Item No: **4**

PARMLEY, LOCUM TENENS

COURT OF COMMON COUNCIL

21st May 2026
MEMBERS PRESENT

ALDERMEN

Alexander Robertson Martin Barr (Alderman)
Alison Gowman CBE (Alderman)
Prem Goyal CBE (Alderman)
Martha Grekos (Alderwoman)
Robert Picton Seymour Howard (Alderman)
Vincent Keaveny CBE (Alderman)
Sir Alastair John Naisbitt King DL (Alderman)
Elizabeth Anne King, BEM JP (Alderwoman)
Tim Levene (Alderman)
Professor Michael Raymond Mainelli (Alderman)
Bronek Masojada (Alderman)
Sir Andrew Charles Parmley, (Alderman)
Sir William Anthony Bowater Russell (Alderman)

COMMONERS

Joanna Tufuo Abeyie JP MBE
George Christopher Abrahams
Tana Adkin KC
Munsur Ali
Samapti Bagchi
Shahnan Bakth
Brendan Barns
Matthew Bell
The Honourable Emily Sophia Wedgwood Benn, Deputy
Nicholas Michael Bensted-Smith JP
Christopher Paul Boden, Deputy
Keith David Forbes Bottomley, Sheriff & Deputy
Leyla Boulton
Tijs Broeke
Simon Burrows
Timothy Richard Butcher, Deputy
Dominic Gerard Christian
Lesley Cole
Melissa Rachel Collett
Bethany Coombs, Deputy
Anne Corbett, Deputy
Elizabeth Corrin
Karina Dostalova
Simon Duckworth, CBE DL
Peter Gerard Dunphy MBE, Deputy
John Ernest Edwards, Deputy
Susan Farrington
Helen Lesley Fentimen OBE JP, Deputy
Anthony David Fitzpatrick
John Foley
Dawn Frampton
Marianne Bernadette Fredericks, Deputy
Jason Groves
Madush Gupta, Deputy
Mercy Haggerty
Caroline Wilma Haines, Deputy
Christopher Michael Hayward, Deputy
Jaspreet Hodgson, Deputy
Stephen Hodgson
Sandra Jenner
Shravan Jashvantrai Joshi, MBE
Florence Keelson-Anfu
Philip Kelvin
Helen Ladele
Charles Edward Lord, OBE JP
Vasiliki Manta
Tessa Marchington
Paul Nicholas Martinelli, Deputy
Tim McNally
Andrien Gereith Dominic Meyers, Deputy
Sophia Mooney
Alastair Michael Moss, Deputy
Deborah Oliver TD, Deputy
Leyla Ostovar
Fraser Stuart Peck
James Henry George Pollard, Deputy
Jason Paul Pritchard
Nighat Qureishi, Deputy
Anett Rideg
Gaby Robertshaw
David Sales
Sushil Kumar Saluja (Alderman)
Hugh Selka
Tom Sleigh, Deputy
Sir Michael Snyder, Deputy
Naresh Hari Sonpar
James St John Davis
Stephanie Steeden
James Michael Douglas Thomson CBE, Deputy
James Richard Tumbridge
Jacqueline Roberts Webster
Mark Raymond Peter Henry Delano Wheatley
Ceri Wilkins, Deputy
Chief Commoner Philip Woodhouse
Dawn Linsey Wright, Deputy

Locum Tenens

Locum Tenens

The Town Clerk reported that the Lady Mayor had issued her apologies as she was unable to attend today's meeting due to a prior engagement. Accordingly, there was produced and laid in Court a Warrant, signed by the Right Honourable The Lady Mayor, appointing Alderman Sir Andrew Parmley as Locum Tenens to transact all the business appertaining to the Office of Mayoralty of this City during her absence.

1. Apologies

The apologies of those Members unable to attend this meeting of the Court were noted.

2. Declarations — There were no additional declarations.

3. Minutes
Fredericks, M., Deputy; Wheatley, M. R. P. H. D

Deputy Marianne Fredericks and Mark Wheatley proposed an amendment to the Minutes at item 14, relating to Questions. The wording of the amendment had circulated as an addendum before the meeting.

Resolved – That the Minutes of the last Court are correctly recorded, as amended.

4. Mayoral Engagements — There was no Report.

5. Policy Update — The Chairman of the Policy & Resources Committee stated that he was honoured to have been re-elected for a fifth and final year as Chair of the Policy & Resources Committee, and set out the measures he would be taking over the next 12 months support UK growth, secure the renaissance of the Square Mile, and leave the City Corporation in a strong position.

6. Appointments — The Court proceeded to consider the following appointments.

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.

(A) **Civic Affairs Sub-Committee** (two vacancies)
(Contest)
Nominations received:-
*Deputy Emily Benn
Anthony David Fitzpatrick
Stephen Hodgson
Wendy Mead OBE
^Deputy Henry Pollard
*James St John Davis

The Court proceeded, in accordance with Standing Order No.10, to ballot for this contest. The Lord Mayor appointed the Chief Commoner and the Chairman of the Finance Committee, or their representatives, to be the scrutineers of the ballot.

Resolved – That the votes be counted at the conclusion of the Court and the results printed in the Summons for the next meeting. The Court proceeded to consider appointments to vacancies on other committees and bodies.

(B) **Community and Children's Services Committee** (one vacancy)
(No contest)
Nominations received:-
Adam Hogg

Read.

Whereupon the Lord Mayor declared Adam Hogg to be appointed to the

Community and Children's Services Committee.

(C) **Education Board** (three vacancies)
(No contest)

Nominations received:-
Charles Edward Lord, OBE JP

Read.

Whereupon the Lord Mayor declared Charles Edward Lord, OBE, JP to be appointed to the Education Board.

(D) **Health and Social Care Scrutiny Committee** (one vacancy)
(No contest)
Nominations received:-
Tessa Marchington

Read.

Whereupon the Lord Mayor declared Tessa Marchington to be appointed to the Health and Social Care Scrutiny Committee.

(E) **Markets Board** (one vacancy)
(No contest)
Nominations received:-
Gaby Robertshaw

Read.

Whereupon the Lord Mayor declared Gaby Robertshaw to be appointed to the Markets Board.

(F) **City & Guilds Foundation** (one vacancy)
(No contest)

Nominations received:-
Charles Edward Lord, OBE JP

Whereupon the Lord Mayor declared Charles Edward Lord OBE, JP to be appointed to the City & Guilds Foundation.

Read.

(G) **City of London Reserve Forces and Cadets Association** (three vacancies)
(No contest)
Nominations received:-
*Simon Duckworth OBE DL
*Deputy Nighat Qureishi
Dr Giles Shilson OBE

Read.

Whereupon the Lord Mayor declared Simon Duckworth OBE DL, Deputy Nighat Qureishi, and Dr Giles Shilson OBE to be appointed to the City of London Reserve Forces and Cadets Association.

(H) **St Andrew Holborn and Stafford's Charity** (one vacancy)
(No contest)

Nominations received:-
Charles Edward Lord, OBE JP

Read.

Whereupon the Lord Mayor declared Charles Edward Lord, OBE JP to be appointed to the St Andrew Holborn and Stafford's Charity.

7. Resolution from the annual wardmotes

Resolutions of the Annual Wardmotes were considered as follows:-

Ward of Cordwainer – 18th March 2026

"Concern was raised regarding the number of bicycles not complying with the Highway Code and behaving dangerously across the City. These concerns were shared by the Members. A resolution in the following terms was proposed and seconded:

"That the Ward of Cordwainer:

1) expresses deep concern about the risk to pedestrians caused by the high number of cyclists who do not comply with the Highway Code; and

2) asks the City of London Corporation to consider what enforcement measures could be introduced or strengthened to address this issue within the Square Mile."

