



City of Westminster

# Committee Agenda

Title: Cabinet

Meeting Date: Monday 27th March, 2023

Time: 6.30 pm

Venue: Room 18.01-18.03, 18th Floor, 64 Victoria Street, London, SW1E 6QP

Members: **Councillors:**

Adam Hug (Chair)	David Boothroyd
Tim Roca	Paul Dimoldenberg
Aicha Less	Liza Begum
Nafsika Butler-Thalassis	Matt Noble
Geoff Barraclough	



**Members of the public are welcome to attend the meeting and listen to the discussion Part 1 of the Agenda**

**As set out in the agenda it is expected that the Committee will resolve to exclude the press and public from the meeting under Part II of the Agenda on the grounds that discussions may involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Part I of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended). Some reports on the agenda may include confidential information which is exempt from publication. The Committee may need to discuss this information in private session before decisions are taken afterwards, in public session.**

**Admission to the public gallery is by ticket, issued from the ground floor reception. If you have a disability and require any special assistance please contact the Committee Officer (details listed below) in advance of the meeting.**



**An Induction loop operates to enhance sound for anyone wearing a hearing aid or using a transmitter. If you require any further information, please contact the Committee Officer, Daniella Bonfanti, Cabinet Manager.**

**Email: [dbonfanti@westminster.gov.uk](mailto:dbonfanti@westminster.gov.uk)  
Corporate Website: [www.westminster.gov.uk](http://www.westminster.gov.uk)**

**Note for Members:** Members are reminded that Officer contacts are shown at the end of each report and Members are welcome to raise questions in advance of the meeting. With regard to item 2, guidance on declarations of interests is included in the Code of Governance; if Members and Officers have any particular questions or wish to declare an interest, they should contact the Head of Governance and Councillor Liaison or the Monitoring Officer in advance of the meeting please.

## **AGENDA**

### **PART 1 (IN PUBLIC)**

**1. WELCOME**

**2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

To receive declarations by Members and Officers of the existence and nature of any pecuniary interests or any other significant interest in matters on this agenda.

**3. MINUTES**

To approve the minutes of the meeting held on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> February 2023.

**(Pages 3 - 8)**

**4. FAIRER WESTMINSTER DELIVERY PLAN**

Report of the Executive Director of Innovation and Change. To approve the Fairer Westminster Strategy and Delivery Plan.

**(Pages 9 - 24)**

**5. NEIGHBOURHOOD CIL APPLICATIONS**

Report of the Executive Director of Innovation and Change.

To approve the allocation of funding from the Neighbourhood CIL portion to two infrastructure projects

**(Pages 25 - 34)**

### **PART 2 (IN PRIVATE)**

**6. SHAREHOLDER UPDATE**

Verbal item of the Leader of the Council

**Stuart Love  
Chief Executive  
17 March 2023**



CITY OF WESTMINSTER

## MINUTES

### Cabinet

#### MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

Minutes of a meeting of the **Cabinet** held on **Monday 13th February, 2023**, Lisson Grove, Frampton Street.

**Members Present:** Members Present: Councillors Adam Hug (Chair), Aicha Less, Nafsika Butler-Thalassis (virtual), David Boothroyd, Paul Dimoldenberg (virtually), Geoff Barraclough, Liza Begum, Matt Noble and Paul Fisher (Chair, Budget Scrutiny Task Group)

**Also Present: (Officers)** Stuart Love, Chief Executive, Bernie Flaherty, Deputy Chief Executive and Bi-borough Executive Director of Adult Social Care and Public Health, Parveen Akhtar, Director of Law, Gerald Almeroth, Executive Director of Finance and Resources, Sarah Newman, Bi-borough Executive Director of Children's Services, Pedro Wrobel, Executive Director of Innovation and Change, Sarah Crampton, Head of Operational Support (Communities)

**(Others)** Claudette Forbes, Chair, Economy and Employment Review (Future of Westminster Commission)

**Apologies for Absence:** Councillor Tim Roca

#### 1 MEMBERSHIP

There were no changes to the membership of Cabinet.

Councillors Butler-Thalassis and Dimoldenberg joined the meeting virtually and were therefore unable to vote on the items set before Cabinet this evening.

#### 2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

### 3 MINUTES

**RESOLVED:** Councillor Adam Hug, with the consent of the Members present, agreed that the minutes of the meeting held on 12<sup>th</sup> December 2022 were a true and correct record of the proceedings.

### 4 ADOPTION OF ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR STRATEGY

Councillor Hug invited Councillor Less to introduce the report.

Councillor Less told Cabinet that in developing the strategy, there has been considerable consultation with victims, residents, businesses, and partners. Councillor Less explained that the strategy has been developed using a collaborative approach across the whole council with input from public protection, housing, youth services and the mental health team to name a few.

Cabinet heard that the 5-year strategy sets out to tackle anti-social behaviour and ensure that communities have the strength and knowledge to support our joint efforts to reduce ASB; perpetrators will find it harder to offend and held to account when they do, and neighbourhoods will be safer.

Councillor Hug invited Pedro Wrobel, Executive Director of Innovation and Change and Sarah Newman, Bi-borough Executive Director of Children's Service to comment on the strategy.

Pedro Wrobel told Cabinet that over 1000 individual responses had been received as part of the consultation on the strategy and that many victims of ASB had come forward to share their experiences and feedback on what could be done differently.

Sarah Newman echoed Councillor Less's comments saying that the strategy encompassed a collaborative community response.

**RESOLVED – CABINET APPROVED THE RECCOMENDATIONS SET OUT IN SECTION 2, PAGE 13.**

### 5 NORTH PADDINGTON PROGRAMME

Cabinet heard from Councillor Adam Hug that Claudette Forbes, a member of the Future of Westminster Commission and Chair of the Economy and Employment Review had been invited to speak on the Commission's note on the North Paddington Programme that is appended to the Cabinet Report for information.

Councillor Adam Hug invited Councillor Geoff Barraclough to speak to the report.

Councillor Barraclough told Cabinet that the programme for North Paddington

requires the Council to act in a coordinated way to address inequality throughout the borough as stated by the Westminster City Plan.

Councillor Barraclough explained that in approving the recommendations set out in the paper Cabinet would be agreeing to implement a new place-based approach, with the team responsible for leading the programme being on site to start their work. Cabinet heard that investment in the programme will be incremental and will be a pilot for other place-based programmes across the city.

Councillor Hug invited Sarah Crampton the programme lead for North Paddington to speak to the report.

Sarah explained to Cabinet that a central focus of the North Paddington Programme will be tackling inequality. To meet the programme aims officers will work collaboratively with residents and business. To this end a diverse range of stakeholders will be invited to sit on the boards that will be established to review progress and provide feedback.

Claudette Forbes, Future of Westminster Commission and Chair of the Economy and Employment Review is invited to speak to the note appended to the Cabinet report.

Claudette explained to Cabinet that through the evidence gathering sessions carried out as part of the review she is confident that there are local actors in the community ready to participate in a programme of regeneration and address historic inequalities in the area. The inclusion of local partners is key to delivering a successful programme.

Councillor Hug thanks Claudette for the work of the Economy and Employment Review and invited comment from any other Cabinet Member.

