Item No: 3

LANGLEY, MAYOR

COURT OF COMMON COUNCIL

10th September 2026
MEMBERS PRESENT

ALDERMEN

Alexander Robertson Martin Barr (Alderman)
Sir Charles Edward Beck Bowman (Alderman)
Professor Emma Edhem (Alderman)
Alison Gowman CBE (Alderman)
Martha Grekos (Alderwoman)
Timothy Russell Hailes (Alderman)
Robert Picton Seymour Howard (Alderman)
Robert Charles Hughes-Penney (Alderman)
Gregory Jones KC (Alderman)
Sir Alastair John Naisbitt King DL (Alderman)
Elizabeth Anne King, BEM JP (Alderwoman)
The Rt Hon. The Lady Mayor, Dame Susan Langley, DBE (Alderwoman)
Tim Levene (Alderman & Sheriff)
Bronek Masojada (Alderman)
Jennette Rachel Newman (Alderwoman)
Sir Andrew Charles Parmley, (Alderman)
Sir William Anthony Bowater Russell (Alderman)

COMMONERS

Joanna Tufuo Abeyie JP MBE
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
Keith David Forbes Bottomley, Deputy
Leyla Boulton
Tijs Broeke
Simon Burrows
Timothy Richard Butcher, Deputy
Dominic Gerard Christian
Lesley Cole
Melissa Rachel Collett
Henry Nicholas Almroth Colthurst, Deputy
Bethany Coombs
Anne Corbett, Deputy
Elizabeth Corrin
Karina Dostalova
Simon Duckworth, CBE OBE DL VR
Peter Gerard Dunphy MBE, Deputy
John Ernest Edwards, Deputy
Susan Farrington
Helen Lesley Fentimen OBE JP, Deputy
John Foley
Dawn Frampton
Marianne Bernadette Fredericks, Deputy
Steve Goodman OBE
John Griffiths
Jason Groves
Madush Gupta, Deputy
Mercy Haggerty
Caroline Wilma Haines, Deputy
Josephine Hayes
Christopher Michael Hayward, Deputy
Jaspreet Hodgson, Deputy
Stephen Hodgson
Adam Michael Hogg
Ann Holmes, Deputy
Amy Horscroft
Shravan Jashvantrai Joshi, MBE
Florence Keelson-Anfu
Helen Ladele
Charles Edward Lord, OBE JP
Antony Geoffrey Manchester
Vasiliki Manta
Tessa Marchington
Paul Nicholas Martinelli, Deputy
Tim McNally
Wendy Mead OBE
Andrien Gereith Dominic Meyers, Deputy
Sophia Mooney
Alastair Michael Moss, Deputy
Benjamin Daniel Murphy, Deputy
Deborah Oliver TD, Deputy
Suzanne Ornsby KC
Leyla Ostovar
James Henry George Pollard, Deputy
Jason Paul Pritchard
Nighat Qureishi, Deputy
Anett Rideg
Gaby Robertshaw
David Sales
Sushil Kumar Saluja (Alderman)
Oliver Sells KC, Deputy
Tom Sleigh, Deputy
Sir Michael Snyder
Naresh Hari Sonpar
James St John Davis
Stephanie Steeden
Stuart Peter James Thompson
James Michael Douglas Thomson CBE, Deputy
James Richard Tumbridge
William Upton KC
Matthew Waters
Jacqueline Roberts Webster
Mark Raymond Peter Henry Delano Wheatley
Ceri Wilkins, Deputy
Chief Commoner Philip Woodhouse
Dawn Linsey Wright, Deputy
Irem Yerdelen

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

2. Declarations — There were none.

3. Minutes — *Resolved,* that the Minutes of the last Court are correctly recorded.

4. Mayoral engagements

The Lady Mayor opened her statement by welcoming back Members and officers after the summer recess. After reflecting on both the occasion of World Suicide Prevention Day and the upcoming 25th anniversary of the September 11 attacks, she informed the Court of her recent overseas to Monaco, and upcoming visits Vietnam, Indonesia, and Singapore. She concluded her remarks by thanking the two Sheriffs - Alderman Robert Hughes-Penney and Deputy Keith Bottomley, as well as their consorts Elspeth and Kevin - for all of their support, encouragement, good humour, and hard work through the year.

5. Policy Statement

In his statement, the Chairman joined the Lady Mayor in welcoming Honourable Members back from the summer break. After highlighting that the upcoming opening of the new London Museum in November, the Chairman provided an update on the City Corporation's activities during the party conference season. The Corporation's engagement would focus on two closely connected priorities – supporting sustainable economic growth across the whole UK and strengthening the economic security on which that growth relied.

6. Appointments

The Court proceeded to consider the following appointments:

(A) **Culture, Heritage & Libraries Committee** (one vacancy)
No contest

Nomination received: -
John Griffiths

Read.

Whereupon the Lady Mayor declared John Griffiths to be appointed to the Culture, Heritage & Libraries Committee.

(B) **Central Foundation Schools for London** (one vacancy)
Despite efforts to fill this longstanding vacancy from within the membership of the Court of Common Council, no nominations had been received. An eligible external candidate had now been identified.

Resolved, that given the Civic Affairs Sub-Committee's responsibility for oversight of outside bodies, authority to consider and approve the City of London Corporation's appointment to Central Foundation Schools for London, be delegated to the Sub-Committee.

Whereupon the Court delegated authority to consider and approve the City of London Corporation's appointment to Central Foundation Schools for London to the Civic Affairs Sub-Committee.

7. **POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE**

(Deputy Christopher Michael Hayward)

Bill for an Act of Common Council – Power to Remove the Freedom of the City (Disenfranchisement)

The Court considered a Report of the Policy and Resources Committee concerning the process of removal of the Freedom of the City (disenfranchisement), and the requirement for Bill for an Act of Common Council to effect proposed changes to said process.

Resolved – That the Court of Common Council approves:

- Conferring the power of removal of the Freedom of the City of London (disenfranchisement) upon the Court of Common Council where it considers that removal is appropriate, having regard to the relevant legal principles and the circumstances of the case.
- The draft Bill for an Act of Common Council to effect this change, as set out in Appendix 2 to this Report.

8. Motion

By Deputy Ann Holmes

Holmes, A., Deputy; Oliver, D., TD, Deputy

Motion:-

"This Honourable Court resolves that*:*

1) it agrees, in principle, that the position of "Policy Leader" is established, and that the member holding that position is elected by the whole membership of the Court of Common Council; and

2) that the member so elected becomes Chair of the Policy and Resources Committee.

