive engagement with industry on this issue, pension companies' fiduciary duties to their investors were at the forefront of their minds and that remained legally binding on them; nothing in the Accord changed that. So, this was not a return to the kind of short-term, leveraged, opaque products that fuelled the 2008 financial crisis; these were instead long-term, real economy investments designed to diversify portfolios and when properly managed reduce systemic risk. It was a model that balanced fiducial duty with an appropriate risk appetite to achieve better returns for savers. Trustees will always be the ones making decisions on behalf of their Members, not the City of London Corporation or the Government.

The Chief Commoner, Deputy Henry Pollard remarked that earlier in the week he had attended a major private equity and venture capital conference, a room full of British entrepreneurs looking for investors and opportunities to grow and he believed that was what the UK needed. He asked the Chairman what we at the City Corporation was doing to create the best possible environment for the industry and savers alike.

The Chairman responded by stating that one particularly striking thing, was the appetite that schemes had for investing in the United Kingdom, particularly in private assets such as infrastructure. As to the question about what more UK capital can be

doing when the proposition is clearly so strong for others. The Mansion House Accord not only shifted the mindset into investment into higher growth assets, but it also contained a provision for half of that allocation to go into the UK in the way that our cousins in Australia and Canada have already been doing. Fundamentally within these reforms, people are investing in pensions to enjoy the retirement that they deserve but also investing into the society that they want to retire into. The Accord, and the wider pensions reforms introduced by the Government, take the City Corporation into a far more positive direction, underpinned by a far more supportive regulatory regime that encourages responsible risk taking as laid out in the Regulating for Growth Report published earlier in the year.

There were no resolutions.

13.
Resolutions

There were no docquets to be sealed.

14. Hospital
Seal

There was no Report.

15. Awards
and Prizes

16. Exclusion
of the public

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

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.

Summary of items considered whilst the public were excluded:-

Resolved – That the non-public minutes of the Court held on 24 July 2025 are correctly recorded.

17. Non-Public
Minutes

Investment Committee

18.

The Court considered a Report of the Investment Committee concerning proposals relating to a headlease variation for a City's Estate property.

Civic Affairs Sub-Committee

19.

The Court considered a Report of the Civic Affairs Sub-Committee concerning the provision of hospitality.

The meeting commenced at 1.00 pm and ended at 2.14 pm

THOMAS.