Upon the matter being put to the electors, the Alderman declared the Resolution to be carried."

Resolved – That the resolution be referred to the City of London Police Authority Board for consideration and any necessary action.

Ward of Cripplegate – 18th March 2026

"This Wardmote declares that the residents of Cripplegate Ward have grave concerns about the transparency, fairness and accountability of the City of London Corporation's current planning process and calls upon the City of London Corporation Court of Common Council to:

1. prevent those councillors who are members of committees responsible for the Corporation's extensive property interests from also being members of the Planning and Transportation Committee and, hence, the Planning Applications Sub-Committee, in order to avoid conflicts of interest;

2.prevent those councillors who have professional associations within the property

development industry from also being members of the Planning and Transportation Committee and, hence, the Planning Applications Sub-Committee, to avoid a perception of bias; and

3. set up an independent design review process within the Planning and Development Division of the Environment Department, in order to ensure that only the highest quality, peer reviewed, architecture is approved by members of the Planning and Transportation Committee and, hence, the Planning Applications Sub-Committee."

Resolved – That items 1 and 2 in the resolution be referred to the Policy & Resources Committee, and item 3 to the Planning & Transportation Committee, for consideration and any necessary action.

Ward of Dowgate – 18th March 2026

"This Wardmote,

- noting proposals to establish a Business Improvement District (BID) covering the area of the City including the Ward of Dowgate,
- noting that businesses and institutions in the Ward of Dowgate face mounting costs and record levels of taxation,
- noting that the establishment of a BID would impose a further unwelcome financial burden in the form of a mandatory BID levy,

RESOLVES

1. to place on record its opposition to the establishment of a Business Improvement District covering the Ward of Dowgate;
2. to urge the Alderman and Common Councilmen of the Ward of Dowgate to support hard-pressed City businesses and institutions by opposing the establishment of a BID, including by voting accordingly at the Court of Common Council and its committees."

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

Ward of Farringdon Within – 18th March 2026

"The Wardmote of Farringdon Within asks that the issue of the under-provision of bins in the Ward be addressed by the City of London Corporation."

Resolved – That the resolution be referred to the Port Health & Environmental Services Committee for consideration and any necessary action.

Ward of Portsoken – 18th March 2026

a) **"**RESOLVED, that the Ward of Portsoken place on record their thanks for steps taken by the City of London Corporation to enforce responsible e-bike management in the City of London, but nevertheless ask the City of London Corporation, in light of local examples of dangerous and irresponsible cycling by e-bike users, to both encourage and enforce cycle safety, particularly in the area of The Aldgate School.

b) RESOLVED, that the Ward of Portsoken notes the deep concern among

residents, parents and families regarding the future of childcare provision at The Aldgate School. This Wardmote further notes the particular importance of early years childcare provision, especially within the Aldgate and Portsoken area, which is identified in City Corporation reports as the most deprived area in the City of London and as experiencing higher levels of need, where access to affordable, high quality childcare is essential in supporting families and giving children the best possible start in life. Accordingly, this Wardmote resolves to request that the City of London Corporation retains and continues to support early years childcare provision at The Aldgate School beyond 2027."

Resolved – That item a) of the resolution be referred to the City of London Police Authority Board, and item b) to the Community & Children's Services Committee, for consideration and any necessary action.

Ward of Queenhithe – 18th March 2026

"IT WAS RESOLVED at the annual Ward Mote of the Ward of Queenhithe that the City Corporation be asked to explain procedures and measures taken against the Southwark Council around the lack of enforcement of noise pollution bylaws against the noise emanating from buskers on the South Bank. This matter has been a long-standing problem and progress to date has been non-existent. The residents of the Ward request that it receives urgent attention."

Resolved – That the resolution be referred to the Port Health & Environmental Services Committee for consideration and any necessary action.

Ward of Tower – 18th March 2026

"An elector moved a resolution to the following effect:

"That the Ward of Tower expresses its alarm at the loss of retail and hospitality units at the 47-50 Mark Lane development, and asks what the City of London Corporation is proposing to do to stop this loss and ensure vibrant and new cultural use on the site.'

The resolution was seconded and passed by the Wardmote."

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

Ward of Vintry – 18th March 2026

"WHEREAS, the City of London Corporation already levies a Business Rate Premium on businesses in the Square Mile, including the Ward of Vintry, and in return provides a wide variety of high quality services, including policing, street cleaning, and an attractive public realm; and

WHEREAS, many businesses will pay higher levels of business rates from 1 April 2026 following the government's recent business rates revaluation exercise; and

WHEREAS, the Court of Common Council voted on 5 March 2026 to increase the supplementary Business Rate Premium from 1 April 2026; and

WHEREAS, it is proposed that a new Overnight Visitor Levy (also known as a "tourist tax") be imposed on certain businesses in the City; and

WHEREAS, businesses and individuals in the City are already paying record levels

of other taxation (ranging from corporation tax, to national insurance, to income tax); and

WHEREAS, economic growth is weak and unemployment is historically high; and

WHEREAS, the proposed Riverside Business Improvement District (BID) would impose a further additional mandatory levy on businesses in the Ward of Vintry, placing an unwarranted additional financial burden on them; and

WHEREAS, the activities of the Riverside BID are likely to be duplicative of services already provided by the City of London Corporation, which are funded by existing charges made to businesses and individuals (including business rates and the Business Rate Premium); and

WHEREAS, the governance structures of business improvement districts lack the direct, historic, and transparent democratic accountability to businesses, workers, and residents that is provided by the City's unique business franchise, and its wardmotes, aldermen, and common councillors;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED, that the voters of the Ward of Vintry, in Wardmote assembled on this 18th day of March, 2026:

1.Formally record their opposition to the establishment of the proposed Riverside Business Improvement District.

2. Call upon the alderman and common councillors of the Ward of Vintry to represent this opposition within the Court of Common Council and its relevant committees and to vote against any measure or recommendation that gives effect to the creation, endorsement, or funding of the proposed Riverside Business Improvement District.

3. Urge the City of London Corporation not to seek to outsource its civic responsibilities to private, levy-funded bodies."

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

8. **POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE**

(Deputy Christopher Michael Hayward)

7 May 2026

Barbican Centre Board – Extension of Chairman's Term

The Court considered a Report concerning the extension, by an additional year, of the Barbican Centre Board's Chairman's Term.

Resolved – that the Court agrees the waiving of Standing Order No. 28 (2) in respect of the Chairmanship of the Barbican Centre Board and extend the term of service of the current Chairman by one additional year.