Should 1) and 2) above be agreed, it is further resolved that:

3) officers be instructed to report to the Policy and Resources Committee the changes to Standing Orders and any other associated governance changes necessary to bring the desired outcomes about, in time for these changes to be considered and decided upon by the Court, prior to the elections due to take place at the April 2027 Court of Common Council meeting.*"*

Deputy Holmes introduced her Motion by saying that it sought to make the location of power and lines of accountability transparent by giving an unambiguous title to the Member taking a lead in policymaking and by having them elected by the whole Membership of the Court. The Motion also placed confidence in officers to best advise on implementation.

Deputy Deborah Oliver seconded the Motion, stating that it would ensure that the City of London Corporation's governance arrangements reflected the reality of how leadership was exercised within the City Corporation. The broad description of the role of the Chair of Policy and Resources implied a position extending beyond the remit of leadership of a single Committee and that was where the constitutional question arose. Committees derived their authority from powers delegated from the Court, which remained the sovereign governing body of the City Corporation. The Motion aimed to ensure that authority, accountability, and legitimacy remained properly aligned.

Members proceeded to debate the Motion.

The Chairman of the Policy and Resources Committee said he could not support the Motion. He acknowledged his own term in said office would cease in Spring 2027, he believed that it would not be in the interests of the City Corporation to approve the Motion.

During his tenure, he had simply sought to carry out the role in line with the job description of the Policy Chair: “To provide political leadership for the City of London Corporation”. He had used the phrase “de facto political leader” to help external and international audiences understand the role. The City Corporation’s dual leadership model rested on two fundamentals – the appointment of committees by the Court and the election of Chairs by committees.

The principle of a ‘Policy Leader’ could lead to a move away from the Committee system to an Executive Leadership model. He expressed concern that the principle might inadvertently result in Chairs not being accountable to the Committee they chaired, but to the whole Court, meaning they would potentially be unable to command the confidence of their own Committee.

He felt that a move away from this model would undermine the committee structure. Furthermore, that Members should not be making such significant changes in this manner, and that a sufficient case for change had not been made.. He therefore urged Honourable Members to vote against the Motion.

During debate, several Members spoke to oppose the Motion, agreeing with the Policy Chairman that it could result in Chairs not being able to act with the confidence and support of their Committees, and lead to fundamental and unwelcome changes in the City Corporation’s governance model. For that reason, many felt that the principle, if progressed at all, should be considered as part of ongoing broader reviews into the City Corporation’s governance.

Other Members spoke to support the Motion, suggesting that they felt it would provide greater legitimacy for the Chairman of the Committee to represent the City Corporation as its political leader. Others suggested it would be a more transparent and accountable method of appointment.

C. E. Lord said they supported the principle of introducing a ‘Leader’ role, to be elected by the whole Court as it would give the legitimacy that the Court had heard other Members refer to. However, they were concerned that the Motion had not received a sufficient level of scrutiny, and accordingly proposed that there would be merit to establishing a working party to consider the question.

They felt that an amendment to this effect would give Members the opportunity to consider all of the issues that had been raised so far and would enable the Court to make a decision on a considered basis.

Pursuant to Standing Order 11(7), the Court paused proceedings for five minutes to clarify the terms of such an amendment.

Mr James Tumbridge seconded the Amendment upon confirmation of its terms, as follows:

Lord, C.E.; Tumbridge, J.

“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 that:

The Policy and Resources Committee be directed to establish a working party comprising:

- *The Chair and Deputy Chair of the Policy and Resources Committee*
- *The Chair and Deputy Chair of the General Purposes Committee of Aldermen*
- *The Chief Commoner*
- *Two Aldermen or Alderwomen (nominated by the General Purposes Committee)*
- *Eight Common Councillors (elected by the whole Court)*

to consider the title, role, and method of election of the Chair of the Policy and Resources Committee and related and ancillary matters, and that the Working Party should report to the Court not later than its meeting in January 2027."

During debate on the amendment, several Members argued that consideration of this matter should be included as part of the broader, ongoing Governance Review. Some Members also opposed the creation of another Working Party, given that there were several currently in operation.

Some expressed concern that the aforementioned Governance Review had not been approved by the Court and consequently sought clarity on what this referred to.

The Chairman of the Policy and Resources Committee responded to provide clarification of policy; the Committee had commissioned a Governance Review under its delegated powers, looking at a range of issues under the oversight of the Assistant Town Clerk. The matters outlined in the Motion and Amendment could be incorporated into this work if Members so wished. There would be an email to all Members circulated by the Assistant Town Clerk in the coming weeks outlining the wide consultative process across the whole Court so that Members could input accordingly.

Members supporting the original Motion spoke to oppose the Amendment as they felt the measures it proposed risked delaying consideration of the matter, beyond the desired timeframe.

Other Members spoke to support the Amendment; they felt it would provide for further scrutiny and consideration and help to gain the confidence of the wider Court for any final proposals.

The Mover concluded the debate on their Amendment, stating the significance of the matter required focus of a dedicated group. They highlighted the positive example of previous Working Parties which had reported directly to the Court on governance matters and said their Amendment would provide for engagement opportunities for all Members, including Aldermen.

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

The Court returned to debate on the original Motion.

A Member, speaking in support of the Motion, said they felt that such a change would clarify the purpose of the role and enable greater accountability at point of election.

Other Members continued to speak against the Motion, arguing the proposal had been insufficiently considered and risked damaging a system they felt currently worked.

A Member said they felt that the current remit of the Policy and Resources Committee as balanced against the other Grand Committees was incorrect, citing the examples of the Markets Relocation Programme and cultural strategies.

The Policy Chairman assured Members that the Governance Review would be conducted with a full consultation across all the Members of the Court. Whilst the findings and recommendations would be initially submitted to the Policy & Resources Committee, these would then be submitted to the Court for final approval. His position on the Motion before Members today, remained unchanged. The Chairman encouraged people to vote against the Motion.

Deputy Ann Holmes closed the debate by stressing that the Motion concerned a simple principle – making power and accountability transparent. She felt that the individual with the responsibility for policy leadership should be elected by a majority of the Court. She did not see what further information was required today for Members to simply agree with the principle. This was not a debate about implementation, and she was confident that officers would deal with the full arrangements and details following the Court's decision to approve the principle. She therefore asked Members to support the Motion.

Upon the Motion being put, the Lady Mayor declared it to be lost.

A Division being demanded and granted, there appeared:-

For the Affirmative – 35

ALDERMEN

Grekos, M.	King, E.	