Councillor Boothroyd said that he welcomes the report and notes this is a community that has been held back through lack of investment and opportunity. This report will allow strategic oversight of what the Council is doing in this area, and the finances outlined in the report will allow for accountability for the programme.

Councillor Hug draws the item to a close by concluding that the North Programme is one of the many place-shaped based approaches the Council is undertaking on projects like Edgware Road and Queensway.

**RESOLVED – CABINET APPROVED THE RECOMMENDATIONS SET OUT IN SECTION 2, PAGE 109**

## **6 PAY POLICY 2023- 2024**

Councillor Hug introduced the report and reiterated Cabinet's commitment to closing the pay gap and promoting diversity and inclusion.

Councillor Hug invited Lee Witham, Director of People's Service to comment on the report.

Lee explained to Cabinet that the Pay Policy is a statutory report that is required every year. There have been no substantial changes made to the policy this year. Cabinet heard that closing pay gaps by 2025 was a commitment shared across the Council by all people leaders.

**RESOLVED – CABINET APPROVED THERECOMMENDATIONS SET OUT IN SECTION 2, PAGE 140.**

## **7 BUSINESS AND FINANCIAL PLANNING 2023/24 TO 2026/27**

Councillor Hug thanked officers and Councillor Boothroyd for their hard work in bringing forward the budget recommendations.

Councillor Hug welcomed Councillor Paul Fisher, Chair of the Budget Scrutiny Task Group (BSTG) to the meeting, thanking him and all members who sat on BSTG for their work in scrutinising the budget proposals. Councillor Hug asked Councillor Fisher to speak to the work of the BSTG.

Councillor Fisher explained to Cabinet that the priority of the BSTG was primarily to identify risk areas that may require close monitoring. Cabinet heard that the main areas of risk identified were historical in nature. Councillor Fisher told Cabinet that going forward he would like the BSTG to be bolder, more transparent and would like the group to be used more widely in public meetings and in budget setting discussions with the Cabinet.

Councillor Fisher also noted that the report presented to Cabinet had been revised to correct an error in an earlier version. [The updated version can be found here.](#)

Councillor Hug noted this report is recommended to be approved at Full Council on 8<sup>th</sup> March and invited Councillor Boothroyd to introduce the report.

Councillor Boothroyd noted this is the first budget of the new administration and speaks to the ambitions set out in the Fairer Westminster Vision.

Cabinet heard that the Westminster element of Council Tax will be frozen until 2024 but that the Adult Social Care precept will increase by 2% to support the delivery of vital services.

Councillor Hug invited Gerald Almeroth, Executive Director of Finance and Resources to comment on the report.

Cabinet heard that this paper proposes a balanced budget in 2023-24, and Notes inflation is a significant issue along with the uncertainty of central government funding.

Cabinet heard that management of the Council's reserves is significant in trying to mitigate these challenges.

**RESOLVED – CABINET APPROVED THE RECOMMENDATIONS SET OUT IN SECTION 2, PAGE 150**

## **8 CAPITAL STRATEGY 2023/24 TO 2027/28**

Cabinet heard that the Capital Strategy plays a key part in delivering the ambitions set out in the Fairer Westminster. Councillor Boothroyd drew particular attention to an additional £85 million for the Temporary Accommodation Acquisitions Programme.

**RESOLVED – CABINET APPROVED THE RECOMMENDATIONS SET OUT IN, SECTION 2, PAGE 238**

## **9 HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT BUSINESS PLAN 2023/24**

Councillor Hug invited Councillor Boothroyd to introduce the report.

Councillor Boothroyd explained to Cabinet that the Housing Revenue Account Business Plan is an annual refresh of a 30-year business plan.

Cabinet heard that the 5-year outlook for the HRA revenue budget projects gross income of £701.87m and gross expenditure of £675.73m (with a further £26.14m contribution to fund capital). The HRA Business Plan is viable and demonstrates that the capital investment ambition over the 30 years can be funded sustainably.

**RESOLVED – CABINET APPROVED THE RECOMMENDATIONS SET OUT IN SECTION 2, PAGE 279**

## **10 TREASURY MANAGEMENT STRATEGY STATEMENT 2023/24**

Councillor Hug invited Councillor Boothroyd to introduce the report.

Councillor Boothroyd told Cabinet that this is a statutory report produced every year and notes the addition of the Green Climate Bonds which will support climate investments in the city.

**RESOLVED –CABINET APPROVED THE RECOMMENDATIONS SET OUT IN SECTION 2, PAGE 326**

**11 INTEGRATED INVESTMENT STATEMENT 2023/24**

Councillor Hug invited Councillor Boothroyd to introduce the report.

Councillor Boothroyd explained that the Integrated Investment Framework is an annual report, by which the Council invests to support its wider objectives.

**RESOLVED – CABINET APPROVED THE RECOMMENDATIONS SET OUT IN SECTION 6, PAGE 362-363.**

**12 ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

N/A





## City of Westminster Cabinet

<b>Meeting or Decision Maker:</b>	Cabinet
<b>Date:</b>	Monday 27 March 2023
<b>Classification:</b>	General Release
<b>Title:</b>	Fairer Westminster Delivery Plan 2023/24
<b>Wards Affected:</b>	All
<b>Fairer Westminster/Policy Context:</b>	Sets out priorities for the period April 2023 to March 2024 that will help achieve the Fairer Westminster outcomes
<b>Cabinet Member:</b>	Leader of the Council
<b>Key Decision:</b>	No
<b>Financial Summary:</b>	N/A
<b>Report of:</b>	Pedro Wrobel, Executive Director of Innovation & Change

## **1. Executive Summary**

- 1.1. As part of its approach to managing corporate strategy, the Council intends to formally publish a set of priorities and associated success measures for the period from April 2023 to March 2024. Called the Fairer Westminster Delivery Plan, this will communicate publicly, in a resident-friendly and engaging way, the actions the Council is taking to achieve its Fairer Westminster strategy.
- 1.2. The Delivery Plan is one part of the Council's effort to be a more transparent and inclusive organisation, and for the first time, the Council will publish updates against the Delivery Plan success measures through the year. Residents and other stakeholders can use this information to monitor progress and impact, to hold the Council accountable, in addition to existing forums like the Audit & Performance Committee, where council services' performance is also publicly scrutinised.

## **2. Recommendations**

- 2.1. To note and approve the Fairer Westminster Strategy and Delivery Plan.
- 2.2. To approve that the refresh of a Council delivery plan is undertaken on an annual basis so that residents and other stakeholders are kept informed regularly of the Council's priority activities.
- 2.3. To approve that quarterly updates for the Delivery Plan success measures are published online.

## **3. Reasons for Decision**

- 3.1. The Council is determined to be a more transparent organisation and improve the way it makes decisions and delivers services by involving residents and other stakeholders at the right time in the right way. As part of this effort, the Council intends to publish a set of priorities (called the Fairer Westminster Delivery Plan) that communicates to residents and other stakeholders i) how the Council will be working to achieve its Fairer Westminster strategic outcomes throughout the year and ii) the success measures it will be using to monitor their impact so that they can hold the Council to account for its work.

## **4. Background, including Policy Context**

- 4.1. The Fairer Westminster strategy<sup>1</sup>, published in October 2022, explicitly outlined the strategic outcomes the Council wants to achieve for Westminster and its communities, under the following themes: Fairer Communities, Fairer Housing, Fairer Economy, Fairer Environment and Fairer Council.