9. Freedoms The Chamberlain, in pursuance of the Order of this Court, presented a list of the under-mentioned persons, who made applications to be admitted to the Freedom of the City by Redemption:

Omar Hussein Mohamed Hassan Abbas	a City Scholar	Bloomsbury, London
The Rt. Hon The Lady Mayor	*Citizen and Insurer*	

Dep. Christopher Michael Hayward	*Citizen and Pattenmaker*	
Milica Andrea Acimovic	a Portfolio Strategist	Tower Hamlets, London
Rafael Steinmetz Leffa	*Citizen and International Banker*	
Dmitry Lysenko	*Citizen and Joiner & Ceiler*	
Akudo Daniella Akara	a City Scholar	Bloomsbury, London
The Rt. Hon The Lady Mayor	*Citizen and Insurer*	
Dep. Christopher Michael Hayward	*Citizen and Pattenmaker*	
Farrah Amjad	a Nurse	Rochdale, Lancashire
Mark Raymond Peter Henry Delano Wheatley, CC	*Citizen and Draper*	
Moawia Bin-Sufyan, MBE, MStJ, JP	*Citizen and Educator*	
Janet Annan	a Property Management Company Director, retired	Kent
The Rt. Hon The Lady Mayor	*Citizen and Insurer*	
Sheriff & Dep. Keith David Forbes Bottomley	*Citizen and Pattenmaker*	
Larry Annan	a Director	Kent
The Rt. Hon The Lady Mayor	*Citizen and Insurer*	
Sheriff & Dep. Keith David Forbes Bottomley	*Citizen and Pattenmaker*	
Shaun Austin	a Restaurateur	St Saviol, France
The Rt. Hon The Lady Mayor	*Citizen and Insurer*	
Sheriff & Dep. Keith David Forbes Bottomley	*Citizen and Pattenmaker*	
Richard Michael Barker	a Finance and Resources Director	Richmond Upon Thames, London
The Rt. Hon The Lady Mayor	*Citizen and Insurer*	
Dep. Christopher Michael Hayward	*Citizen and Pattenmaker*	
Katharine Kelly Barnes	a Civil Servant, retired	Islington, London
The Rt. Hon The Lady Mayor	*Citizen and Insurer*	
Sheriff & Dep. Keith David Forbes Bottomley	*Citizen and Pattenmaker*	
James Richard Batty	a City Scholar	Bloomsbury, London
The Rt. Hon The Lady Mayor	*Citizen and Insurer*	
Dep. Christopher Michael Hayward	*Citizen and Pattenmaker*	
Clive Adrian Bellows	an Investment Bank President	Co Wicklow, Ireland
Ald. Prem Babu Goyal, CBE	*Citizen and Plumber*	
Samapti Bagchi, CC	*Citizen and Common Councillor*	
Clive Bennett	an Assessor, retired	Bexley, London
The Rt. Hon The Lady Mayor	*Citizen and Insurer*	
Sheriff & Dep. Keith David Forbes Bottomley	*Citizen and Pattenmaker*	
Kim Dora Bennett	a Youth Charity Chief Executive	Bexley, London
The Rt. Hon The Lady Mayor	*Citizen and Insurer*	
Sheriff & Dep. Keith David Forbes Bottomley	*Citizen and Pattenmaker*	

Kwesi Daniel Bimpong	a Human Resources & Technology Network Founder	Brent, London
Ald. Alastair John Naisbitt King, DL	*Citizen and Blacksmith*	
Blondel Bernadette Rosceilia Cluff, CBE DL	*Citizen and Goldsmith*	
Gemma Louise Blackie	a Social Work Practitioner	Hammersmith, London
The Rt. Hon The Lady Mayor	*Citizen and Insurer*	
Sheriff & Dep. Keith David Forbes Bottomley	*Citizen and Pattenmaker*	
Nicholas Ian Boston	a Chief Finance Officer	Godalming, Surrey
Martin David John Dove	*Citizen and Leatherseller*	
David Hugh Barrow	*Citizen and Leatherseller*	
Christopher James Bow	a Boat Sales Company Director	Wallingford, Oxfordshire
Claude Andrew Robert Fenemore-Jones	*Citizen and Scrivener*	
Richard George Turk	*Citizen and Shipwright*	
Angela Diane Briggs	an Army Reserve Commissioned Officer	Salisbury, Wiltshire
William Victor Rowlinson	*Citizen and Security Professional*	
Mr John Frederick Hudson	*Citizen and Apothecary*	
Jessica Cole Brim-Deforest	a Hotelier	Stirling, Stirlingshire
John Michael Allen-Petrie, OBE	*Citizen and Draper*	
Dr Craig Paterson	*Citizen and Tobacco Pipe Maker & Tobacco Blender*	
Yao Cai	a City Scholar	Bloomsbury, London
The Rt. Hon The Lady Mayor	*Citizen and Insurer*	
Dep. Christopher Michael Hayward	*Citizen and Pattenmaker*	
Dr Scott Andrew Caizley	a Social Mobility Professional	Westminster, London
Naresh Hari Sonpar, CC	*Citizen and Common Councillor*	
Timothy James McNally, CC	*Citizen and Glazier*	
Mary-Jane Calam	a Consultant & Board Adviser	Alnwick, Northumberland
The Rt. Hon The Lady Mayor	*Citizen and Insurer*	
Elise Ward Rasmussen	*Citizen and Tobacco Pipe Maker and Tobacco Blender*	
Jia-En Chen	a City Scholar	Bloomsbury, London
The Rt. Hon The Lady Mayor	*Citizen and Insurer*	
Dep. Christopher Michael Hayward	*Citizen and Pattenmaker*	
Iain Talbot Colquhoun	an IT Consultancy Director	Tunbridge Wells, Kent
Timothy John Macandrews, JP	*Citizen and Gold & Silver Wyre Drawer*	
Jonathan Peter Wallis	*Citizen and Loriner*	
John Denis Cookson, BEM	an Air Traffic Control Business Manager, retired	Old Windsor, Berkshire
Alan Roy Willis	*Citizen and Baker*	
Mr John Frederick Hudson	*Citizen and Apothecary*	
Connor Joseph Mark Crowe	a Firefighter	Redbridge, London
The Rt. Hon The Lady Mayor	*Citizen and Insurer*	
Sheriff & Dep. Keith David Forbes	*Citizen and Pattenmaker*	

Bottomley		
Keith Francis Crowe	a Logistics Manager	Leytonstone, London
The Rt. Hon The Lady Mayor	*Citizen and Insurer*	
Sheriff & Dep. Keith David Forbes Bottomley	*Citizen and Pattenmaker*	
Shannon Josephine Ann Crowe	an Assistant Bar Manager	Leytonstone, London
The Rt. Hon The Lady Mayor	*Citizen and Insurer*	
Sheriff & Dep. Keith David Forbes Bottomley	*Citizen and Pattenmaker*	
Sharon Lyn Crowe	a Bar Manager	Leytonstone, London
The Rt. Hon The Lady Mayor	*Citizen and Insurer*	
Sheriff & Dep. Keith David Forbes Bottomley	*Citizen and Pattenmaker*	
David Robert Daly	a Chartered Wealth Manager	Burgess Hill, West Sussex
Dep. James Henry George Pollard	*Citizen and Skinner*	
Ald. & Sheriff Robert Charles Hughes-Penney	*Citizen and Haberdasher*	
Nicholas Charles James Dart	a Chartered Surveyor	Camden, London
Martin David John Dove	*Citizen and Leatherseller*	
David Hugh Barrow	*Citizen and Leatherseller*	
Damirzhan Dauken	a City Scholar	Bloomsbury, London
The Rt. Hon The Lady Mayor	*Citizen and Insurer*	
Dep. Christopher Michael Hayward	*Citizen and Pattenmaker*	
Édouard Hugues Martin De Guise	a City Scholar	Bloomsbury, London
The Rt. Hon The Lady Mayor	*Citizen and Insurer*	
Dep. Christopher Michael Hayward	*Citizen and Pattenmaker*	
Murat Dedeoglu	an Infrastructure Company Chief Executive	Kensington and Chelsea, London
Colin Trevor Gurnett	*Citizen and Wheelwright*	
John Charles Jordan	*Citizen and Glover*	
Guy Paul Eaton	an Emergency Response Driver Trainer	Maidstone, Kent
Dep. Marianne Bernadette Fredericks	*Citizen and Baker*	
Philip John Woodhouse, CC	*Citizen and Grocer*	
Justin Mitchell Zeus Eden	a City Scholar	Bloomsbury, London
The Rt. Hon The Lady Mayor	*Citizen and Insurer*	
Dep. Christopher Michael Hayward	*Citizen and Pattenmaker*	
Steven Elworthy, MBE	a Cricket Club Chief Executive	Radlett, Hertfordshire
Dep. Andrien Gereith Dominic Meyers	*Citizen and Goldsmith*	
Sheriff & Dep. Keith David Forbes Bottomley	*Citizen and Pattenmaker*	
Francis Charles Eve	a Marketing Director & Management Consultant	Haverhill, Suffolk