COMMONERS

Adkin, T.	Haggerty, M.	Oliver, D., T.D.
Ali, M.	Hayes, J.	Ornsby, S.
Bagchi, S.	Hodgson, J., Deputy	Ostovar, L.
Barns, B.	Hodgson, S.	Pritchard, J.
Bell, M.	Hogg, A.	Sonpar, N.
Boulton, L.	Holmes, A., Deputy	Steeden, S.
Coombs, B.	Lord, C.E., O.B.E.	Thompson, S.P.J.
Corbett, A., Deputy	Manchester, A.	Webster, J.
Farrington, S.	Manta, V.	Wheatley, M.
Foley, J.	McNally, T.	Wilkins, C. , Deputy
Fredericks, M., Deputy	Mead, W.	Woodhouse, P.J.

For the Negative – 53

ALDERMEN

Barr, A.R.M.	Hughes-Penney, R.C.,	Newman, J.R.

Sheriff

Bowman, Sir Charles	Jones, G., K.C	Parmley, Sir Andrew
Gowman, A., C.B.E.	King, Sir Alastair Naisbitt, D.L.	Russell, Sir William
Hailes, T.R.	Levene, T.	Saluja, S.
Howard, R.P.S.	Masojada, B.	

COMMONERS

Benn, E., The Hon.	Fentimen, H.L., O.B.E., J.P., Deputy	Mooney, S.
Bensted-Smith, N.M., J.P.	Goodman, S., , O.B.E	Murphy, B.M., Deputy
Bottomley, K.D.F., Sheriff & Deputy	Griffiths, J.	Pollard, J.H.G., Deputy
Broeke, T.	Groves, J.	Qureishi, N., Deputy
Burrows, S.	Gupta, M., Deputy	Robertshaw, G.
Butcher, T., Deputy	Haines, C. W., Deputy	Sales, D.
Cole, L.	Hayward, C.M., Deputy	Sleigh, T., Deputy
Collett, M.R.	Horscroft, A.	Snyder, Sir Michael
Corrin, E.	Joshi, S., M.B.E.	Thomson, J.M.D., C.B.E., Deputy
Dostalova, K.	Ladele, H.	Waters, M.
Duckworth, S., C.B.E., O.B.E., D.L., V.R.	Marchington, T.	Wright, D.L., Deputy
Dunphy, P.G., M.B.E., Deputy	Martinelli, P.N., Deputy	Yerdelen, I.
Edwards, J.E., Deputy	Meyers, A.G.D., Deputy	

Abstentions – 6

ALDERMEN

Edhem, E.

COMMONERS

Abeyie, J.T., M.B.E., J.P.,	St John Davis, J.	Upton, W., K.C
Rideg, A.	Tumbridge, J.	

9. Freedom of the City

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.

A Member, noting that the Freedoms Application Sub-Committee was looking at the vetting process for applications for the Freedom, asked the Chairman of the Policy & Resources Committee to commit that any report on this matter would also be referred to the Policy & Resources Committee to ensure that the Freedom of the City of London continued to uphold the highest possible standards.

The Chairman of the Policy and Resources Committee assured the Member that he would ask for the report to be brought to his Committee via the Freedoms

Application Sub-Committee. He had discussed the matter with the Sub-Committee's Chair, who was supportive of the work.

Sabine Altschaeffl	a Hotel General Manager	Waltham Forest, London
Philippe Roland Rossiter	*Citizen and Innholder*	
David Alastair Morgan-Hewitt	*Citizen and Innholder*	
Chief Nurudeen Olanrewaju Ayinla	a Project Manager	Greenwich, London
Timothy James McNally, CC	*Citizen and Glazier*	
David James Sales, CC	*Citizen and Insurer*	
Benjamin Bertus Balaam	a Business Support Systems Company Director	East Sussex
Colin Roger Titmus	*Citizen and Air Pilot*	
Keith Richard Stevens	*Citizen and Management Consultant*	
David Thomas Balson	a Technology Strategy Director	Haringey, London
Ald. Emma Edhem	*Citizen and Woolman*	
Sina Mohammad Mirshahi	*Citizen and Fueller*	
David William Blythe	a Chartered Accountant	Sutton, London
Andrew Francis Phillips	*Citizen and Firefighter*	
Andy Porter	*Citizen and Maker of Playing Cards*	
George William Blythe	a Chartered Accountant	Sutton, London
Andrew Francis Phillips	*Citizen and Firefighter*	
Andy Porter	*Citizen and Maker of Playing Cards*	
Sally Louise Bolton, OBE	a Sports Event Chief Executive	Lambeth, London
The Rt. Hon The Lady Mayor	*Citizen and Insurer*	
John Dominic Reid, OBE	*Citizen and Grocer*	
Lynn Langston Box	an Educator	Austin, Texas, United States of America
John Michael Allen-Petrie, OBE	*Citizen and Draper*	
Brady Daine Brim-Deforest	*Citizen and Fletcher*	
Richard Arthur Box	a Dentist & Public Administrator	Austin, Texas, United States of America
John Michael Allen-Petrie, OBE	*Citizen and Draper*	
Brady Daine Brim-Deforest	*Citizen and Fletcher*	
Betsy Brady	a Chartered Surveyor	Hillingdon, London
Dep. Madush Gupta	*Citizen and Pewterer*	
Ald. Timothy Russell Hailes, JP	*Citizen and Pewterer*	
Emily Jane Brennan	a Natural Environment Director	Woking, Surrey
Dep. Caroline Wilma	*Citizen and Educator*	

Haines		
James St John Davis, CC	*Citizen and Gardener*	
Matthew David Brown	a Writer & Editor	Borehamwood, Hertfordshire
Brendan Anthony Michael Barns, CC	*Citizen and Cordwainer*	
Dep. Madush Gupta	*Citizen and Pewterer*	
Roy Haskell Burman	a Hospitality Company & Lighting Company Director	Hassocks, East Sussex
Ann-Marie Jefferys	*Citizen and Glover*	
Anne Elizabeth Holden	*Citizen and Basketmaker*	
Jonathan Burton	a Craft Charity Chief Executive Officer	Lewisham, London
The Rt. Hon The Lady Mayor	*Citizen and Insurer*	
Sheriff & Dep. Keith David Forbes Bottomley	*Citizen and Pattenmaker*	
Daniel Carpenter	a Heritage Crafts Charity Executive Director	Wellington, Somerset
The Rt. Hon The Lady Mayor	*Citizen and Insurer*	
Sheriff & Dep. Keith David Forbes Bottomley	*Citizen and Pattenmaker*	
Jeremy John William Caswell	a Business Consultancy Chief Executive	Tower Hamlets, London
The Rt. Hon The Lady Mayor	*Citizen and Insurer*	
Sheriff & Dep. Keith David Forbes Bottomley	*Citizen and Pattenmaker*	
Andrew David Clarke	a Sales Director & Company Secretary	Greenwich, London
Brian William Chart	*Citizen and Carman*	
James Alexander Thomas Oughton	*Citizen and Security Professional*	
Dr Simon Richard Clarke	a University Associate Professor	Didcot, Oxfordshire
John Cameron Clark	*Citizen and Bowyer*	
Michael Stuart Gilham	*Citizen and Upholder*	
Anthony Coleman Connolly	an Artist	Tisbury, Wiltshire
Elizabeth Susan Corrin, CC	*Citizen and Common Councillor*	
Teresa Mary Claire Marchington, CC	*Citizen and Haberdasher*	
Jeffrey Phillip Contreras	a Technology Consultant	Haringey, London
Dep. Marianne Bernadette Fredericks	*Citizen and Baker*	
Ald. Robert Picton Seymour Howard	*Citizen and Gardener*	
Patrick John Craven	a Training Provider Policy Director	Royston, Hertfordshire
The Rt. Hon The Lady Mayor	*Citizen and Insurer*	

