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| <b>Committee:</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | <b>Date:</b>           |
| Open Spaces & City Gardens                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | 5 February 2018        |
| <b>Subject:</b><br>City Gardens Update                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | <b>Public</b>          |
| <b>Report of:</b><br>City Gardens Manager                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | <b>For Information</b> |
| <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Summary</b></p> <p>This report provides an update to Members of the Open Spaces &amp; City Gardens Committee on management and operational activities across the City Gardens section since December 2017.</p> <p><b>Recommendation</b></p> <p>Members are asked to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Note the report</li> </ul> |                        |

### **Main Report**

#### **Finance**

1. The budgets for both City Gardens and Bunhill Fields are in line with anticipated profile of expenditure for this time of year. The team has generated £4,480 of income from garden events hire, and £17,700 from hiring sites for filming. This is a 333% increase on this time last year.
2. The tender documents for a four-year bedding supply contract have now been sent out to potential suppliers, for return on the 6 February. This contract will deliver value for money and reduce the administrative burden on the City Gardens team.

#### **Personnel**

3. The two recently recruited team leaders are now in post; one is managing the Barbican team the other the Aldgate team.
4. Recruitment has now been completed for the vacant Gardener post, to which an internal candidate has been appointed. City Gardens are currently recruiting four Assistant Gardeners. At the time this report was drafted, interviews have taken place and the positions offered to the preferred candidates. Recruitment for a new office based apprentice position will start in March.

## **Operational Activities**

5. **West Smithfield and Tower Hill Gardens:** The improvement works to these gardens, funded by a departmental carry-forward, are on track to be completed by the end of the financial year.
6. **Cleary Gardens:** Urgent repair works by Transport for London (TfL) to a wall surrounding the London Underground vent shaft have delayed the start of improvement works at this site. However it is hoped that work can begin shortly.
7. **Seething Lane:** The new stone paths are being deep cleaned and a sealant applied to add further protection to the surfaces and engravings. The turf that was supplied was found to have been infected with a fungal disease; this is being replaced by the supplier at no cost to the City.
8. In addition to the above, an extensive programme of mulching is taking place across the Square Mile.

## **Capital Projects**

9. **Aldgate gyratory:** The Church frontage garden is nearing completion in readiness for the Lord Mayor's visit to site on the 7 February. The trees, hedging and under-planting across the wider site will be completed in February. Works to the main piazza area are programmed to be completed in late March.
10. **St Alphage's Garden:** Currently under construction following a major refurbishment as part of the London Wall Place development, it is anticipated that this site will be planted in late 2018/early 2019.
11. **Annual Tree Planting:** The tree planting programme for capital projects is almost complete with ten locations completed to date, and two further trees for Bunhill Fields to be planted in March. A large Tree of Heaven was removed from St. Paul's Cathedral Churchyard due to fungal decay risking the tree becoming structurally unsound. This will also be replaced before April.
12. **Stonecutter Street (Goldman Sachs development):** This project has been delayed by 12 months (planting now anticipated January to March 2019), but will eventually include 13 street trees and 17 multi-stemmed trees, as well as several raised planters. Some of this planting is on TfL land which the City Gardens team will implement and maintain for one year, after which time this area will be handed back to the developer to maintain at their request. A good proportion of the project is on City Highway and maintenance responsibility will remain with the City team. The project will come with automatic irrigation and maintenance paid for by Goldman Sachs, in perpetuity.

## **Planning**

13. Each year, the City team is consulted on a number of Planning Applications that either directly affect the City's green spaces, or that contain elements of private landscaping on which the team's views are sought. The planning applications on which the team has been consulted between July and December 2018 can be found in Appendix 1. Subsequent City Gardens Update reports will contain a list of planning applications that have been received between meetings.
14. **Survey of Private Trees:** The results have been analysed and a total of 1070 privately owned and managed trees were recorded; an increase of 72 since the last survey in 2004. Of these, Plane trees are the most common species making up 15% of all trees.

## **Community, Volunteering, Outreach and Events**

15. The City in Bloom awards ceremony, organised by the Friends of City Gardens, and the City Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony were both successful and well attended events.
16. The RSPB Big City Bird Hunt took place on the 27 and 28 January, Friends of City Gardens will be coordinating two events over these days.
17. A joint training day is being organised for volunteers and City Gardens staff to take place in mid-March. This will increase the horticultural skills of volunteers and the volunteer coordination skills of selected staff.
18. The Friends of City Gardens have secured funding for three new birdfeeders that will be installed in Portsoken Street Garden, Postman's Park and West Smithfield Rotunda Garden.