Anthony John Ward	*Citizen and Painter-Stainer*	
Charlotte Elisabeth Ward	*Citizen and Painter-Stainer*	
Ian David Finch	a Law Enforcement Programme Manager	Bromley, London
Dep. James Michael Douglas Thomson, CBE	*Citizen and Grocer*	
Dep. Dawn Linsey Wright	*Citizen and Information Technologist*	
Andrew Adam Fink	a Finance Company Director	New York, United States of America
Philip John Woodhouse, CC	*Citizen and Grocer*	
Julia Sibley, MBE	*Citizen and Innholder*	
Grant Foulger	a Bunker Supplier	South Woodham Ferrers, Essex
Robert Constant	*Citizen and Carman*	
Richard Leslie Springford	*Citizen and Carman*	
Jorge Antonio Garcia Arias	a City Scholar	Bloomsbury, London
The Rt. Hon The Lady Mayor	*Citizen and Insurer*	
Dep. Christopher Michael Hayward	*Citizen and Pattenmaker*	
Anthony Denis Henry Geffen	a Media Company Chief Executive	Kensington and Chelsea, London
Philip John Woodhouse, CC	*Citizen and Grocer*	
Munsur Ali, CC	*Citizen and World Trader*	
Susan Lynne Golding	a Lecturer, retired	Gillingham, Kent
The Rt. Hon The Lady Mayor	*Citizen and Insurer*	
Sheriff & Dep. Keith David Forbes Bottomley	*Citizen and Pattenmaker*	
Baroness Katherine Jane Grainger, DBE OLY	Chair of the British Olympic Association	Maidenhead, Berkshire
The Rt. Hon The Lady Mayor	*Citizen and Insurer*	
Charles Edward Lord, CC, OBE, JP	*Citizen and Broderer*	
Theresa Noeleen Grant, OBE	a Local Government Business Consultant	Enniscorthy, Co Wexford, Ireland
Paul Graham Wilkinson	*Citizen and Carpenter*	
Dep. Henry Nicholas Almroth Colthurst	*Citizen and Grocer*	
Victoria Theresa Groves	a Human Resources Adviser	Canvey Island, Essex
The Rt. Hon The Lady Mayor	*Citizen and Insurer*	
Sheriff & Dep. Keith David Forbes Bottomley	*Citizen and Pattenmaker*	
Atta Ul Haq	a Hospitality Company Chief Executive	Hounslow, London
Ann-Marie Jefferys	*Citizen and Glover*	
Anne Elizabeth Holden	*Citizen and Basketmaker*	
Ashleigh Rose Harman	a Marketing Consultant	Southwark, London
The Rt. Hon The Lady Mayor	*Citizen and Insurer*	
Sheriff & Dep. Keith David Forbes Bottomley	*Citizen and Pattenmaker*	
Thomas Johnston Haywood	an Events Company Director	Ashtead, Surrey
Roger Arthur Holden Chadwick, OBE	*Citizen and Bowyer*	

Philip John Woodhouse, CC	*Citizen and Grocer*	
James Douglas John Heller	a Lawyer	Croydon, London
Ald. Prem Babu Goyal, CBE	*Citizen and Plumber*	
Samapti Bagchi, CC	*Citizen and Common Councillor*	
Dame Kelly Holmes, MBE (mil) OLY	an Olympian, Veteran & Motivational Speaker	Kent
Ald. Timothy Russell Hailes, JP	*Citizen and Pewterer*	
Charles Edward Lord, CC, OBE, JP	*Citizen and Broderer*	
Mahon Myles Hughes	a City Scholar	Bloomsbury, London
The Rt. Hon The Lady Mayor	*Citizen and Insurer*	
Dep. Christopher Michael Hayward	*Citizen and Pattenmaker*	
John Kenneth Hunter, CD	an Engineer & Naval Officer	Toronto, Ontario, Canada
Justin Gilles Joseph Morin-Carpentier	*Citizen and Tyler & Bricklayer*	
James Anthony Drabble	*Citizen and Art Scholar*	
Denise Christine Hyland	a Local Government Councillor, retired	Greenwich, London
Ald. Timothy Russell Hailes, JP	*Citizen and Pewterer*	
Dep. Madush Gupta	*Citizen and Pewterer*	
Jack Anthony James	an Events Manager	Lewisham, London
The Rt. Hon The Lady Mayor	*Citizen and Insurer*	
Sheriff & Dep. Keith David Forbes Bottomley	*Citizen and Pattenmaker*	
Darren Mark Jaundrill	an Associate Professor	Market Drayton, Shropshire
Ald. Sir William Anthony Bowater Russell	*Citizen and Haberdasher*	
Dep. James Henry George Pollard	*Citizen and Skinner*	
Lawrence Wesley Jewkes	a Business Owner & Asset Manager	Southwark, London
Dep. James Henry George Pollard	*Citizen and Skinner*	
Ald. & Sheriff Robert Charles Hughes-Penney	*Citizen and Haberdasher*	
James William Jukes, MBE	a Charity Chief Executive	Southwark, London
The Rt. Hon The Lady Mayor	*Citizen and Insurer*	
Sheriff & Dep. Keith David Forbes Bottomley	*Citizen and Pattenmaker*	
Ahmed Junaid	a Networking & Cybersecurity Consultant	Luton, Bedfordshire
Wendy Mead, CC, OBE	*Citizen and Glover*	
Patricia Agnes Campfield, MBE	*Citizen and Wheelwright*	
Abdul Musabbir Karim	an Entrepreneur & Restaurateur	Harrow, London
Munsur Ali, CC	*Citizen and World Trader*	
Shahnan Bakth, CC	*Citizen and Draper*	
Rita Margaret Kelly	a Philanthropy & Event Management Chief Executive	Saggart, Co Dublin, Ireland
Ald. Prem Babu Goyal, CBE	*Citizen and Plumber*	
Samapti Bagchi, CC	*Citizen and Common Councillor*	