Sheriff & Dep. Keith David Forbes Bottomley	*Citizen and Pattenmaker*	
Hugh De Lusignan	a Civil Servant	Hounslow, London
Dep. Madush Gupta	*Citizen and Pewterer*	
Ald. Timothy Russell Hailes, JP	*Citizen and Pewterer*	
Stuart Duncan Deel-Smith	an Information Technology Consultancy Director	Richmond Upon Thames, London
Russell Chweidan	*Citizen and Baker*	
James Adam Barnett	*Citizen and Baker*	
Mathew Ronald Adrian De-la-Hey	an Information Technology Consultant	Wiltshire
Craig Stuart Philip Harding	*Citizen and Constructor*	
Richard Gary Stephen Miller	*Citizen and Glover*	
Michael Samuel O'Hare Devine	a Livery Company Charity Secretary & Army Sergeant	Westminster, London
Alan Roy Willis	*Citizen and Baker*	
Mr John Frederick Hudson	*Citizen and Apothecary*	
Adrian James Ambrose Dite	a Customer Service Manager	Thame, Oxfordshire
The Rt. Hon The Lady Mayor	*Citizen and Insurer*	
John Dominic Reid, OBE	*Citizen and Grocer*	
Patricia Ann Dite	an Academic Librarian, retired	Thame, Oxfordshire
The Rt. Hon The Lady Mayor	*Citizen and Insurer*	
John Dominic Reid, OBE	*Citizen and Grocer*	
Dr Rajinder Paul Dongha	a Head of Responsible Artificial Intelligence	Enfield, London
Ald. Timothy Russell Hailes, JP	*Citizen and Pewterer*	
Dep. Madush Gupta	*Citizen and Pewterer*	
Paschal James Martin Donohoe	an Irish Government Minister	Dublin, Ireland
The Rt. Hon The Lady Mayor	*Citizen and Insurer*	
Dep. Christopher Michael Hayward	*Citizen and Pattenmaker*	
Anna Louise Dorling	a Postdoctoral Researcher	Oxford, Oxfordshire
Zander Charles Jerott Cornish-Moore	*Citizen and Clockmaker*	
Rafael Steinmetz Leffa	*Citizen and International Banker*	
Dr Rocky Joseph Dwyer	an Academic Researcher	Ottawa, Ontario, Canada
Dr Catherine Dyer Stevenson	*Citizen and Arts Scholar*	
James Anthony Drabble	*Citizen and Art Scholar*	
Thomas Robert Alwyn	an Accountant	Camden, London

Ellis		
Colin Trevor Gurnett, MBE JP	*Citizen and Wheelwright*	
John Charles Jordan	*Citizen and Glover*	
William John Fitzalan Howard, JP	a Barrister	Islington, London
Ald. Alison Jane Gowman, CBE	*Citizen and Glover*	
Ald. Timothy Russell Hailes, JP	*Citizen and Pewterer*	
Gary Grant Fletcher	a Technology Consultant	Ealing, London
Rakhitha Lakshman Dias	*Citizen and Entrepreneur*	
Alan Douglas Watson, OBE	*Citizen and Shipwright*	
David John Forde	a Coaching & Development Company Founder	Bromley, London
Vincent Dignam	*Citizen and Carman*	
Ald. Vincent Thomas Keaveny, CBE	*Citizen and Solicitor*	
Bernadette Anne Foster	a Retail Company Director	Horsham, West Sussex
Douglas Keith Watkins	*Citizen and Tax Adviser*	
Janet Mary Watkins	*Citizen and Educator*	
Nigel Stanton Foster	a Retail Company Director	Horsham, West Sussex
Douglas Keith Watkins	*Citizen and Tax Adviser*	
Janet Mary Watkins	*Citizen and Educator*	
Sonia Anne Primrose Friedman, CBE	a Theatre Producer	Tower Hamlets, London
The Rt. Hon The Lady Mayor	*Citizen and Insurer*	
Sheriff & Dep. Keith David Forbes Bottomley	*Citizen and Pattenmaker*	
Thomas Joseph Gallagher	an Insurance Company President	Winnetka, Illinois, United States of America
The Rt. Hon The Lady Mayor	*Citizen and Insurer*	
Sheriff & Dep. Keith David Forbes Bottomley	*Citizen and Pattenmaker*	
Alexander James Garnett-Scherer	a London Underground Operations Service Manager	Redbridge, London
Sheriff & Dep. Keith David Forbes Bottomley	*Citizen and Pattenmaker*	
Ald. Timothy Russell Hailes, JP	*Citizen and Pewterer*	
Rizano Sean Ghouse	a Retail Director	Bromley, London
Shravan Jashvantrai Joshi, CC, MBE	*Citizen and Fueller*	
Dep. Peter Gerard Dunphy MBE	*Citizen and Draper*	
Elizabeth Emily Regina Glithero-West	a Heritage Charity Chief Executive	Richmond Upon Thames, London

