

<b>Committee:</b> Barbican Residential Committee	<b>Date:</b> 17 March 2014
<b>Subject:</b> Corporate Governance – Scheme of Delegations and Standing Orders	<b>Public</b>
<b>Report of:</b> Town Clerk	<b>For Decision</b>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Summary</b></p> <p>As part of the City Corporation's arrangements for ensuring good governance, the Scheme of Delegation to Chief Officers has been reviewed and a number of changes have been proposed. The changes, which principally reflect changes to legislation and previously agreed City Corporation's policies, were considered by Policy and Resources Committee on 23 January 2014, before being submitted to the Court of Common Council.</p> <p>The Policy and Resources Committee is responsible for the review and co-ordination of the City Corporation's governance arrangements. The Committee will therefore be considering the Scheme in its entirety, including the general framework and conditions of the delegations and an amendment to Standing Orders, relating to the declaration of operational property assets which are surplus to requirements.</p> <p>All service committees are required to consider those elements for which they have responsibility. A copy of the revised section applicable to the Barbican Residential Committee is attached as an appendix to this report for your consideration.</p> <p><b>Recommendations</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Subject to the approval of the Policy and Resources Committee of the overall Scheme of Delegation, the delegations relating to the Director of Community and Children's Services, in respect of the Barbican Estate, as set out in the appendix to this report be approved; and</li> <li>2. to note the proposed amendment to Standing Orders relating to the declaration of operation property assets which are surplus to requirements.</li> </ol>	

### **Main Report**

#### **Background**

1. As a corporate body all decisions are vested in the Court of Common Council. To facilitate the administration of the City Corporation's many and complex functions, the Court delegates the majority of its functions to its committees and officers. The Committee Terms of Reference set out the functions delegated to committees, whilst the Scheme of Delegations sets out those functions which have been delegated to officers.

## **Scheme of Delegations**

2. The Scheme of Delegations has recently been reviewed and a number of changes are proposed which, on the whole, reflect changing legislation, amendments to corporate policy and operational needs. A copy of the revised Chief Officer delegations, relevant to the Barbican Residential Committee is attached as an appendix to this report.
3. A full copy of the Scheme is available for Members to view in the Members' Reading Room and is also available on request.
4. The Policy and Resources Committee are responsible for the review and co-ordination of the City Corporation's governance arrangements which includes, amongst other things, Committees and Standing Orders.

## **Standing Orders – Declaring Assets Surplus**

5. The drive for efficiency savings, including the Corporate Asset Realisation Programme and the more recent Service Based Reviews, have highlighted the need for the City to identify, more effectively, those assets which are surplus to departmental need, so they can be considered for alternative uses or disposal.
6. Whilst there are a number of officer groups considering the efficient and effective use of assets and resources, it is felt that their work would be assisted by a change to Standing Orders, which would formalise the process for Chief Officers and Committees identifying assets as surplus. It should be noted that, prior to the approval of the Court, the Policy and Resources Committee is being asked to consider adding the following with regard to this.

### ***Standing Order No 55 - Identification of Property Assets Surplus to Departmental Requirements***

*(1) Committees are required to consider the effective and efficient use of all operational property assets. This will be monitored by the Corporate Asset Sub Committee.*

*(2) Where assets are no longer required, in whole or in part, for the provision of operational services for which they are currently held, a report on the circumstances must be made to the Corporate Asset Sub Committee. This does not apply where lettings are an integral part of the service e.g. market or housing tenancies.*

## **Corporate & Strategic Implications**

7. The proposed changes to the Scheme of Delegations and Standing Orders are intended to support the effective governance of the City of London and ensure that decision making is effective and transparent.
- Appendix 1 – Revision(s) to Scheme of Delegations

## **Scheme of Delegations**

### **Director of Community and Children's Services**

1. In relation to the **Barbican Estate**:-
  - a. to approve lettings and sales between Committee meetings;
  - b. to authorise sale prices above or below consultant values;
  - c. to approve sales of residential property on the Estate;
  - d. to approve assignments, sub-tenancies and tenancies at will to suitably qualified applicants between Committee meetings;
  - e. to authorise signage on private areas of the Estate;
  - f. to approve the occupation of accommodation by Estate Office staff in and around the Barbican;
  - g. to approve the occupation of accommodation managed by the Barbican Estate to other City of London Corporation Departments.
2. To approve, where appropriate, filming and photography on the Estate.
3. To agree commercial rent levels in consultation with the City Surveyor, subject to reporting to the Barbican Residential Committee.
4. To approve valuations of flats submitted by consultant valuers.
5. To appoint consultants in accordance with Standing Orders.