Mark Andrew Thomas Kennedy	a Teacher	Bromley, London
Dep. Madush Gupta	*Citizen and Pewterer*	
Ald. Sir William Anthony Bowater Russell	*Citizen and Haberdasher*	
Anas Khan	a City Scholar	Bloomsbury, London
The Rt. Hon The Lady Mayor	*Citizen and Insurer*	
Dep. Christopher Michael Hayward	*Citizen and Pattenmaker*	
Vlada Koberskaia	a Management Consultant	In The City of London
Dep. Nighat Qureishi	*Citizen and Common Councillor*	
Melissa Rachel Collett, CC	*Citizen and Insurer*	
Alan David Lowry	a Furniture Company Chairman	Co Down
Ald. Prem Babu Goyal, CBE	*Citizen and Plumber*	
Samapti Bagchi, CC	*Citizen and Common Councillor*	
Professor Clarence Dicsenol Bongkos Malakun, JP	a Property Developer	Kota Kinabalu, Sabah, Malaysia
Valerie Ellen Le Vaillant, OBE	*Citizen and Chartered Architect*	
Christopher Nigel Bicknell	*Citizen and Chartered Architect*	
Nicola Elaine Marshall	an Air Conditioning Company Adviser	Welwyn Garden City, Hertfordshire
The Rt. Hon The Lady Mayor	*Citizen and Insurer*	
Sheriff & Dep. Keith David Forbes Bottomley	*Citizen and Pattenmaker*	
Frank Steven Mauba	a City Scholar	Bloomsbury, London
The Rt. Hon The Lady Mayor	*Citizen and Insurer*	
Dep. Christopher Michael Hayward	*Citizen and Pattenmaker*	
Sub-Lieutenant Benjamin Arron Charlton McDonald	Commanding Officer, City of London Sea Cadets	Bexley, London
Daniel Mark Wells	*Citizen and Shipwright*	
Commander James Nisbet	*Citizen and International Banker*	
Abdelhakim Mendjeli	a Bank Head of A.P.I. Platforms	Lewisham, London
Dep. Madush Gupta	*Citizen and Pewterer*	
David James Sales, CC	*Citizen and Insurer*	
Mathilde Anne Mioche	a City Scholar	Bloomsbury, London
The Rt. Hon The Lady Mayor	*Citizen and Insurer*	
Dep. Christopher Michael Hayward	*Citizen and Pattenmaker*	
Dewi Wyn Morgan	a Digital Video Content Specialist	Hammersmith & Fulham, London
Jason Thomas Court	*Citizen and Stationer & Newspaper Maker*	
The Hon. Edward John Lowther	*Citizen and Grocer*	
Linda Maria Murphy	an Administrative Assistant	Sevenoaks, Kent
The Rt. Hon The Lady Mayor	*Citizen and Insurer*	
Sheriff & Dep. Keith David Forbes Bottomley	*Citizen and Pattenmaker*	
Nolan Willem Musslewhite	a City Scholar	Bloomsbury, London
The Rt. Hon The Lady Mayor	*Citizen and Insurer*	
Dep. Christopher Michael Hayward	*Citizen and Pattenmaker*	

Aidan Arthur Nicholson	a Finance Officer	Harpenden, Hertfordshire
Dep. James Henry George Pollard	*Citizen and Skinner*	
John Garbutt, JP	*Citizen and Weaver*	
Susan Ann O'Brien, OBE	a Mentoring Platform Chief Executive	Berkhamsted, Hertfordshire
The Rt. Hon The Lady Mayor	*Citizen and Insurer*	
Elise Ward Rasmussen	*Citizen and Tobacco Pipe Maker and Tobacco Blender*	
Susan Elka Paice	a Yeoman Warder, retired	Newham, London
The Rt. Hon The Lady Mayor	*Citizen and Insurer*	
Sheriff & Dep. Keith David Forbes Bottomley	*Citizen and Pattenmaker*	
John Hugh Geraint Pateman	a Royal Air Force Senior Aircraftman, retired	Great Missenden, Buckinghamshire
Mr John Frederick Hudson	*Citizen and Apothecary*	
Alan Marcus Wills, CVO, OBE	*Citizen and Coachmaker and Coach Harness Maker*	
Alice Perry	an Insurance Company Political Advocacy Director	Waltham Forest, London
Ald. Prem Babu Goyal, CBE	*Citizen and Plumber*	
Samapti Bagchi, CC	*Citizen and Common Councillor*	
Dame Arlene Phillips, DBE	a Choreographer	Camden, London
Sheriff & Dep. Keith David Forbes Bottomley	*Citizen and Pattenmaker*	
Dep. Christopher Michael Hayward	*Citizen and Pattenmaker*	
Adèle Neige Clémentine Posse De Muzquiz	a City Scholar	Bloomsbury, London
The Rt. Hon The Lady Mayor	*Citizen and Insurer*	
Dep. Christopher Michael Hayward	*Citizen and Pattenmaker*	
Susannah Margaret Pritchard	an Animal Health & Welfare Assistant Director	Reading, Berkshire
Dep. Peter Gerard Dunphy, MBE	*Citizen and Draper*	
George Christopher Abrahams, CC	*Citizen and Butcher*	
Jaideep Jagadeeshwar Rao	a City Scholar	Bloomsbury, London
The Rt. Hon The Lady Mayor	*Citizen and Insurer*	
Dep. Christopher Michael Hayward	*Citizen and Pattenmaker*	
Carlo Rappa	a Travel Company Manager & Business Consultant	Croydon, London
Ald. Michael Raymond Mainelli	*Citizen and World Trader*	
Florencio Gabriel Cuervo Prieto	*Citizen and Carman*	
Rupert Crispin Rawcliffe	a Chartered Accountant	Hove, East Sussex
Ann-Marie Jefferys	*Citizen and Glover*	
Anne Elizabeth Holden	*Citizen and Basketmaker*	
Oliver Charles Rice-Adams	a Senior Operations Manager	Honiton, Devon
Diane Irene Warman	*Citizen and Clockmaker*	
The Revd Canon Andrew Mark James Haviland	*Citizen and Saddler*	

Gaby Lillianne Roslin	a Broadcaster	Brent, London
The Rt. Hon The Lady Mayor	*Citizen and Insurer*	
Sheriff & Dep. Keith David Forbes Bottomley	*Citizen and Pattenmaker*	
Amy Elizabeth Rowe	a Project Manager	Sevenoaks, Kent
The Rt. Hon The Lady Mayor	*Citizen and Insurer*	
Sheriff & Dep. Keith David Forbes Bottomley	*Citizen and Pattenmaker*	
Michelle Senyah	an Events Manager	Bloomsbury, London
The Rt. Hon The Lady Mayor	*Citizen and Insurer*	
Dep. Christopher Michael Hayward	*Citizen and Pattenmaker*	
Thomas Allan Ryan Shakespeare	a City Scholar	Bloomsbury, London
The Rt. Hon The Lady Mayor	*Citizen and Insurer*	
Dep. Christopher Michael Hayward	*Citizen and Pattenmaker*	
Dominic Edward St John Sharman	a Lawyer	Kohoku, Yokohama, Kanagawa, Japan
Ald. Prem Babu Goyal, CBE	*Citizen and Plumber*	
Samapti Bagchi, CC	*Citizen and Common Councillor*	
Lord Sharpe of Epsom Andrew Michael Gordon Sharpe, OBE	a Peer of the Realm	Epsom, Surrey
Dep. Timothy Richard Butcher	*Citizen and Plaisterer*	
Baroness Eaton of Cottingley, Ellen Margaret Eaton, DBE, DL	*Citizen and Woolman*	
Alon Hamilton Shulman	an Event Producer	Camden, London
Neville Shulman, OBE	*Citizen and Blacksmith*	
Leslie Morgan, OBE DL	*Citizen and Blacksmith*	
Captain Catherine Smith	an Insurance Broker	Wokingham, Berkshire
William Victor Rowlinson	*Citizen and Security Professional*	
Alan Roy Willis	*Citizen and Baker*	
Christopher John Smith	a Chartered Accountant	Suffolk
Christopher Paul Grant	*Citizen and Baker*	
Russell Chweidan	*Citizen and Baker*	
Gastón David Sola	a City Scholar	Bloomsbury, London
The Rt. Hon The Lady Mayor	*Citizen and Insurer*	
Dep. Christopher Michael Hayward	*Citizen and Pattenmaker*	
Fay Maria Spencer	a Chief Finance Officer	Colchester, Essex
Dep. Henry Nicholas Almroth Colthurst	*Citizen and Grocer*	
Dep. Andrien Gereith Dominic Meyers	*Citizen and Goldsmith*	
Max George Stern-Dawson	a Financial Planning Consultant	Wandsworth, London
Philip Mark David Harris	*Citizen and Fletcher*	
Andrew Stephen Whitton	*Citizen and Needlemaker*	
Giuseppe Stillitano	a City Scholar	Bloomsbury, London
The Rt. Hon The Lady Mayor	*Citizen and Insurer*	
Dep. Christopher Michael Hayward	*Citizen and Pattenmaker*	