The Rt. Hon The Lady Mayor	*Citizen and Insurer*	
Sheriff & Dep. Keith David Forbes Bottomley	*Citizen and Pattenmaker*	
Simon Jeffrey Glover	a Design Director	Waverley, Surrey
The Rt. Hon The Lady Mayor	*Citizen and Insurer*	
John Dominic Reid, OBE	*Citizen and Grocer*	
Victoria Suzanne Glover	a Business Development Director	Waverley, Surrey
The Rt. Hon The Lady Mayor	*Citizen and Insurer*	
John Dominic Reid, OBE	*Citizen and Grocer*	
Caroline Louise Graham	a Cathedral Director of Development	Peterborough, Cambridgeshire
Rebecca Joanne Thompson	*Citizen and Constructor*	
Ald. Alison Jane Gowman, CBE	*Citizen and Glover*	
Dr Richard Michael Grocott-Mason	a Consultant Cardiologist	Beaconsfield, Buckinghamshire
Dr Mahmoud Saleh Barbir	*Citizen and Apothecary*	
Farid Youssef Barakat	*Citizen and Loriner*	
James Darren Guy	a Banker	Leeds, West Yorkshire
Dep. Madush Gupta	*Citizen and Pewterer*	
Ald. Timothy Russell Hailes, JP	*Citizen and Pewterer*	
Daniel Jay Hall	a Teacher	Barnet, London
Dep. Madush Gupta	*Citizen and Pewterer*	
Dr Giles Robert Evelyn Shilson, CC, OBE	*Citizen and Ironmonger*	
Victoria Heloise Harrison	an Investment Manager	Ealing, London
Dep. Madush Gupta	*Citizen and Pewterer*	
Ald. Timothy Russell Hailes, JP	*Citizen and Pewterer*	
Commander Pamela Joyce Healy, RD OBE	a Charity C.E.O.	Hampshire
Ald. Sir Alastair John Naisbitt King, DL	*Citizen and Blacksmith*	
Sophia Abigail Mooney, CC	*Citizen*	
Sonia Christina Henley, JP	an Advertising Director	Heathfield, East Sussex
Ald. Timothy Russell Hailes, JP	*Citizen and Pewterer*	
Ald. Alison Jane Gowman, CBE	*Citizen and Glover*	
Barbara Jean Howard	President of the American Bar Association	Cincinnati, Ohio, United States of America
Ald. Sir William Anthony	*Citizen and Haberdasher*	

Bowater Russell		
Ald. Timothy Russell Hailes, JP	*Citizen and Pewterer*	
Charles Edward Jewkes	an Investment Manager	Tunbridge Wells, Kent
Dep. James Henry George Pollard	*Citizen and Skinner*	
Biagio Fraulo, JP	*Citizen and Tobacco Pipe Maker & Tobacco Blender*	
Emma Louise Jhita	a Conservation Institute Chief Executive Officer	Reading, Berkshire
The Rt. Hon The Lady Mayor	*Citizen and Insurer*	
Sheriff & Dep. Keith David Forbes Bottomley	*Citizen and Pattenmaker*	
Jonathan Christopher Kewley	a Global Tech Group Chair	Chiswick, London
Ald. Gregory Percy Jones, KC	*Citizen and Leatherseller*	
Ald. Timothy Charles Levene	*Citizen and Carmen*	
Soshin Shintaro Kimura	a University Professor	Kyoto City, Kyoto Prefecture, Japan
Jonathan George Brewer	*Citizen and Innholder*	
David Alastair Morgan-Hewitt	*Citizen and Innholder*	
Jonathan Charles Kite	an Automotive Services Seller, retired	Bristol, Gloucestershire
Paresh Bhanji Modasia	*Citizen and Apothecary*	
Colin Trevor Gurnett, MBE JP	*Citizen and Wheelwright*	
His Excellency Inigo Lambertini, CMG	a Diplomat, retired	Rome, Italy
The Rt. Hon The Lady Mayor	*Citizen and Insurer*	
Dep. Christopher Michael Hayward	*Citizen and Pattenmaker*	
Aoife Marie Leach	a Craft Festival Managing Director	Newham, London
The Rt. Hon The Lady Mayor	*Citizen and Insurer*	
Sheriff & Dep. Keith David Forbes Bottomley	*Citizen and Pattenmaker*	
Dr Patrick John Martin Lee	a Performance Artist	Bexley, London
Roy Phillips	*Citizen and Musician*	
Colin Trevor Gurnett, MBE JP	*Citizen and Wheelwright*	
Theodoros Panayiotis Loizou	Beadle To The Chamberlain's Court	Bexley, London
Laura Dobbie Miller	*Citizen and Stationer and Newspaper Maker*	
Andrew David McGregor	*Citizen and Educator*	

Dobbie		
Patricia Lesley Lovett, MBE	a Scribe & Teacher	Sevenoaks, Kent
The Rt. Hon The Lady Mayor	*Citizen and Insurer*	
Sheriff & Dep. Keith David Forbes Bottomley	*Citizen and Pattenmaker*	
Sandra Dawn Catherine Macleod Arnold	a Research Company Chief Executive	Waverley, Surrey
The Rt. Hon The Lady Mayor	*Citizen and Insurer*	
Sheriff & Dep. Keith David Forbes Bottomley	*Citizen and Pattenmaker*	
Stuart Joseph Major	an Engineer	Durham, County Durham
Christopher James Caine	*Citizen and Maker of Playing Cards*	
Terence George William Thurley	*Citizen and Poulter*	
Peter Barry Makin	a Hotel General Manager	Stirlingshire, Scotland
David Alastair Morgan-Hewitt	*Citizen and Innholder*	
Philippe Roland Rossiter	*Citizen and Innholder*	
Derek Alan May, MBE	a Telecommunications Engineer	Rochester, Kent
Billy Andrew Collier	*Citizen and Security Professional*	
Haydn Robert Clarke	*Citizen and Master Mariner*	
Jennifer Alexandra McCabe	a Hotel General Manager	Hindhead, Surrey
David Alastair Morgan-Hewitt	*Citizen and Innholder*	
Philippe Roland Rossiter	*Citizen and Innholder*	
Jackson Richard McGaw	a Military Parachutist	British Columbia, Canada
Justin Gilles Joseph Morin-Carpentier	*Citizen and Tyler & Bricklayer*	
Dr Catherine Dyer Stevenson	*Citizen and Arts Scholar*	
Dominic Liam McGinley, JP	a Civil Servant	Westminster, London
Ald. Alison Jane Gowman, CBE	*Citizen and Glover*	
Ald. Timothy Russell Hailes, JP	*Citizen and Pewterer*	
James Mellon	a Private Investment Chairman	Kensington and Chelsea, London
Julia Lesley Sibley, MBE	*Citizen and Innholder*	
Philip John Woodhouse, CC	*Citizen and Grocer*	
Natalie Ann Melton	a Craft Charity Executive Director	Tower Hamlets, London
The Rt. Hon The Lady Mayor	*Citizen and Insurer*	
Sheriff & Dep. Keith David	*Citizen and Pattenmaker*	