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<sup>1</sup> Fairer Westminster web page: <https://www.westminster.gov.uk/our-new-strategy-build-fairer-westminster>

- 4.2. As part of the Council's approach to managing corporate strategy and being a more transparent organisation, the next step is to update the Council's corporate strategic narrative with more detail about the actions the Council is taking to achieve its strategic outcomes and how their impact will be monitored. This is the first time a set of Delivery Plan priorities are being shared publicly. The intention is for this to be an annual activity to keep residents and other stakeholders informed of the Council's priorities and the ways it will be measuring success and impact.
- 4.3. The Delivery Plan's priorities will cover the period from April 2023 to March 2024, and for the first time, the Council will publish quarterly updates for its success measures on its website, which will complement the Audit & Performance Committee's existing quarterly scrutiny of council services' performance.

## **5. Financial Implications**

- 5.1. There are no financial implications from establishing the Fairer Westminster Delivery Plan itself. The priorities that form the Delivery Plan have been agreed through the Council's budget setting process and are incorporated into directorates' work plans for the year. Sharing them publicly will improve the Council's transparency, as it provides more detail on the activities the Council is resourcing and the intended benefit of doing so.

## **6. Legal and Governance Implications**

- 6.1. There are no direct legal implications from establishing the Fairer Westminster Strategy Delivery Plan.
- 6.2. The Council may choose to adopt a corporate strategy and plan. This is an Executive function as defined by The Local Authorities (Functions and Responsibilities) (England) Regulations 2000.

## **7. Carbon Impact**

- 7.1. There are no direct carbon implications from establishing the Fairer Westminster Strategy or Delivery Plan. However, the document does play an important role in reaffirming the Council's carbon reduction commitments and monitoring and scrutinising those efforts.
- 7.2. Where appropriate, the projects and activities outlined in the Delivery Plan should carry out carbon impact assessments to examine the effects on the Council's carbon footprint.

## **8. Equalities**

- 8.1. The Fairer Westminster Strategy and Delivery Plan do not directly introduce any change in budget allocation or policy, so it is not expected that groups

with protected characteristics will be negatively impacted by the Plan's approval.

- 8.2. Where required, the projects and activities outlined in the Delivery Plan will conduct equalities impact assessments to identify any effects on groups with protected characteristics.
- 8.3. Further, many of the priorities outlined are designed to tackle inequality and make the Council a more inclusive organisation, such as reducing the school attainment gap and making the Council's workforce more representative of the communities it serves.

## 9. Consultation

- 9.1. Engagement with our communities is at the heart of the Council's Delivery Plan priorities, and engagement will be conducted with residents and other stakeholders to inform their implementation, where appropriate. These consultation opportunities will be communicated throughout the year, along with other ways for that residents can stay informed of or get involved with the Council's work, such as signing up to newsletters or attending Committee meetings where decisions are made.
- 9.2. The Strategy & Intelligence team conducted several focus groups discussions with about 30 members of the Youth Council and Resident Research Panel to determine how to design and communicate the Delivery Plan in a way that maximises engagement.
- 9.3. The Council's existing channels will promote those Delivery Plan priorities that seek resident input in their design and/ or implementation stages.

**If you have any queries about this Report or wish to inspect any of the Background Papers, please contact:**

Nic Wells, Strategy Manager – [nwells@westminster.gov.uk](mailto:nwells@westminster.gov.uk)

## APPENDICES

- Fairer Westminster Delivery Plan 2023/24

## BACKGROUND PAPERS

- Fairer Westminster Strategy:  
[https://issuu.com/westminstercitycouncil/docs/fairer\\_westminster\\_strategy\\_2022](https://issuu.com/westminstercitycouncil/docs/fairer_westminster_strategy_2022)

# CREATING A **FAIRER** WESTMINSTER

Delivery Plan April 2023 - March 2024





## Delivering a Fairer Westminster

Last year we shared our vision of how we would build a Fairer Westminster that supports and celebrates all of its communities; a council combining social justice with efficient services. This is our chance to work with you to create a more inclusive Westminster, where our residents are at the heart of our decision-making, feel listened to and can work with us to shape the future of our city.

We have big ambitions to tackle the deep inequalities that exist in Westminster and are seeking to reduce the poverty that restricts both the life expectancy and opportunities for too many. That's why we've already invested over £10m in tackling the cost of living crisis, in addition to rolling out free school lunches across early years settings, primary and secondary schools.

We are committed to building more council homes and other truly affordable housing; improving our housing services; tackling homelessness; addressing the climate emergency with urgency; and creating a city where it is easy to walk, cycle or take public transport.

Working in partnership with our businesses will be absolutely key to a successful economy – but all our residents can benefit from that success, and we want to see opportunity shared across our city so that both the local high streets at the heart of

our communities and the West End go from strength to strength.

Our ambitions are realistic and achievable, but we are clear that not everything can be done overnight, particularly as we face enormous challenges as a country from an inflation and cost of living crisis that puts a squeeze on all budgets, from every household to City Hall.

That's why we want to be upfront with you about our approach to creating a fairer city, by publishing this plan which transparently sets out what we have planned for the next year, and beyond. This includes the measures that you can use to hold us to account and ensure we are keeping our promises and commitments to you.

This approach has not been done in Westminster before, and it is part of our commitment to be as open and transparent with you as possible about the work we do on your behalf. It is our intention to update this plan every year, both to remain accountable to you and to ensure that we're constantly considering and reflecting the priorities of our residents and businesses as we build a Fairer Westminster together.

The Leader and Cabinet  
of Westminster City Council

## Fairer Westminster is made of five key ambitions

### Fairer Communities

Making Westminster a healthier and equitable place for all our residents.

### Fairer Housing

Increasing affordable housing and making sure our tenants and lessees are satisfied.

### Fairer Economy

Building a strong, diverse and growing economy that benefits all residents and businesses.

### Fairer Environment

Working to become a net zero council by 2030, and a net zero city by 2040.

### Fairer Council

Having our council become more transparent and visible to our residents.



We can translate this document into the following:

- Arabic (عربي)
- Bengali (বাংলা)
- Portuguese (Português)
- Kurdish (کوردی)
- Spanish (Español)

If you have any other questions, please email us at:

[communications@westminster.gov.uk](mailto:communications@westminster.gov.uk)

**020 7641 6000**

Or write to us at:

Fairer Westminster  
Westminster City Council  
Westminster City Hall  
17th Floor, 64 Victoria Street,  
London, SW1E 6QP

Westminster is a unique place, and we have included some important facts that show this...