Sophia Leah Stojicevic	a City Scholar	Bloomsbury, London
The Rt. Hon The Lady Mayor	*Citizen and Insurer*	
Dep. Christopher Michael Hayward	*Citizen and Pattenmaker*	
Michelle Thorpe	a Charity Director	Southwark, London
The Rt. Hon The Lady Mayor	*Citizen and Insurer*	
Sheriff & Dep. Keith David Forbes Bottomley	*Citizen and Pattenmaker*	
Claire Marie Tighe	a Government Special Advisor	Ealing, London
Vincent Dignam	*Citizen and Carman*	
David O'Reilly	*Citizen and Educator*	
Nigel Turner	a Military Musician	Redbridge, London
Patrick John Marsland-Roberts, TD	*Citizen and Carman*	
Andrew Stephen Whitton	*Citizen and Needlemaker*	
Stewart John William Vallely	a Senior Programme Manager	Hockley, Essex
The Rt. Hon The Lady Mayor	*Citizen and Insurer*	
Sheriff & Dep. Keith David Forbes Bottomley	*Citizen and Pattenmaker*	
Dr Vanessa Claire Vallely, OBE	a Business Consultancy Company Director	Hockley, Essex
The Rt. Hon The Lady Mayor	*Citizen and Insurer*	
Sheriff & Dep. Keith David Forbes Bottomley	*Citizen and Pattenmaker*	
Rixt Marloes Van Der Valk	a City Scholar	Bloomsbury, London
The Rt. Hon The Lady Mayor	*Citizen and Insurer*	
Dep. Christopher Michael Hayward	*Citizen and Pattenmaker*	
Conor Joseph Walsh	a Pupil Barrister	Lambeth, London
Jago Toner	*Citizen and International Banker*	
Dmitry Lysenko	*Citizen and Joiner & Ceiler*	
Darren William Walters	a Caretaker	Islington, London
The Rt. Hon The Lady Mayor	*Citizen and Insurer*	
Sheriff & Dep. Keith David Forbes Bottomley	*Citizen and Pattenmaker*	
Richard John Ward	a Building Services Divisional Director	Hertfordshire
Dep. Marianne Bernadette Fredericks	*Citizen and Baker*	
Vincent Dignam	*Citizen and Carman*	
Teresa Ann Watts	a Local Authority Childrens' Services Lead	Loughton, Essex
The Rt. Hon The Lady Mayor	*Citizen and Insurer*	
Sheriff & Dep. Keith David Forbes Bottomley	*Citizen and Pattenmaker*	
Patricia Yvonne Webber	an Investment Adviser	Barnet, London
Ann-Marie Jefferys	*Citizen and Glover*	
Anne Elizabeth Holden	*Citizen and Basketmaker*	
Paul John Wedge	a Military Musician	Oxfordshire
Patrick John Marsland-Roberts, TD	*Citizen and Carman*	

Andrew Stephen Whitton	*Citizen and Needlemaker*	
Gary Stephen Welsh	a Civil Servant	Buckingham, Buckinghamshire
Dep. Peter Gerard Dunphy, MBE	*Citizen and Draper*	
Jonathan Martin Averns	*Citizen and Fletcher*	
Matthew James Wooltorton	a Construction Contracts Manager	Bedford, Bedfordshire
Dep. Marianne Bernadette Fredericks	*Citizen and Baker*	
Vincent Dignam	*Citizen and Carman*	
Nasir Younas	a Hospitality Company Director	Croydon, London
Wendy Mead, CC, OBE	*Citizen and Glover*	
Patricia Agnes Campfield, MBE	*Citizen and Wheelwright*	
Anushay Zehra	a City Scholar	Bloomsbury, London
The Rt. Hon The Lady Mayor	*Citizen and Insurer*	
Dep. Christopher Michael Hayward	*Citizen and Pattenmaker*	

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.

10. Motions

The Court received three motions, all pertaining to appointments to Ward Committees. It was noted that Motion 10(B), by Deputy Jaspreet Hodgson, had been withdrawn.

Martinelli, P.N., Deputy Woodhouse, P. M.

By Deputy Paul Martinelli

(A) *Resolved* - That Stuart Thompson be appointed to Port Health and Environmental Services Committee for the Ward of Farringdon Without, in the room of Gregory Lawrence.

Wilkins, C., Deputy Woodhouse, P. M.

By Deputy Ceri Wilkins

(C) *Resolved* - That Dawn Frampton be appointed to Planning and Transportation Committee for the Ward of Cripplegate, in the room of Jacqui Webster.

Meyers, A.G.D., Deputy Woodhouse, P.M.

By Deputy Andrien Meyers

(D) *Resolved* - That Timothy McNally be appointed to Community & Children's Services Committee for the Ward of Aldgate, in the room of David Sales.

11. Questions

Freedom of the City of London of Andrew Mountbatten-Windsor

Grekos, M., Alderwoman to the Chairman of the Policy and Resources Committee

Alderwoman Martha Grekos asked a question of the Chairman of the Policy & Resources Committee concerning Andrew Mountbatten-Windsor's Freedom of the City, asking whether the Chairman would undertake to do whatever he can to remove that Freedom.

The Chairman confirmed that a response would be provided at item 20 in the non-

public session.

Alderwoman Grekos asked a supplementary question on the matter asking whether the Chairman would support proposing to Parliament that it legislate to remove the Freedom and whether he rejected the notion that doing so would infringe Andrew Mountbatten-Windsor's human rights.

The Chair reiterated that a full answer would be provided in the non-public session.

Deputy Marianne Fredericks asked why the matter was being discussed in the non-public session of the meeting.

The Chair responded that he was acting on officer advice and that the matter should be discussed in the non-public session.

Tessa Marchington asked whether the Chair would take a stronger narrative line in condemning the behaviour of Andrew Mountbatten-Windsor, to which the Chair responded that the narrative would be picked up at item 20.

Frampton, D. to the Chair of the Community and Children's Services Committee

Golden Lane Leisure Centre

Dawn Frampton asked the Chair of the Community and Children's Services Committee what lessons had been learned on decision-making and stakeholder engagement following the recent decision to close the Golden Lane Leisure Centre.

The Chair responded that the Corporation was committed to a refurbished Golden Lane Leisure Centre in a way that provides a vibrant, valued and viable facility for all the City's communities for years to come and was investing £10.4m to achieve that end. She also highlighted the £300m investment in social housing of which more than £110m was ear marked for the Golden Lane estate. Her Committee was of the view that the design options for refurbishment had been shaped by a range of robust engagement activities and assessments relating to heritage, planning, sustainability, mechanical and electrical features and structural issues. Some options had been discounted due to the design's impact on operational viability and potential heritage harm. The Committee had agreed a preferred design option at its January 2026 meeting, taking into account a business case analysis projecting the potential budgetary implications

Views on the sports hall's importance as a community space had been heard, and further engagement on the design options had been arranged; the findings would be presented at the Community and Children's Services Committee's June meeting. The feedback would be considered and a preferred design option confirmed, after which technical design would be subject to full consultation.