Forbes Bottomley		
Carole Milner, MBE	a Conservator	Lambeth, London
The Rt. Hon The Lady Mayor	*Citizen and Insurer*	
Sheriff & Dep. Keith David Forbes Bottomley	*Citizen and Pattenmaker*	
Dominic James Mohan	a Journalist & Media Consultancy Chief Executive	Haringey, London
Brendan Anthony Michael Barns, CC	*Citizen and Cordwainer*	
Dep. Madush Gupta	*Citizen and Pewterer*	
Angela Moxham	a Public Relations Consultant	Oxford, Oxfordshire
The Rt. Hon The Lady Mayor	*Citizen and Insurer*	
Sheriff & Dep. Keith David Forbes Bottomley	*Citizen and Pattenmaker*	
Claire Helena Murdoch	a Craft Skills Charity Chief Executive	Oxfordshire
The Rt. Hon The Lady Mayor	*Citizen and Insurer*	
Sheriff & Dep. Keith David Forbes Bottomley	*Citizen and Pattenmaker*	
Charles Alan Nunn	a Banking Group Chief Executive	Kingston Upon Thames, London
The Rt. Hon The Lady Mayor	*Citizen and Insurer*	
Dep. Christopher Michael Hayward	*Citizen and Pattenmaker*	
Marie Catherine O'Hara	a Biology Technician	Croydon, London
Daniel Joseph Regan, MBE	*Citizen and Educator*	
Paul Christian Bobjerg-Jensen	*Citizen and Baker*	
Kingsley Ojeabulu Onofua	a Waste & Recycling Manager	Enfield, London
Adewale Oladele-Ajose	*Citizen and Poulter*	
Oluwatosin Oladele-Ajose	*Citizen and Poulter*	
Michael Osbaldeston	a Training Provider Adviser	Redbridge, London
The Rt. Hon The Lady Mayor	*Citizen and Insurer*	
Sheriff & Dep. Keith David Forbes Bottomley	*Citizen and Pattenmaker*	
David Peter Osmon	an Economist	Brent, London
The Rt. Hon The Lady Mayor	*Citizen and Insurer*	
Sheriff & Dep. Keith David Forbes Bottomley	*Citizen and Pattenmaker*	
Serena Pagliai, JP	a Corporate Governance Consultancy Director	Westminster, London
Ald. Alison Jane Gowman,	*Citizen and Glover*	

CBE		
Ald. Timothy Russell Hailes, JP	*Citizen and Pewterer*	
Stephen Parish	a Football Club Chairman	Westminster, London
Ald. Gregory Percy Jones, KC	*Citizen and Leatherseller*	
Charles Edward Lord, CC, OBE, JP	*Citizen and Broderer*	
Deborah Elaine Pocock, LVO	a Scholarship Trust Chief Executive	Haringey, London
The Rt. Hon The Lady Mayor	*Citizen and Insurer*	
Sheriff & Dep. Keith David Forbes Bottomley	*Citizen and Pattenmaker*	
Reginald Roy Prosser	a Deputy Headteacher & University Tutor	Wallingford, Oxfordshire
Stephen Patrick Drury	*Citizen and Merchant Taylor*	
Christopher William Sprague	*Citizen and Barber*	
Julia Denise Rennie	a Design Company Managing Director	Chichester, West Sussex
The Rt. Hon The Lady Mayor	*Citizen and Insurer*	
John Dominic Reid, OBE	*Citizen and Grocer*	
Mary Ita Roberts	a Parking Finance Officer	Islington, London
Dr Iain Reid	*Citizen and Ironmonger*	
Richard Leslie Springford	*Citizen and Carman*	
Philip Desmond Robinson	a Professional Services Company Director	Brentwood, Essex
Peter Desmond Robinson	*Citizen and Butcher*	
Michael Patrick Joseph Cahill	*Citizen and Butcher*	
Alain Albert Roux	a Chef Director	Maidenhead, Berkshire
The Rt. Hon The Lady Mayor	*Citizen and Insurer*	
Dep. Christopher Michael Hayward	*Citizen and Pattenmaker*	
Dr Lois Esther Rowe	an Art School Principal	Southwark, London
The Rt. Hon The Lady Mayor	*Citizen and Insurer*	
Sheriff & Dep. Keith David Forbes Bottomley	*Citizen and Pattenmaker*	
Debra Susan Russell	a Marine Sales Finance Director	Chertsey, Surrey
Richard George Turk	*Citizen and Shipwright*	
Claude Andrew Robert Fenemore-Jones	*Citizen and Scrivener*	
Innan Sasaki	a Professor of Organisation Studies	Coventry, West Midlands
The Rt. Hon The Lady Mayor	*Citizen and Insurer*	

Sheriff & Dep. Keith David Forbes Bottomley	*Citizen and Pattenmaker*	
Frank John Sixt	a Multinational Conglomerate Company Director	Central, Hong Kong
The Rt. Hon The Lady Mayor	*Citizen and Insurer*	
Sheriff & Dep. Keith David Forbes Bottomley	*Citizen and Pattenmaker*	
Sir Paul Brierley Smith, CH CBE	a Design Company Founder	Westminster, London
Ald. Sir William Anthony Bowater Russell	*Citizen and Haberdasher*	
Shravan Jashvantrai Joshi, CC, MBE	*Citizen and Fueller*	
Kenneth John Stammers, JP	a Bus Company Duty Manager	Swale, Kent
Ald. Timothy Russell Hailes, JP	*Citizen and Pewterer*	
Ald. Alison Jane Gowman, CBE	*Citizen and Glover*	
Kevin William Stepney	a Baggage Flow Manager	Ashford, Surrey
Colin Trevor Gurnett, MBE JP	*Citizen and Wheelwright*	
John Charles Jordan	*Citizen and Glover*	
Riccardo Nelson Tordera Ricchi Di San Martino in Rio	a Head of Regulatory Affairs	Hammersmith & Fulham, London
Ald. Timothy Russell Hailes, JP	*Citizen and Pewterer*	
Dep. Madush Gupta	*Citizen and Pewterer*	
Leanne Joy Tritton	a Communications Company Director	Kettering, Northamptonshire
Dep. Madush Gupta	*Citizen and Pewterer*	
Brendan Anthony Michael Barns, CC	*Citizen and Cordwainer*	
Theodoros Varzopoulos	a Policy Analyst	Wandsworth, London
Christopher James Caine	*Citizen and Maker of Playing Cards*	
Dimitrios Christos Zafeiroudis	*Citizen and Master Mariner*	
Muthukrishnan Venkatesh	a Banker	Rochester, Kent
Biagio Fraulo, JP	*Citizen and Tobacco Pipe Maker & Tobacco Blender*	
Dep. James Henry George Pollard	*Citizen and Skinner*	
Gemma Victoria Frances Walker	an Ecologist	Dorking, Surrey
Jamel Banda, CC	*Citizen and Poulter*	
Philip John Woodhouse, CC	*Citizen and Grocer*	

Anne-Christina Percival Warburton	a City Livery Clerk	Southwark, London
The Rt. Hon The Lady Mayor	*Citizen and Insurer*	
Sheriff & Dep. Keith David Forbes Bottomley	*Citizen and Pattenmaker*	
Robert James Warr	a Motorcycle Dealer	Kingston Upon Thames, London
John Moran	*Citizen and Carman*	
Vincent Dignam	*Citizen and Carman*	
Craig Stewart Webster	a Wealth Management Company Director	Esher, Surrey
Melvyn Stuart Davis	*Citizen and Bowyer*	
Peter Hubert William Ruddy	*Citizen and Bowyer*	
Yi Yao	a Teacher & Musician	Westminster, London
Ald. Prem Babu Goyal, CBE	*Citizen and Plumber*	
Samapti Bagchi, CC	*Citizen and Common Councillor*	
Nicole Wendy Yershon	a Business Consultancy Chief Executive	Woodford Green, Essex
The Rt. Hon The Lady Mayor	*Citizen and Insurer*	
Sheriff & Dep. Keith David Forbes Bottomley	*Citizen and Pattenmaker*	

Read.