205,087 people live in Westminster. 13% of the population is 0-15, 75% is 16-64, and 12% is 65+



40 schools are maintained by the council



Life expectancy is lower in Westbourne than in Knightsbridge & Belgravia



The council manages 20,788 homes – 11,769 tenanted and 9,019 leasehold



Westminster has more than 53,300 businesses



There are 11,000 listed buildings and structures including the Westminster World Heritage Site



Around 5% of the population identifies as gay, lesbian, bisexual or other non-hetero sexual orientation



74% of residents use English as their main language



25% of children live in poverty



The council's buildings and operations emit an estimated 41,413 tonnes of carbon dioxide

## The Council's Budget for 2023/24

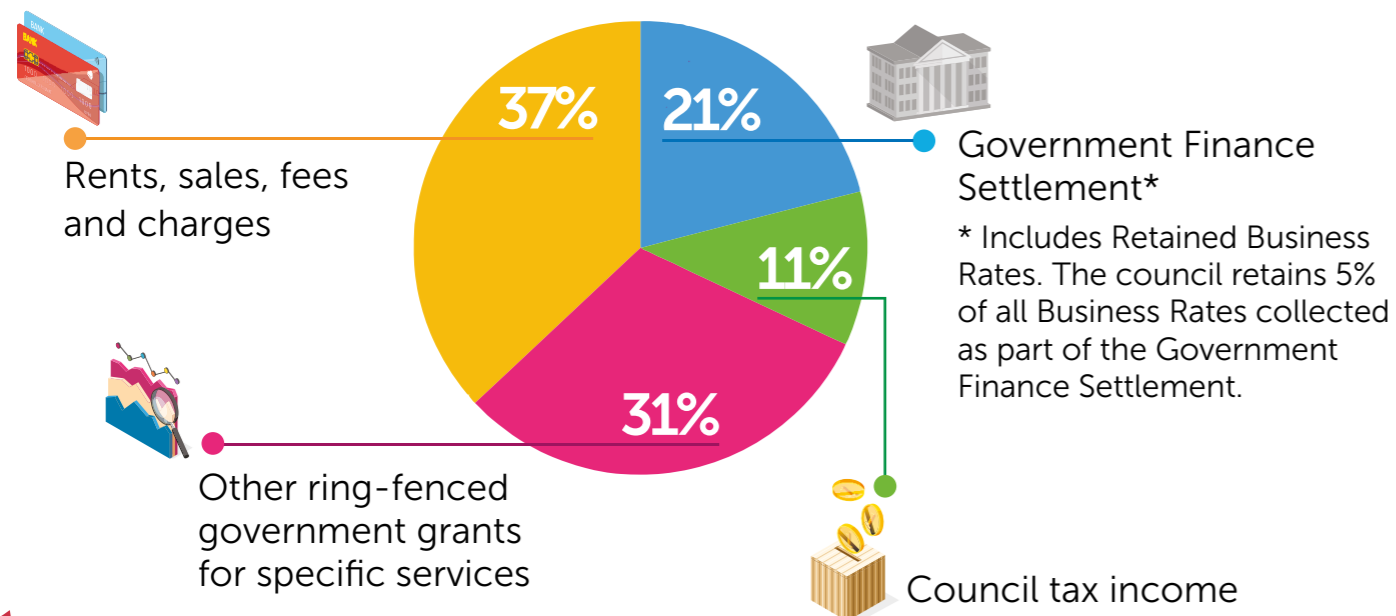
Every year we agree council tax charges and budgets for individual council services for the next 12 months. For the period from April 2023 to March 2024, the council has a gross budget of over £880m, called the General Fund, which will be used to deliver services for residents, businesses and visitors. It includes a freeze in the Westminster City Council part of the council tax for the next year, which means Westminster will continue to offer the cheapest Band D rates in the country.

The council also has a ring-fenced fund for its social housing stock, called the Housing Revenue Account (HRA), that is separate from the General Fund and is fully funded by rents and service charges from tenants and leaseholders.

Because Westminster is a home for residents as well as a destination for workers and visitors, our budget and the services it funds have a significant and positive impact on the borough, London as a whole, and the wider United Kingdom.

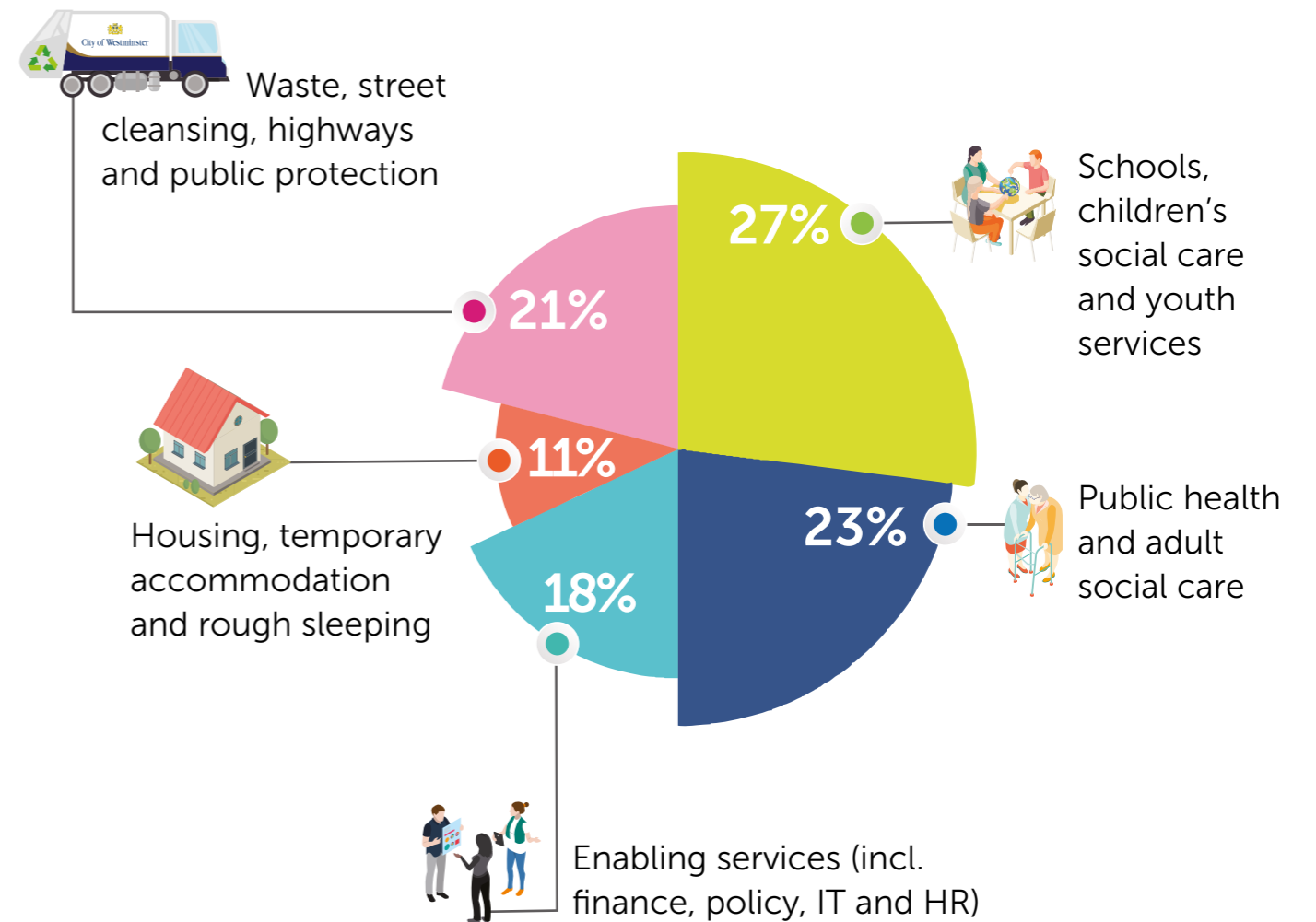
### Where our funding comes from

Council tax only makes up a portion of the council's overall income each year. The full breakdown is as follows:



## How we invest in our services

All money raised is invested in council services across Westminster (excluding social housing, which has its own ring-fenced fund, funded by rents from leaseholders and tenants). Here is a breakdown:



We also have a large multi-year capital programme, spending £2.8bn on public realm, highways and communities. In addition to this, we have a further investment of £2.5bn in delivering housing services and homes within the Housing Revenue Account.