## **Appendices**

- Appendix 1 – Planning consultations considered by the City Gardens Team July to December 2017

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## Appendix 1: Planning Applications – Open Spaces consultations July to December 2017

| Application number | Site                                                                                                        | Ward           | Planning application on-line (all documents)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | Selected documents                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
|--------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 17/01095/FULEIA    | 21 Moorfields, Land Bounded By Moorfields, Fore Street Avenue, Moor Lane & New Union Street London EC2P 2HT | Coleman Street | <a href="http://www.planning2.cityoflondon.gov.uk/online-applications/applicationDetails.do?activeTab=summary&amp;keyVal=OYH6VJFHJ2300">http://www.planning2.cityoflondon.gov.uk/online-applications/applicationDetails.do?activeTab=summary&amp;keyVal=OYH6VJFHJ2300</a>     | <a href="http://www.planning2.cityoflondon.gov.uk/online-applications/files/EC7F2C81423B229EDBC0114EFB2ECA4F4/pdf/17_01095_FULEIA-ILLUSTRATIVE LANDSCAPE PLAN PODIUM LEVEL-388153.pdf">http://www.planning2.cityoflondon.gov.uk/online-applications/files/EC7F2C81423B229EDBC0114EFB2ECA4F4/pdf/17_01095_FULEIA-ILLUSTRATIVE LANDSCAPE PLAN PODIUM LEVEL-388153.pdf</a><br><br><a href="http://www.planning2.cityoflondon.gov.uk/online-applications/files/CA5F977CE11F38C2AF216F7A991FD4CB/pdf/17_01095_FULEIA-LANDSCAPE STATEMENT-388125.pdf">http://www.planning2.cityoflondon.gov.uk/online-applications/files/CA5F977CE11F38C2AF216F7A991FD4CB/pdf/17_01095_FULEIA-LANDSCAPE STATEMENT-388125.pdf</a> |
| 16/00195/MDC       | Land Bounded By Cannon Street, Queen Street, Queen Victoria Street, Bucklersbury & Walbrook London EC4      | Cordwainer     | <a href="http://www.planning2.cityoflondon.gov.uk/online-applications/applicationDetails.do?activeTab=documents&amp;keyVal=O3CWFKFHLB000">http://www.planning2.cityoflondon.gov.uk/online-applications/applicationDetails.do?activeTab=documents&amp;keyVal=O3CWFKFHLB000</a> | <a href="http://www.planning2.cityoflondon.gov.uk/online-applications/files/51ABC8E825901D6A1B61B6AF9A6BD62A/pdf/16_00195_MDC-SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS ACCOMPANYING APPLICATION-327974.pdf">http://www.planning2.cityoflondon.gov.uk/online-applications/files/51ABC8E825901D6A1B61B6AF9A6BD62A/pdf/16_00195_MDC-SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS ACCOMPANYING APPLICATION-327974.pdf</a>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| 17/00790/FULL      | St Paul's Cathedral St Paul's Churchyard                                                                    | Bread Street   | <a href="http://www.planning2.cityoflondon.gov.uk/online-applications/applicationDetails.do?activeTab=documents&amp;keyVal=OU0KO8FHLG600">http://www.planning2.cityoflondon.gov.uk/online-applications/applicationDetails.do?activeTab=documents&amp;keyVal=OU0KO8FHLG600</a> | <a href="http://www.planning2.cityoflondon.gov.uk/online-applications/files/DBE92AF6BC09CA7DE2CF3D783C0B2C08/pdf/17_00790_FULL-SKETCHES ALL SMALL-379301.pdf">http://www.planning2.cityoflondon.gov.uk/online-applications/files/DBE92AF6BC09CA7DE2CF3D783C0B2C08/pdf/17_00790_FULL-SKETCHES ALL SMALL-379301.pdf</a>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |

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| 17/01050/FULMAJ | Tenter House<br>45 Moorfields<br>London EC2Y<br>9AE                                                      | Coleman<br>Street    | <a href="http://www.planning2.cityoflondon.gov.uk/online-applications/applicationDetails.do?activeTab=summary&amp;keyVal=OY2FABFH03E00">http://www.planning2.cityoflondon.gov.uk/online-applications/applicationDetails.do?activeTab=summary&amp;keyVal=OY2FABFH03E00</a> | <a href="http://www.planning2.cityoflondon.gov.uk/online-applications/files/6022580C1AE78ABDE7F1AF9778E1B3F4/pdf/17_01050_FULMAJ-PT_4_10_-_DESIGN_AND_ACCESS_STATEMENT-387913.pdf">http://www.planning2.cityoflondon.gov.uk/online-applications/files/6022580C1AE78ABDE7F1AF9778E1B3F4/pdf/17_01050_FULMAJ-PT_4_10_-_DESIGN_AND_ACCESS_STATEMENT-387913.pdf</a><br><br><a href="http://www.planning2.cityoflondon.gov.uk/online-applications/files/FC442FB050CCC6D3235B572DF7260B4F/pdf/17_01050_FULMAJ-PT_6_10_-_DESIGN_AND_ACCESS_STATEMENT-387915.pdf">http://www.planning2.cityoflondon.gov.uk/online-applications/files/FC442FB050CCC6D3235B572DF7260B4F/pdf/17_01050_FULMAJ-PT_6_10_-_DESIGN_AND_ACCESS_STATEMENT-387915.pdf</a><br><br><a href="http://www.planning2.cityoflondon.gov.uk/online-applications/files/B6AED3E0114DBB54A118CB93D2622E9E/pdf/17_01050_FULMAJ-PT_7_10_-_DESIGN_AND_ACCESS_STATEMENT-387916.pdf">http://www.planning2.cityoflondon.gov.uk/online-applications/files/B6AED3E0114DBB54A118CB93D2622E9E/pdf/17_01050_FULMAJ-PT_7_10_-_DESIGN_AND_ACCESS_STATEMENT-387916.pdf</a><br><br><a href="http://www.planning2.cityoflondon.gov.uk/online-applications/files/EE445426E2D4AAB6429C4079902C8D73/pdf/17_01050_FULMAJ-PT_3_10_-_DESIGN_AND_ACCESS_STATEMENT-387912.pdf">http://www.planning2.cityoflondon.gov.uk/online-applications/files/EE445426E2D4AAB6429C4079902C8D73/pdf/17_01050_FULMAJ-PT_3_10_-_DESIGN_AND_ACCESS_STATEMENT-387912.pdf</a><br><br><a href="http://www.planning2.cityoflondon.gov.uk/online-applications/files/393A76D8A51DF3BFB3A7422E9581CE87/pdf/17_01050_FULMAJ-PT_5_10_-_DESIGN_AND_ACCESS_STATEMENT-387914.pdf">http://www.planning2.cityoflondon.gov.uk/online-applications/files/393A76D8A51DF3BFB3A7422E9581CE87/pdf/17_01050_FULMAJ-PT_5_10_-_DESIGN_AND_ACCESS_STATEMENT-387914.pdf</a><br><br><a href="http://www.planning2.cityoflondon.gov.uk/online-applications/files/6897EDCDE654340F0B61A4C283344A83/pdf/17_01050_FULMAJ-PT_8_10_-_DESIGN_AND_ACCESS_STATEMENT-387917.pdf">http://www.planning2.cityoflondon.gov.uk/online-applications/files/6897EDCDE654340F0B61A4C283344A83/pdf/17_01050_FULMAJ-PT_8_10_-_DESIGN_AND_ACCESS_STATEMENT-387917.pdf</a> |
| 17/00908/MDC    | Fleet Building<br>40 Shoe Lane<br>And 70<br>Farringdon<br>Street, Plumtree<br>Court, 42<br>Shoe Lane, 12 | Farringdon<br>Within | <a href="http://www.planning2.cityoflondon.gov.uk/online-applications/applicationDetails.do?activeTab=summary&amp;keyVal=OVK4P7FHFP600">http://www.planning2.cityoflondon.gov.uk/online-applications/applicationDetails.do?activeTab=summary&amp;keyVal=OVK4P7FHFP600</a> | <a href="http://www.planning2.cityoflondon.gov.uk/online-applications/files/12077BB83195F33FC4978572B615A0A7/pdf/17_00908_MDC-CONDITIONS_20_23_AND_24_REPORT_PART_2_OF_4-382070.pdf">http://www.planning2.cityoflondon.gov.uk/online-applications/files/12077BB83195F33FC4978572B615A0A7/pdf/17_00908_MDC-CONDITIONS_20_23_AND_24_REPORT_PART_2_OF_4-382070.pdf</a>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |

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|                 | Plumtree Court<br>London EC4A<br>3AF                                                                                                                                 |                                  |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| 17/00447/FULEIA | 6-8 Bishopsgate<br>And 150<br>Leadenhall<br>Street London<br>EC3V 4QT                                                                                                | Lime Street                      | <a href="http://www.planning2.cityoflondon.gov.uk/online-applications/applicationDetails.do?activeTab=summary&amp;keyVal=OPFOYYFH0OW00">http://www.planning2.cityoflondon.gov.uk/online-applications/applicationDetails.do?activeTab=summary&amp;keyVal=OPFOYYFH0OW00</a>       | <a href="http://www.planning2.cityoflondon.gov.uk/online-applications/files/111C4ADE690080441AC0C2AAD8C7D06F/pdf/17_00447_FULEIA-DESIGN_ACCESS_STATEMENT_-_PART_10-371486.pdf">http://www.planning2.cityoflondon.gov.uk/online-applications/files/111C4ADE690080441AC0C2AAD8C7D06F/pdf/17_00447_FULEIA-DESIGN_ACCESS_STATEMENT_-_PART_10-371486.pdf</a>         |
| 17/00625/MDC    | Site Bounded<br>By 34-38, 39-<br>41, 45-47 & 57B<br>Little Britain &<br>20, 25, 47, 48-<br>50, 51-53, 59,<br>60, 61, 61A &<br>62 Bartholomew<br>Close, London<br>EC1 | Farringdon<br>Within             | <a href="http://www.planning2.cityoflondon.gov.uk/online-applications/applicationDetails.do?activeTab=documents&amp;keyVal=ORSQEFJHIP300">http://www.planning2.cityoflondon.gov.uk/online-applications/applicationDetails.do?activeTab=documents&amp;keyVal=ORSQEFJHIP300</a>   | <a href="http://www.planning2.cityoflondon.gov.uk/online-applications/files/92214C74D3CDE04CEE90D1DA8A211128/pdf/17_00625_MDC-PHASE_1_LANDSCAPE_PROPOSALS-380433.pdf">http://www.planning2.cityoflondon.gov.uk/online-applications/files/92214C74D3CDE04CEE90D1DA8A211128/pdf/17_00625_MDC-PHASE_1_LANDSCAPE_PROPOSALS-380433.pdf</a>                           |
| 17/00770/FULL   | Former Richard<br>Cloudesley<br>School Golden<br>Lane Estate<br>London EC1Y<br>0TZ                                                                                   | Cripplegate<br>/ LB<br>Islington | <a href="http://www.planning2.cityoflondon.gov.uk/online-applications/applicationDetails.do?activeTab=documents&amp;keyVal=OTN4IYFH03E00">http://www.planning2.cityoflondon.gov.uk/online-applications/applicationDetails.do?activeTab=documents&amp;keyVal=OTN4IYFH03E00</a>   | <a href="http://www.planning2.cityoflondon.gov.uk/online-applications/files/CE820EE3B5502FD6A5E5BE19B7C40A81/pdf/17_00770_FULL-REVISED_ILLUSTRATIVE_LANDSCAPE_SECTIONS-389405.pdf">http://www.planning2.cityoflondon.gov.uk/online-applications/files/CE820EE3B5502FD6A5E5BE19B7C40A81/pdf/17_00770_FULL-REVISED_ILLUSTRATIVE_LANDSCAPE_SECTIONS-389405.pdf</a> |
| 17/00690/FULL   | Senator House<br>85 Queen<br>Victoria Street                                                                                                                         | Vintry                           | <a href="http://www.planning2.cityoflondon.gov.uk/online-applications/applicationDetails.do?activeTab=documents&amp;keyVal=OSJZIIIFHJQO00">http://www.planning2.cityoflondon.gov.uk/online-applications/applicationDetails.do?activeTab=documents&amp;keyVal=OSJZIIIFHJQO00</a> |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |

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| 17/00565/FULLR<br>3 | West Smithfield<br>Rotunda<br>Garden, West<br>Smithfield,<br>London EC1A<br>9BD | Farringdon<br>Without | <a href="http://www.planning2.cityoflondon.gov.uk/online-applications/applicationDetails.do?activeTab=documents&amp;keyVal=OR2L8HFH0P400">http://www.planning2.cityoflondon.gov.uk/online-applications/applicationDetails.do?activeTab=documents&amp;keyVal=OR2L8HFH0P400</a> |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| 17/00623/FULL       | 150<br>Bishopsgate<br>London EC2M<br>4AF                                        | Bishopsgate           | <a href="http://www.planning2.cityoflondon.gov.uk/online-applications/applicationDetails.do?activeTab=documents&amp;keyVal=ORSQ00FHIOZ00">http://www.planning2.cityoflondon.gov.uk/online-applications/applicationDetails.do?activeTab=documents&amp;keyVal=ORSQ00FHIOZ00</a> | <a href="http://www.planning2.cityoflondon.gov.uk/online-applications/files/41C3438431635AEEF627756C3888CB2B/pdf/17_00623_FULL-PROPOSED_SITE_PLAN-390743.pdf">http://www.planning2.cityoflondon.gov.uk/online-applications/files/41C3438431635AEEF627756C3888CB2B/pdf/17_00623_FULL-PROPOSED_SITE_PLAN-390743.pdf</a> |