Resolved – That this Court doth hereby assent to the admission of the said persons, as amended, 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. Questions

The City's position as the premier destination for financial and professional services

Sales, D. to the Chairman of the Policy & Resources Committee

David Sales asked a question of the Chairman of the Policy and Resources Committee concerning the City's position as the premier destination for financial and professional services, noting recent and planned moves by companies into Canary Wharf.

In reply, the Chairman emphasised that investment in Canary Wharf was good news for London and a vote of confidence in the UK's globally significant financial and professional services sector. He highlighted similar organisations who were choosing to establish operations in the Square Mile, such as HSBC, Clifford Chance and State Street.

While the City could accommodate a critical mass of major occupiers, in the specific case raised by Mr Sales, the City had been unable to accommodate the size of the floorplate and the numbers of staff the company had wished to accommodate. Nevertheless, the City Corporation had granted planning permission for 500,000 square metres of office floorspace; this momentum underlined the

importance of the Government agreeing the City Plan 2040 unamended in supporting future growth and meeting demand.

The Chairman said that the overall picture in the City gave cause for real positivity, with jobs up 25% since 2019, footfall up 6% on last year, and planning applications at a record high. As the Lady Mayor's Team UK campaign made clear, the UK was the world's top net exporter of financial services.

However, he acknowledged that Canary Wharf had 'upped its game' as a destination post-pandemic. The City Corporation was doing the same through the Destination City programme, which was a cross-corporate endeavour to showcase the Square Mile as a safe, clean, accessible place to work as well as an exciting, culturally engaging destination to relax after work. The City Business and Investment Unit was tasked with identifying potential major or high growth occupiers with the aim of attracting them here to the City.

The Chairman concluded his answer by saying that the City was heading in the right direction; he was confident that the success of the City and Canary Wharf was complementary.

Mr Sales asked a supplementary question, asking the Chairman if he was confident that the planned delivery of 1.2 million square meters in the City Plan would meet demand. In reply, the Chairman said that the Greater London Authority's (GLA) latest projections anticipated substantial job growth in the City, projecting job numbers of 894,000 in 2050. This was why approval of the plan was imperative, giving investors and developers the necessary framework to help meet the target of at least 1.2 million square metres of net additional office floorspace by 2040. More than 500,000 square metres of additional office floorspace is currently under construction, and if growth continued at the current pace, there would be even more jobs than those that are currently projected.

As a supplementary question, it was highlighted the potential of the insurance sector for attracting new business, and asked the Chairman whether he agreed that ensuring the safety of our environment and supporting the City of London Police in their critical work was a key factor for the City to remain competitive was around. The Chairman agreed that retention of the City of London Police was essential for both domestic policing and due to its role as the National Lead Force for economic and cyber crime and for fraud. This underwrote the City's position as the safest city in the world to do business, which both he and the Lady Mayor were able to present as a huge incentive to businesses who are thinking of locating here during their international visits. The City Corporation was lobbying the Government and indeed all political parties during the Party Conference Season about the crucial role of the City of London Police in driving prosperity.

A further Member noted that the plans for the tower at Canary Wharf by JP Morgan were driven not only by a successful business plan and its growing customer base but also by the company's five-day-a-week at the office policy; he therefore asked the Chairman whether the City Corporation would be mirroring that policy.

The Chairman noted an in-depth discussion which had taken place at the Corporate Services Committee the previous day on this topic. Hybrid working had changed businesses' and employees expectations from an office location. The younger demographic of the workforce was more discerning about the sustainable office spaces they were prepared to work in; this was why the City Corporation was

focussing on creating a Square Mile that people actively wanted to spend time in. The Corporate Services Committee had agreed to maintain the current Workplace Attendance Policy of three days a week in the office, but the Chairman had emphasised at the meeting that it was critical that the organisation continued to review what was happening both in the public and the private sectors. If trends changed, the City Corporation would need to look again at its policy.

A final Member welcomed the Chairman's earlier words regarding the mutually beneficial relationship between Canary Wharf and the City and asked the Chairman whether he viewed this as a long-term relationship. In reply, the Chairman re-emphasised his belief that the City's partnership with Canary Wharf was vital in ensuring capacity for the whole of London to continue to attract global business, particularly in the financial and professional services sectors.

Treatment of confidential material

Haines, C., Deputy to the Chairman of the Policy & Resources Committee

Deputy Caroline Haines asked the Chairman of the Policy and Resources Committee if he agreed that leaks by Members of confidential and non-public material, without due regard to the timetable or governance procedures, could be extremely damaging to the way in which the sensitive nature of the content was interpreted more broadly, the integrity of this Court and the reputation of the City of London.

In his reply, the Chairman stressed that he agreed entirely with the sentiment of the question. Membership of the Court was both a privilege and a responsibility. Members were entrusted with sensitive information so that they could contribute properly to the work of the City Corporation. The Chairman said that this privilege must never be treated as a licence to disclose confidential information prematurely or without regard to established governance processes.

The Code of Conduct was clear. Members had agreed not to disclose information given in confidence, or which they ought to reasonably know is confidential. Such disclosures undermined proper governance and trust between Honourable Members and Officers and brought both the Court and the City Corporation into disrepute. It could also expose an individual Honourable Member to civil proceedings as well as standards complaints.

Members had every right to challenge and scrutinise, but that had to be done responsibly through the proper governance channels. Confidentiality was not optional, and any alleged breach must be taken seriously; the Chairman confirmed that investigations had been commissioned about some recent instances of leaks.

The Chairman was consequently asked if he would take a lead on considering how the City Corporation's use of AI tools related to confidential and sensitive data.

The Chairman replied by agreeing that this was a growing risk to the organisation; he would ask officers to examine the issue and bring forward proposals to ensure that any such breaches could be avoided.