# Fairer Communities

Cities such as Westminster are built on its people – the distinctive communities that breathe life into their neighbourhoods and provide each area with identity and character. This can only happen when we coordinate our services to recognise and meet local communities' specific needs and everyone feels able to contribute to improve local outcomes. For us, a Fairer Westminster is one in which we do everything we can to reduce inequalities at every turn, from closing the life expectancy gap to tackling discrimination everywhere we find it.

Fostering a safe, welcoming city will help these communities thrive. Families can raise children knowing excellent learning opportunities are within easy reach, and that the voices of young people will inform how the council makes decisions. Effective health and social care services, along with engaging physical activities and inspiring cultural activities, will help people live a good life.

But any community is only as good as the people that help build it, and we want to make sure our voluntary organisations and community groups have everything they need to thrive. It's only by building and nurturing these strong community foundations, through engaging and listening, that a fairer, more inclusive Westminster can truly grow.

## This year we will:

- Use our services, investment and community engagement to make North Paddington's public spaces and communities healthier, wealthier and safer. We will test this place-based approach in other areas of the borough such as Queensway, Pimlico and Edgware Road.
- Support our schools to be more inclusive for our most vulnerable young people with free school lunches for early years settings, primary and secondary schools, more breakfast, holiday and after-school clubs, fewer exclusions and by helping more young people into further education, training and employment.
- Reduce health inequalities faced by our Global Majority communities with a new Health and Wellbeing strategy and a wide-ranging review from our Joint Strategic Needs Assessment.
- Help families access services that tackle inequalities and strengthen the multi-agency support provided by our Family Hubs sites. We will also use our libraries to promote services that are available in local communities.
- Find new and better ways of working together with our communities to improve people's health and wellbeing, particularly for our most disadvantaged residents.
- Establish five 'Safe Haven' spaces to improve safety for women and girls. We will also increase the number of Night Star volunteers active in the West End.
- Further invest in mental health services across our communities to provide much better personal and local support.
- Adopt Unison's 'Ethical Care Charter' that sets high employment standards for care workers. This will result in better working conditions for care workers and provide higher quality, more dignified care.
- Create more opportunities and strengthen the support provided to children in care and care leavers when transitioning to adulthood. This includes increasing accommodation choices, identifying education, employment or training options, and improving access to physical and mental health services.
- Tackle youth violence and offending by providing change programmes that support our young people and their families with our communities and partners.



# Fairer Housing

Home is where the heart is, and in a Fairer Westminster we want to make sure the housing needs of everyone from residents and families to social care users are met. Whether in council housing or privately rented accommodation, your homes should be well managed, environmentally sound and, most importantly, genuinely affordable.

Fairer housing also means that everyone has access to these opportunities. We want to increase the number and quality of affordable housing available and we want to reduce homelessness in the city by providing the support individuals need.

With improved housing also comes improved housing services and we want our tenants and lessees to be consistently satisfied not only with the service our teams provide, but with the condition and energy efficiency of the homes we offer.



## This year we will:

- Develop new housing and care for older people at Carlton Dene, while adapting the homes of others so they can live independent lives.
- Rehouse more people on our waiting list by building (and purchasing) more truly affordable homes.
- Make the way we allocate social housing as fair as possible by reviewing our current policy.
- Make contacting our housing staff much easier by increasing the number of officers by a third.
- Ensure our tenants are living in good quality homes by conducting monthly housing condition surveys and work with them to create a Repairs Charter that outlines the repairs process and service quality they should expect.
- Work to improve the Pimlico District Heating Undertaking's performance and reduce its carbon footprint.
- Renovate council homes to help lower our tenants' energy bills, improve their homes' energy efficiency and reduce carbon emissions.
- Give our tenants better face-to-face contact with our housing staff by increasing the locations our officers can work from across the city.
- Improve the quality of service provided when you call our staff by using better customer service technology.
- Ensure the quality of privately rented homes is suitable for tenants by making sure landlords are properly licensed and encouraged to be accredited.
- Improve privately rented property standards and remove hazardous conditions. We will also explore if selective licensing for landlords is appropriate to improve standards.
- Launch a Leaseholders' Charter so that our resident leaseholders can easily understand what support is available and how they can be involved in decision-making about major works to their properties.



# Fairer Economy

Westminster's economy is rightly seen as being successful, diverse, resilient and sustainable. Supporting these values is vital to creating a Fairer Westminster that provides benefits for all residents.

We want our city to cater for and support businesses big and small. Whether in a reimagined and revived West End and Oxford Street that delivers world-class experiences to everyone, or on local high streets that are well prepared to face the future and form the heart of their communities.

Through this work residents will be able to gain the right skills to benefit from the employment opportunities that come from a Fairer Economy.



## This year we will:

- Improve our high streets, such as Harrow Road, Praed Street and Queensway, as part of our place-based approach to delivering services.
- Make Oxford Street a more desirable shopping destination with upgrades to lighting around the area, more seating and wider pavements where possible along with more greenery to improve the overall environment.
- Explore the future of retail by supporting the growth of small, independent businesses and reducing empty business premises across the city.
- Enhance the experience of shopping in the West End and Oxford Street by reducing 'low-quality occupiers' (such as candy shops), and improve safety for residents and visitors by tackling dirty money in Westminster – including the sale of illegal, counterfeit and hazardous items.
- Deliver a targeted programme of support to enable access to affordable, inclusive workspaces for underrepresented artists and creatives, providing them with routes into creative industries.
- Tackle the problems residents face from pedicabs, e-scooters and dockless bikes by lobbying government for appropriate regulation.
- Publish our Fairer Economy plan which aims to create a fairer and more sustainable economy, where businesses will be supported to grow, and residents will be supported to access opportunities this great city has to offer. Part of this will include an increasing range of courses available through the Westminster Adult Education Service, such as digital and sector-specific courses.
- Improve digital inclusion in our community by offering free or low-cost communications packages to those who need it most.
- Launch our Tech Lions 2.0 apprenticeship scheme to encourage young people to pursue careers in technology and management.
- Work with our supply chains, landowners and developers to ensure they do more to benefit local communities.



# Fairer Environment

One of the toughest challenges for any major city is tackling the climate emergency. As part of our aim to create a Fairer Environment, we want to take ambitious action to become a net zero council by 2030 and a net zero city by 2040.

This means reducing air pollution throughout the city to meet the World Health Organization's guidelines. It also means making sure our streets are cleaner and safer, increasing recycling rates, and using cleaner technology throughout our own services.

Westminster will always be a city in which people travel, so we can do everything possible to encourage the use of sustainable and active modes of transport for residents, workers and visitors. But we also want to have a local focus. By ensuring residents have access to high-quality amenities and services all within 15 minutes of their homes, we can make a real impact in lowering emissions, improving air quality and bettering lives now and for future generations.