A 'Golden Lane Leisure Centre Advisory Board' would be established to represent users and potential users from across the Square Mile, inform the future operation of this valued City asset.

Dawn Frampton asked the Chair a supplementary question on the re-start of engagement, what hadn't worked, and how the approach would be improved going forward.

The Chair responded that in any consultation, some people would regret their lack of engagement and others do not like the outcome. There had been engagement, and the Chair felt these had been positive meetings and the benefits would be seen in due course.

Mercy Haggerty asked the Chair whether, given the immense value of the Leisure Centre, she would commit to bringing a fully costed report to the Community & Children's Services Committee's meeting in June to assess the viability of opening the sports hall, potentially with volunteer support.

The Chair responded that there had been extensive discussion around reopening the sports hall; officers' time was now being spent on re-design measures. Focus was on the sports hall in recognition of its value as a community asset; there were challenges around reopening the sports hall on a temporary basis.

Deputy Ceri Wilkins asked whether the Chair would work with Members to create a mural on the hoarding once it was in place, and involve local schoolchildren and other groups; the Chair supported this idea.

Anett Rideg asked the Chair whether she could confirm whether neighbouring facilities were working well, and whether their feedback on the design would be incorporated. The Chair responded that all users and groups of the Leisure Centre had been offered an alternative, though there were some challenges around communication. The Chair noted that feedback had generally been positive.

Deputy Nighat Qureishi commented that due diligence took time but was necessary and urged the Chair to ensure that all stakeholders were part of the consultation exercise. The Chair noted that the Leisure Centre would be an outstanding facility once refurbished and that the right scrutiny would take place.

Deputy John Edwards asked whether the consultation would include residents in the City beyond the Golden Lane area, noting that the £10m investment was for all City residents and that residents of neighbouring wards did not appear to have been contacted.

The Chair confirmed that the original consultation survey was open to all gym members and user groups, which included people from neighbouring wards; the second round of engagement was also open to all gym users and user groups and was not restricted to residents of the Golden Lane area.

Deputy Marianne Fredericks commented that the process did not appear to have been robust, that the list of consultees was not extensive, and that all City residents had a right to speak out about the Centre. She asked why the City had overlooked the support for keeping the sports hall open and whether the Chair would undertake to work with all stakeholders to safeguard the future Centre as a place that was fit for purpose. She also asked whether the urgency report would be put in the public domain.

The Chair reiterated that the original consultation involved 405 respondents from across the City, and that the engagement was being reopened. Options around the sports hall were being carefully considered and the revised design would incorporate the best of the additional gym space as well as the sports hall facilities.

Oliver, D., Deputy to the Chairman of the Planning and Transportation Committee

Residential amenity considerations in planning applications

Deputy Deborah Oliver asked the Chairman of the Planning and Transportation Committee whether he would commit to the creation of a Residential Amenity and Engagement Supplementary Plan in the light of the pending adoption of the City Plan 2040, commenting that any such Supplementary Plan should specifically define the significant weight that must be attributed to resident-led evidence regarding the lived environment, to ensure that that the Planning and

Transportation Committee had a robust, policy-backed basis to refuse applications that demonstrably harm the City's residential fabric.

The Chair responded that the current Local Plan, and the emerging City Plan – supported by existing guidance – created a robust and extensive framework for addressing impacts on residential amenity as a result of development, adding that the emerging City Plan had passed through several stages of consultation and an examination process where it was subject to strict scrutiny in public hearing sessions, with residents highly engaged throughout. The Chairman noted that there were at least 12 planning policies between the City Plan and the London Plan that ensure the City maintains an appropriate residential environment. These covered daylight/sunlight, light spillage, air quality, noise, freight, and servicing, as well as a specific 'residential environment' policy in the new City Plan 2040.

A number of detailed guidance documents also already addressed this area including the nationally used guidance by the Building Research Establishment on daylight and sunlight; adopted Supplementary Planning Documents produced by the Corporation addressing air quality, sustainability, lighting, and freight and servicing; and the City Corporation's Code of Practice for Construction. This was supported by extensive in-house expertise. There was full statutory consultation on every application with neighbouring properties under the City Corporation's Statement of Community Involvement.

The Chair therefore felt unable to commit to the proposed document, as recent Government regulations specifically prescribed what could be contained in supplementary documents. The City Corporation was rising to the challenge of planning for the future of the Square Mile through the emerging City Plan 2040.

Deputy Deborah Oliver asked a supplementary question of the Chair on whether consideration might be given to the introduction of an independent Design Review Panel to strengthen further the quality, transparency and independence of design advice and insight available to Members.

In reply, the Chair said that Design Review Panels existed for two principal reasons, neither of which applied in the City of London Corporation – firstly, to plug shortfalls in in-house design expertise and bolster the capabilities of poorly-resourced local planning authorities. This was not a problem experienced at the City Corporation, which had a thirteen-strong team of professional experts in urban design, conservation, access and inclusion, architecture, archaeology and public realm. This was unusual in local authorities, and exceptional considering the volume of applications considered by the City Corporation's. The second reason was to provide independent external scrutiny of projects, which was already provided at the City Corporation given that nearly all major schemes receive scrutiny and input from a range of external stakeholders.

The City Corporation had its own review panels of external experts in the form of the Conservation Area Advisory Committee and the City of London Access Group, though the latter was momentarily in abeyance whilst it undergoes reform. Third-party reviews of schemes on more technical topic areas – such as viability or carbon optioneering – provide an additional layer of external scrutiny, summarising that schemes already receive plenty of external, independent, expert scrutiny at various stages in the process.

The Chair noted that Design Review Panels were resource-intensive and would

take away from statutory functions. He felt it would not be worth establishing one as it would amount to another layer of bureaucracy.

Thomson, J.M.D., CBE, Deputy, to the Chair of the City of London Police Authority Board

Corporation's response to Government plans on Police reform

Deputy James Thomson asked the Chair of the City of London Police Authority Board for an update on the Government plans on Police reform, and the response of the City Corporation and the City of London Police.

The Chair noted that the City Corporation and City Police had, on 20 May 2026, sent a joint submission to the Independent Review of Force Structures setting out the City's position.

The City of London was the safest local authority in London, despite a daytime population of almost half a million. The Square Mile remained the only major global financial centre with a dedicated police force of the scale and specialism tailored to its risk profile and economic role. The model worked: overall crime was down 17% year on year, including an 11% reduction in theft. The policing of the City was of national importance, due to its position as a global financial centre and its safety is absolutely central to its contributions to national employment, inward investment, tax revenue, and economic growth. The City of London Police received extensive support from the City Corporation and from businesses in the Square Mile.

The City Corporation supported the Government's aims for policing in England and Wales to better serve the needs of victims and deliver more effective, efficient and accountable policing; for London, this meant building on the above and keeping a dedicated, highly effective and accountable City Police while recognising that the establishment of a national police service could in the future offer up new opportunities for strengthening regional integration. The City of London Police was already achieving governmental aims; there was clear accountability, independent and responsive leadership, and a strong and inclusive force culture that was vital to public trust and confidence.

The Chair said that there were no clear reasons why absorbing the City Police within a larger force would achieve the outcomes of governmental reform programmes; regional integration was a clear way to improve efficiency and effectiveness. A takeover by the Metropolitan Police would be counter-productive and regressive.