Local Government Funding Settlement

Hodgson, J., Deputy to the Chairman of the Policy & Resources Committee

Deputy Jaspreet Hodgson asked the Chairman of the Policy and Resources Committee if he agreed that the City Corporation should submit a formal appeal under the Sustainable Communities Act asking HM Government to reconsider the local government funding settlement which unfairly penalises businesses and

residents in the Square Mile.

In reply, the Chairman said that the Government's Fair Funding framework would significantly reduce the government grant on which City Fund activities relied. The City was engaging positively with the Government and had secured 3 years of transitional funding. However, this only brought time. The Government's formula did take account of the Square Mile's daytime population – 676,000 workers, as well as 8,600 residents. It also didn't take account many of the functions and services the City Corporation provided for the benefit of London and the nation, such as acting as Port Health authority for the tidal Thames.

These responsibilities, and the costs of meeting them, would not disappear if the City Corporation was no longer funded to support them. The City Corporation was clear that these services provided immense economic and public value and was urging government to reconsider the Fair Funding settlement. The Chairman had made clear to the Government that, if the City Corporation was not funded to provide these services, it would be necessary hand responsibility for them functions back to the Government.

The City Corporation's situation was materially different to those in the City of Westminster or the London Boroughs of Kensington & Chelsea and Wandsworth and as such advocacy would naturally need to be bespoke. Nevertheless, the Chairman had asked officers to consider the option of using the Sustainable Communities Act and advise on whether it would be an effective course of action. He would report further to the Court in due course.

As a supplementary question, Deputy Hodgson asked the Chairman if he agreed that time was of the essence when submitting an appeal. The Chairman agreed and said that the settlement, in its current guise, presented huge fundamental questions about the future of both the level of service provision across the City and its non-statutory activities. He reiterated that there were ongoing discussions and significant advocacy work being conducted on behalf of the City in multiple areas of Government.

Another Member noted that two of the local authorities negatively impacted by the Fair Funding Review had submitted a letter to the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government and asked the Chairman whether the City Corporation should also submit a representation. The Chairman confirmed that letters had already been submitted; he had written to the new Minister at MHCLG and the Prime Minister, while the City Corporation was also engaging closely with the highest levels in the Civil Service. The Chairman reiterated that this Settlement was against the interests of the City Corporation; it was a question of fundamental fairness that the City's daytime population was recognised in the funding formula.

It was noted that the Salisbury Square Court Complex was being provided to the Ministry of Justice for a peppercorn rent; given its significant cost of construction and the inequity of the Government's Funding Settlement, a Member asked how this could be justified. In reply, the Chairman said that the City Corporation had signed its contractual arrangements with the Ministry six years ago, including the provision for peppercorn rent. Whilst this could not be undone, it represented a massive gift to the nation which, given the financial strain the City had been put under by the Funding Review, could not be repeated in future years.

A final Member asked, given the Funding Review and the ongoing uncertainty

around the City of London Police, he thought that the Government had a bit of a problem with the City. The Chairman stressed that he thought that the Government did not have a specific problem with the City itself but possibly, given its political focus on other parts of the UK, London in general. He emphasised that policymakers could not grow the UK economy without fostering a successful London. The Chairman was doing his best to promote this message with the Government.

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

(Tijs Broeke)

30 July 2026

City of London Police Annual Report 2025/26

The Court received a Report of the City of London Police Authority Board containing information on crime, financial and staff statistics, as well as a summary of the 2025/26 year.

Following an introduction by the Chair of the Board, Members raised questions on the approach to the behaviours of cyclists and sought assurance that the City Police would be retaining its mental health nurses.

In reply, the Chair of the Board said that the mental health nurses played a crucial role in the City Police; he undertook to return to the Court with further information on the funding specifics for the nurses and would also liaise with the Chair of the Community and Children's Services Committee.

The Chair assured the Court that the City of London Police were at the forefront of UK police forces in tackling cycling issues and that the City was safe for pedestrians, drivers, and cyclists. Uniquely, the City of London Police operated a dedicated cycle team; the latest figures confirmed that the team has doubled the number of fines given to cyclists running through red lights. Given this success, colleagues across neighbouring forces in London were seeking to learn from the City Police's achievements. Whilst cycling was not a top line strategic priority in the Report, it remained a key area of focus for the Force and for the Police Authority Board.

Resolved, that - the Court of Common Council note the Report.

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:-

Statutory Instruments	**In Force**
Environmental Permitting (Waste Controlling or Transporting) and Relevant Functions of Primary Authorities (Amendment) (England) Regulations 2026 Replaces the waste carrier, broker and dealer registration regime with a new environmental-permitting system for people and businesses that arrange, control, buy/sell, or transport waste. Those activities are brought within the Environmental	12 August 2026 & 22 July 2027

Permitting (England and Wales) Regulations 2016. The Environment Agency will be the relevant regulatory body. In future, waste controlling (eg buying and selling waste, storage) and waste transporting will be within the regime. Exemptions will be limited, for instance charity collections and, potentially relevant to the City Corporation, fly-tipped waste removed by landowner or occupier.

Trade Unions (Permissible Means of Voting) and Employment Rights (Unfair Dismissal) (Amendment) Order 2026 — In stages starting from 25 August 2026.

Amends the Trade Union and Labour Relations (Consolidation) Act 1992 to permit, in relation to Trades Union ballots, three additional voting methods alongside traditional postal voting: electronic voting, hybrid voting and workplace voting will be permitted.

Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) (England) (Amendment) Order 2026 — 27 August 2026

For most circumstances, removes the need for planning permission relating to the installation of solar panels on dwelling houses. Limitations remain, such as protrusion from property and heritage considerations. So-called plug in solar panels will not, in most cases, require permission.

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

Read.

13. Ballot results — There were no ballot results to report.

14. Resolutions — There were no resolutions.

15. Awards & Prizes — There was no Report.

16. Hospital Seal — There were no Docquets for the Hospital Seal.

17. Exclusion of the public *Woodhouse, P.J.; 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; 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.

18. Non-public minutes — *Resolved,* That - the non-public minutes of the last Court are correctly recorded.

19 **Finance Committee**

The Court considered a Report concerning the contract award value for four of the City Corporation's six Integrated Facilities Management (IFM) contracts.

20 **Policy and Resources Committee**

This was a non-public appendix considered in conjunction with Item 7.

21. **Address of Welcome**

Address of welcome

The Court considered an urgent item of business, relating to proposals for hospitality associated with a visiting Head of State and the presentation of an Address of Welcome.

The meeting commenced at 1.00 pm and ended at 3.21 pm

THOMAS.