## This year we will:

- Reduce carbon emissions and support the sustainability of the city by promoting the Sustainable City Charter for businesses.
- Continue the journey of switching to sustainable heat sources across our council buildings and housing stock.
- Improve representation of residents' views in how we tackle climate change through our Citizens' Climate Assembly.
- Help build the city's resilience by understanding and reducing the risks of climate change to Westminster's communities, businesses and services.
- Improve air quality and make it easier for our children to walk, cycle or scoot to school by installing more school streets with resident support.
- Encourage more active forms of travel by developing cycle routes, installing 250 more cycle stands and at least 60 secure hangars.
- Reduce carbon emissions by electrifying our waste and street cleansing vehicles.
- Keep our streets clean by taking targeted action around dumping hot spots.
- Increase canopy cover with 150 more trees planted across the city.
- Help community groups improve their local green spaces through more funding and project support.
- Encourage the use of more environmentally friendly cars for those unable to travel by foot, bike or public transport by adapting our parking policies and expanding our electric vehicle charging network.



# Fairer Council

A Fairer Westminster begins with a Fairer Council, and that means putting our residents at the heart of all our decision-making. We want every action we take to result from listening to your needs.

We want to make it easy to find the information and services people need, and for everything we do to be transparent, ethical and responsible. This includes the partners we work with to provide services. Every step of the supply chain must ensure ethical treatment of people and a sustainable attitude to the environment.

We also want to continue being a financially sustainable council, always able to support residents and businesses with all their needs. A Fairer Council is one people can trust to make the right decisions for your needs.



## This year we will:

- Improve how we listen to our residents and incorporate their views into our work, which will be informed by the Charter for Community Participation.
- Continue helping our residents through the cost of living crisis by distributing at least a further £2million in addition to government schemes, £1m of which comes from our Housing Revenue Account's Rent Support Fund for tenants who need help with their rent.
- Make it easier for residents to shape the planning policies that influence development and explain how they can engage with live planning applications, by adopting a new Statement of Community Involvement.
- Introduce public speaking at Full Council meetings to get people more involved in local democracy. We will also schedule more time for public participation in policy and scrutiny meetings.
- Make it easy for everyone to access different services in one place by starting to create community 'hub' spaces throughout neighbourhoods.
- Make our own workforce more representative of our communities and reduce pay gaps within the council.
- Use people's feedback to make reporting street issues easier with a redesigned tool on our Report It webpage.
- Ensure eligible residents who are not registered to vote receive information on how to register.
- Increase investment in our communities by expanding the community priorities grant programme to other parts of the city where need is highest and develop a longer-term core grants approach for our voluntary and community sector.
- Make it easier for our communities to stay informed and engaged by launching a Smart City online platform that gives access to the right council data and improves transparency and decision-making.
- Set up a Design Review Panel of independent experts that provides advice to planners and the planning committee on the design of major developments.





## Measuring our impact

Understanding progress is important for creating a Fairer Westminster. Here are some of the measurements we will be using to determine how we are doing:

### Fairer Communities

Increase the number of people taking part in sport and physical activity and using council leisure and sport facilities

Increase the take-up of free early education entitlements for 2-, 3- and 4-year-olds

Improve achievement at Key Stages 2 and 4 for pupils from disadvantaged backgrounds and those eligible for Free School Meals

Improve Progress 8 scores for secondary school pupils at Key Stage 4 (GCSE)

Ensure all of the council's contracted home care providers are paying their staff at least the London Living Wage

Increase the total amount of funding (through contracts and grants) to the voluntary and community sector

### Fairer Housing

Deliver on our affordable housing programme

A higher percentage of tenants satisfied with the housing repairs service

More tenanted homes improved to meet Energy Performance Certificate B ratings

Improve more houses in multiple occupation (HMOs)

Increase the number of cases where homelessness has been prevented



We will be open and transparent, and make information on our progress more accessible, so that you can see how we're doing. We will share more detail about our progress on our Open Data page.



This can be accessed here:  
[www.westminster.gov.uk/about-council/data](http://www.westminster.gov.uk/about-council/data)

### Fairer Economy

Increase the number of businesses supported through Westminster Works and the employment opportunities they provide to our residents

More residents supported into training and skills opportunities

Increase the number of properties with access to full fibre broadband

A high percentage of residents who agree the council is making their local area a better place to live

### Fairer Environment

Reduce the council's carbon emissions

Increase the number of on-street cycle parking stands and secure hangars

More of the council's parking permits are for electric or green vehicles

Increased proportion of waste and street cleansing fleet that is electric

More businesses signed up to the Sustainable City Charter for reducing carbon emissions



### Fairer Council

A workforce that is representative of our communities

More users of publicly available council datasets

A high percentage of residents who agree the council involves them in decisions about their local areas

More residents choosing to go online to resolve their queries

## Get involved

Every single one of us has a part to play in creating a Fairer Westminster. Here are some of the ways you can get involved and make your voice heard:



Find out who your elected representatives are and when they meet to make decisions  
[westminster.moderngov.co.uk](http://westminster.moderngov.co.uk)

Sign up to receive our email newsletters  
[www.westminster.gov.uk/newsletters](http://www.westminster.gov.uk/newsletters)



Read and respond to consultations or proposals  
[www.westminster.gov.uk/consultations](http://www.westminster.gov.uk/consultations)

Join our Resident Research Panel to review and feedback on our policies and projects  
[www.westminster.gov.uk/resident-research-panel](http://www.westminster.gov.uk/resident-research-panel)



Join our Youth Council  
[www.westminster.gov.uk/about-council/youth-council](http://www.westminster.gov.uk/about-council/youth-council)

Join your local amenity society to contribute to planning decisions in your area  
[www.westminsteramenitysocietiesforum.org](http://www.westminsteramenitysocietiesforum.org)



Build community spirit on your estate by joining your local Residents' Association  
[www.westminstercommunityinfo.org/subjects/residents-associations](http://www.westminstercommunityinfo.org/subjects/residents-associations)

If you have any other questions, please email us at:

✉ [communications@westminster.gov.uk](mailto:communications@westminster.gov.uk)  
or write to us at the address on page 2.

☎ 020 7641 6000

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City of Westminster

## Cabinet Report

<b>Decision Maker:</b>	Cabinet
<b>Date:</b>	Monday 27 <sup>th</sup> March
<b>Classification</b>	For General Release
<b>Title:</b>	Westminster Neighbourhood CIL Applications
<b>Wards Affected:</b>	West End and St James wards
<b>Financial Summary:</b>	<b>This report seeks to allocate a total of £1,091,417 of funding from the Neighbourhood CIL portion to two infrastructure projects (Aldford Street Public Realm Improvements and Temple Roof Artists Garden)</b>
<b>Report of:</b>	Executive Director of Innovation & Change

## **1.0. Executive Summary**

- 1.1. Westminster City Council's (WCC) Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) is a charge applied to development to help fund strategic and neighbourhood infrastructure that is required to support the development and growth of the City of Westminster. WCC formally adopted its CIL in May 2016, and as of March 2023 a total of £151.949m had been collected; remaining balances are set out in the report.
- 1.2. Neighbourhood CIL is a proportion of CIL apportioned to the local area in which the development took place. The Council has 22 Neighbourhood Areas all that have their own portion of Neighbourhood CIL accrued. Neighbourhood CIL can be used to fund a variety of community infrastructure to support that neighbourhood area cope with population/demographic pressures. The council encourages organisations and individuals to apply for Neighbourhood CIL to deliver projects that benefit the local community of residents and businesses. As of March 2023 a total of £17.964m has been apportioned to Neighbourhood CIL; £11.665m remains available. This report recommends approval of £1.091m of allocations.
- 1.3. Under the governance arrangements agreed by Cabinet in October 2022, most decisions on Neighbourhood CIL are made by the Cabinet Member for Planning and Economic Development, but where the value of a proposed project exceeds £250,000, that decision will be brought to a meeting of Cabinet. The two applications set out in this report both request funding exceeding the £250,000 threshold.
- 1.4. The purpose of this report is for the Cabinet to consider and approve two applications for Neighbourhood CIL.