The City Corporation would continue to engage constructively with government on reform – making sure this reflected the City's policing needs and that it delivered for City victims of crime, City communities, London and the nation.

All remaining questions were rolled over to the Court meeting of 25 June 2026 due to time constraints.

12. 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:-

Acts	Royal Assent
English Devolution and Community Empowerment Act This Act will be reported to Policy and Resources Committee as well as to Investment and Licensing committees. The Act	29 April 2026

introduces a new form of devolution architecture for England, centred around the new category of "strategic authorities" (SAs). These are organisations designated by Government to have responsibility for strategy development and programme delivery over larger functional economic areas. This role will include mayoral combined authorities and the Greater London Authority (GLA). Establishes the Local Audit Office as the body responsible for overseeing local audit. Requires mayors and combined authorities to prioritise brownfield land in spatial strategies.

Victims and Courts Bill 29 April 2026

The Act introduces a range of criminal justice reforms, including provisions to compel offenders to attend their sentencing hearings and measures to enhance powers of the Victims' Commissioner. Extends the time limits for the Attorney General's Office to review cases under the unduly lenient sentences scheme.

Crime and Policing Act 29 April 2026

Introduces a specific offence of assaulting a retail worker, increases the maximum penalties for offences relating to the sale of weapons, creates a new offence of possessing a bladed article with intent to use unlawful violence. Provides the police with the power to enter a premises without a warrant to search for and seize stolen goods, such as phones located using GPS tracking technology. Creates multiple new laws related to sexual offences, including enhanced notification requirements on registered sex offenders, criminalising certain types of pornography, creating a new offence of child criminal exploitation a new offence related to the taking of intimate images without consent.

Statutory Instruments **In Force**

Renters' Rights Act 2025 (Commencement No. 2 and Transitional and Saving Provisions) Regulations 2026 1 May 2026

Brings large parts of the Act into force. Including:

- For private assured tenancies, the abolition of fixed term and shorthold assured tenancies, so that all tenancies under that Act will now be assured periodic tenancies, and the abolition of "section 21 evictions" (also known as "no fault evictions");
- A new ground for possession of student accommodation for occupation by students, which temporarily reduces notice periods from 4 to 2 months for notices served between 1st May 2026 and 30th July 2026 (inclusive) in relation to existing tenancies. Its purpose is to facilitate the usual letting cycle for the 2026/27 academic year;

- A transitional provision that restricts rent increases to no more than once annually;
- That, in relation to homeless people who accept an offer of an assured shorthold tenancy, where a person becomes homeless again within 2 years of accepting that offer, the local authority duty will apply if the person is not intentionally homeless regardless of whether the person has a priority need.

Local Government Pension Scheme (Elected Member Pensions) (Consequential Amendment) Regulations 2026 — 11 May 2026
Extends the membership of the Local Government Pension Scheme to elected members of local authorities in England.

Greater London Authority Elections (Amendment) Rules 2026 — 15 May 2026
Amends the rules for Greater London Authority elections so that where ballot papers are to be counted manually (instead of with the use of an electronic counting system) the verification and counting of ballot papers in each Assembly constituency may be undertaken in more than one location within the constituency and at different times.

Read.

The text of the measures and the explanatory notes may be obtained from the Remembrancer's Office.

13. Ballots — The Town Clerk reported the results of a ballot 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

FIVE Members to the **Policy and Resources Committee**

*Munsur Ali	14
Leyla Boulton	34 ✶
*Tijs Broeke	36 ✶
Simon Duckworth OBE DL	28
^Deputy Peter Dunphy MBE	45 ✶
Josephine Hayes	16
Sandra Jenner	20
Philip Kelvin	28
Gregory Lawrence	34 ✶
*Deputy Benjamin Murphy	43 ✶
Suzanne Ornsby KC	26
^Deputy Henry Pollard	31

Naresh Sonpar	21
*James Tumbridge	26
*Irem Yerdelen	23

TWO Members to the **Investment Committee**

Deputy Timothy Butcher	35 ✶
^Steve Goodman OBE	31
^Deputy Madush Gupta	26
^Shravan Joshi MBE	32
*Deputy James Thomson CBE	61 ✶

TWO Members to the **City of London Police Authority Board**

*Tijs Broeke	88 ✶
*Alderman Professor Emma Edham	41
Philip Kelvin	53 ✶

FOUR Members to the **Corporate Services Committee**

Deputy Timothy Butcher	52 ✶
*Stephen Hodgson	52 ✶
^Adam Hogg	43
*Florence Keelson-Anfu	65 ✶
*Charles Edward Lord OBE JP	44
*Deputy Alastair Moss	49 ✶

TWO Members to the **Board of Governors Guildhall School of Music and Drama**

*Munsur Ali	53
*Naresh Sonpar	62 ✶
Deputy Dawn Wright	63¬

TWO Members to the **Barbican Centre Board**

*Munsur Ali	49 ✶
*Aaron D'Souza	75 ✶
Charles Edward Lord OBE JP	41

TWO Members to the **Freedom Applications Sub-Committee**

#John Foley	50 ✶
#*Deputy Madush Gupta	32
*Charles Edward Lord OBE JP	44
#Tessa Marchington	67 ✶

Read.

14. Resolutions

There were no resolutions.

15. Awards and Prizes

There was no Report.

16. Hospital Seal

There were no docquets to be sealed.

17. **POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE**

(Deputy Christopher Michael Hayward)

17 March 2026

Reinstatement of the London Marathon Public Spaces Protection Order

The Court considered a Report concerning action taken concerning the Reinstatement of the London Marathon Public Spaces Protection Order.

Resolved – that the Court noted the action taken.

18. Exclusion of the public

Woodhouse, P.; Meyers, A.G.D., Deputy

MOTION – That the public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business below on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraph 3 and 5 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act, 1972; or, they relate to functions of the Court of Common Council that are not subject to the provisions of Part VA and Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972.

Speaking to the Motion, the Chief Commoner explained that Item 20 should be debated in private due to legal sensitivities, including an ongoing criminal investigation and data protection considerations, and to align with the Court's usual approach to disciplinary-style matters. It was emphasised that a Freeman should be treated consistently with Members or High Officers, that a private debate allows for fuller and more appropriate deliberation, and that the Court could then still vote to make the outcome public. He concluded by opposing any potential amendment to the Motion that would have the effect of holding the debate in public.

Grekos, M.; Boulton, L.

Alderwoman Martha Grekos opposed the Motion, noting that the report at item 20 was a matter of public interest and its recommendations. She accordingly moved an Amendment with the effect of moving item 20 into the public session.

Amendment – to move consideration of Item 20 into public session.

Deputy Andrien Meyers moved that the question be now put. However, the Lord Mayor ruled that this was premature.

The Court continued to debate the Amendment, with Members expressing disparate views. Some felt that care should be given to prejudicing any criminal investigations and that a public debate would not allow for an unfettered debate; others believed that it was in the public interest to have the discussion with the public present.

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

The Motion, as originally issued on the Summons, was put and the Lord Mayor declared it to be carried.

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; or 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:-

19. *Non-Public Minutes* The Court considered the non-public minutes of the meeting of 23 April 2026.

20. **Policy & Resources Committee**
The Court considered a report concerning the Freedom of the City of London.

21. **Finance Committee**
The Court considered a report relating to the London Museum.

22. **Civic Affairs Sub-Committee**
The Court considered the report relating to the provision of hospitality.

The meeting commenced at 1.00pm and ended at 2.31pm

THOMAS.