## **2.0. Recommendation**

- 2.1. The Cabinet is asked to approve the following Neighbourhood CIL bids, details of which are set out in this report:
  - i) Aldford Street Public Realm Improvements
  - ii) Temple Roof Artists Gardens

## **3.0. Reasons for Decision**

- 3.1. To ensure robust and effective expenditure and reporting in line with the Community Infrastructure Levy Regulations 2010 (as amended) and in accordance with the council's strategic priorities, CIL spending policy statement and its framework for resource allocation and management.

## **4.0. Background**

*Neighbourhood CIL*

- 4.1. The Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) is a charge that local authorities can impose on new development to help raise funds to deliver infrastructure that is required to support the development and growth of their area. WCC's became effective from May 2016 and applies to liable developments that were granted planning permission on or after this date. CIL is payable when works to implement the development commence.
- 4.2. All CIL funding decisions are taken with regard to national legislation and regulations. Local policy and priorities, as set out in the Westminster CIL Spending Policy Statement (October 2022), also inform decisions.
- 4.3. CIL Regulations require apportionment of CIL receipts between:
- **the Strategic Portion (70-80%)** – spent by the Council according to its strategic infrastructure priorities.
  - **a Neighbourhood Portion of receipts from development in each neighbourhood (15-25%)** – spent by the Council in agreement with the neighbourhood communities concerned (other than in Queen's Park, where the portion is paid to, and spent by, the Community Council); and
  - **the CIL Administrative Portion (5%)** – spent by the Council on the administrative costs of CIL collection and administration.
- 4.4. Neighbourhood CIL is earmarked for the local area within which the development took place to provide infrastructure. Neighbourhood CIL is collected and held by the council and spent by the council in consultation with the local community. The council accepts applications to provide Neighbourhood CIL to deliver projects.
- 4.5. As of March 2023 a total of £17.964m has been apportioned to Neighbourhood CIL; £11.665m remains available.

## **5.0. Westminster's CIL: The Neighbourhood Portion**

### **Overview of Neighbourhood CIL**

- 5.1. A proportion of CIL is apportioned to the area within which the development took place. There are 21 neighbourhood areas throughout Westminster; primarily commercial areas and the Royal Parks are not included within any neighbourhood area. As set out in legislation the neighbourhood portion is set at 15% of CIL receipts in a neighbourhood area capped at £100 per council tax paying dwelling, per annum. Where a neighbourhood area has an adopted neighbourhood plan, the percentage allocated to the neighbourhood rises to 25% uncapped. Any NCIL collected from a development which was not within a designated neighbourhood area is put into the 'Outside designated neighbourhood area' pot.
- 5.2. The council accepts applications for Neighbourhood CIL funds from organisations and individuals through quarterly application rounds. Applications are assessed with regards to national legislation and regulations, principally Planning Act (2008) and the Community Infrastructure Levy

Regulations 2010 (as amended) and the associated National Planning Practice Guidance, and with regards to local policy, criteria and priorities as established by the Westminster CIL Spending Policy Statement. Ward members, Neighbourhood Forums, and Business Improvement Districts, where they exist, must be consulted on all applications within their area. Applications are processed and reviewed by Infrastructure Planning and Delivery officers, with insight sought from relevant officers across the council and the Infrastructure Governance Group.

- 5.3. Under the governance arrangements agreed by Cabinet in October 2022, most decisions on Neighbourhood CIL are made by the Cabinet Member for Planning and Economic Development, but where the value of a proposed project exceeds £250,000, that decision will be brought to a meeting of Cabinet.

### **Winter 2023 Neighbourhood CIL Applications: Background**

- 5.4. 11 verified applications for Neighbourhood CIL funding were received by the deadline for the Winter 2023 application round.
- 5.5. Nine of the applications were decided by the Cabinet Member for Planning and Economic Development. Of these, eight applications were approved or approved in principle, totalling £661,244:

- i) St Marylebone CE Bridge School Mini-bus
- ii) Fitzrovia Community Centre Improvements
- iii) St Marylebone Parish Church Public Realm Improvements
- iv) Paddington Arts Development: Design and Preliminary Works
- v) St Augustine's Sports Hall Flooring
- vi) National Portrait Gallery Orange Street Improvements
- vii) Hyde Park Paddington Neighbourhood Plan
- viii) Victoria Neighbourhood Plan

The final application was deferred to allow outstanding issues to be addressed.

- 5.6. Two of the applications requested funding exceeding £250,000. Under the governance arrangements, these applications are to be decided by the Cabinet. Summaries and recommendations are set out below.

### **Winter 2023 Neighbourhood CIL Applications: Recommendations**

- 5.7. Applications that are recommended for **approval "in principle"** means that the proposal is eligible for Neighbourhood CIL Funding and is considered viable, however further engagement with council's departments is needed prior to allocation of funds. An in-principal allocation does not mean the project is being refused for Neighbourhood funding, but rather that outstanding issues must be addressed prior to the formal allocation of funds. Applications recommended for **approval** means that the project is considered viable by officers and is ready for implementation

- 5.8. **Aldford Street Public Realm Improvements (Mayfair):** The Cabinet is recommended to approve in principle £579,417 to WCC requested by the Mayfair Neighbourhood Forum (MNF) to deliver their public realm aspirations in Aldford Street.
- 5.9. The funding would support a significantly improved public realm along Aldford Street with a new raised carriageway junction, new “Pocket Park” garden with planting and trees, additional street planting, new permeable sustainable urban drainage to mitigate flooding, new permanent outdoor seating, and renewably powered additional lighting. The works also includes necessary utilities relocation. The Pocket Park and improvements along the street aim to transform the space into a fitting arrival for Mayfair with its important gateway to and from Hyde Park. The scheme is phase 1 of the MNF’s 18 phase ‘Green Route’, a one-mile green corridor that will join Hyde Park from Park Lane to Regent Street via Aldford Street and Conduit Street, aiming to bring nature into the streets of Mayfair, promote health, wellbeing and inclusivity whilst mitigating climate change and revitalising the Georgian city plan for the future. The project has already been allocated NCIL (£119,200, NCIL/024) to appraise, develop and consult on concept designs, and a further allocation (£338,000, NCIL/042) to support design and implementation.
- 5.10. The funding request is based on a high-level estimate and the final cost is likely to be lower. Officers will produce more exact cost estimates as the scheme progresses through design stages, and further cost reduction mechanisms will be explored. Cost savings have already been identified, including replacing granite with York stone and designing the raised table with asphalt instead of granite. In addition, the current high-level estimate includes a 30% (£133,712) buffer for risk and contingency. If the final cost is lower than the NCIL allocation, the remaining funds will be returned to the Mayfair Neighbourhood CIL pot balance.
- 5.11. Funding will be conditioned on agreement of a management plan to ensure that the improvements, including the planting, is maintained to a high standard without additional cost to the council. The funding request includes maintenance for 36 months, but a longer-term solution must identified. A long-term maintenance plan must be agreed by Highways officers before NCIL funding will be released.
- 5.12. Local CIL policy identifies ‘accessible and inclusive public spaces’ as one of the top five priorities for CIL funding. The new garden would create a new and inclusive public space within a busy part of the City.
- 5.13. The project relates directly to development and more broadly supports the growth of the City. Aldford Street is experiencing hotel development, including a consented scheme fronting Aldford Street at 14 Park Street (22/04330/FULL) and a pending application for the building at Aldford Street’s junction with Park Lane (22/05437/FULL). These developments are expected to increase pressure on the adjacent public realm and the proposed project addresses that pressure. The project supports growth in a broader sense as

well. The project would directly deliver some objectives of the adopted Mayfair Neighbourhood Plan, which guides local growth to achieve the community's vision for their area. These types of public realm projects better facilitate pedestrian movement; for example monitoring of the Baker Street and Bond Street public realm schemes found footfall increases of 84% and 24%, respectively.

- 5.14. There is extensive local support for the scheme. The Mayfair Neighbourhood Forum is the listed applicant. Local ward councillors were consulted; Cllrs Paul Fisher and Patrick Lilley emailed to note their general support for greening measures such as those proposed. The public garden in particular has strong public support: five organisations signed a letter in September 2021 (Mayfair Residents Association, Grosvenor & Mayfair Residents Association, Grosvenor, Astrea, and New West End Company); and over 90% of respondents to an autumn 2021 Mayfair communications exercise were supportive. The scheme in general has been subject to extensive public consultation, including a programme of ten events and activities such as workshops, talks, and public drop-ins, held in September 2021.
- 5.15. The MNF support a higher-cost scheme (£970,191) which would include structural changes to the TfL-owned staircase within the underpass to create an improved access leading into the space and framing the view of Grosvenor Chapel. WCC officers have recommended that the staircase not be included in the scheme because the benefits are not sufficient to justify the additional expense. The visual and public realm benefits are limited, and the ambition to create a 'transition space' will already be achieved by the new Pocket Park, rendering changes to the staircase redundant. The proposed works would also provide no accessibility benefits because the stairs would remain accessible and there are no proposed improvements to the accompanying ramp. Finally, the stairs are a TfL-owned asset but TfL have not agreed to contribute to the project. Councillor Paul Dimoldenberg, Cabinet Member for City Management and Air Quality, agreed with the officer recommendation.
- 5.16. **Temple Roof Artists Gardens (Outside of Designated Neighbourhood Areas):** Cabinet is recommended to approve the CoLab's application for £512,000 for a three year project to continue the Artists Garden on the roof of Temple Tube station.
- 5.17. The project has turned 1400sqm of the hidden and neglected roof terrace above the station into a place for the public to experience a free large-scale installation. The initial installation was British-Ugandan artist Lakwena's technicolour vision of 'Paradise'. The funding would support the continuation of the project for three years with three annual installations and an accompanying programmes of exhibitions, residencies and workshops open to the public for free.
- 5.18. The project costs £428,625 over three years. If the scheme does not find alternative funding, it would require additional funding for de-installation and other clean up work, which would bring the total to £512,000. Sustainability elements of the scheme, including solar panels and rainwater collection, have

been approved in principle for £37,970 Carbon Offset funding, subject to approval of the main NCIL funding application.

- 5.19. Local CIL policy identifies 'accessible and inclusive public spaces' as one of the top five priorities for CIL funding. The project transforms a previously underused public space into an inviting public space, providing a place for personal reflection and socialisation with views of the Thames and London's skylines.
- 5.20. The project supports the growth of the City by encouraging people to return to central London following the pandemic. The initial installation created an uplifting outdoor environment drawing in families and the local community of workers, students, and other visitors, giving them a reason to visit the Northbank and stimulate the local economy. The project also helps to deliver growth objectives for the local area; for example, the scheme is included in Northbank BID's proposed Riverfront Strategy.
- 5.21. The applicant has demonstrated significant public support for the scheme. All three local St James Ward councillors are actively supportive. Northbank BID is also supportive. Letters of support have been written by cultural organisations based or active in the area, including Somerset House, the Courtauld Institute of Art, Two Temple Place, and St Mary le Strand Church.

## **6.0. Financial Implications**

- 6.1. To date, the council has collected £17.964m in Neighbourhood CIL. £6.299m has been allocated, leaving a balance of £11.665m. This report recommends approving a further £1.091m of Neighbourhood CIL allocations, which would bring the balance to £10.574m.

## **7.0. Legal Implications**

- 7.1. The legislation governing the development, adoption, and administration of a Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) is contained within the Planning Act (2008) and the Community Infrastructure Levy Regulations 2010 (as amended). The associated government National Planning Policy Guidance is also important in guiding this process. There are other areas of law which should be considered when assessing certain developments for CIL liability and determining the appropriate sum due. These include matters relating to social housing, procurement, charitable institutions, and state aid.

## **8.0. Consultation**

- 8.1. Local policy requires local ward councillors, neighbourhood forums, and business improvement districts, where they exist, be given the opportunity to comment on all proposals within their area. All applications in this report have been subject to Ward Member and community engagement, as well as Cabinet Members where necessary. Stakeholder and community support is described for each application.

## **9.0. Equalities**

- 9.1. Under the Equalities Act 2010 the council has a “public sector equality duty”. This means that in taking decisions and carrying out its functions it must have due regard to the need to eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct prohibited by the 2010 Act; to advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic (age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex and sexual orientation) and those who do not share it; and to foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and those who do not share it.
- 9.2. The council is also required to have due regard to the need to take steps to take account of disabled persons’ disabilities even where that involves more favourable treatment; to promote more positive attitudes toward disabled persons; and to encourage participation by disabled persons in public life.
- 9.3. The 2010 Act states that “having due regard” to the need to promote equality of opportunity involves in particular having regard to: the need to remove or minimise disadvantages suffered by persons sharing a protected characteristic; take steps to meet the needs of persons sharing a protected characteristic that are connected with it; take steps to meet the needs of persons who share a protected characteristic that are different from those who do not; and encourage persons with a protected characteristic to participate in public life or any other activity in which participation by such persons is disproportionately low.
- 9.4. The courts have held that “due regard” in this context requires an analysis of the issue under consideration with the specific requirements set out above in mind. It does not require that considerations raised in the analysis should be decisive; it is for the decision-maker to decide what weight should be given to the equality’s implications of the decision.
- 9.5. All decisions on spending CIL will themselves be subject to assessment to ensure the 2010 Act duties are complied with. Equality Impact Assessment Screenings are undertaken for every Neighbourhood CIL application, with the exception of applications to fund Neighbourhood Plan consultants because Neighbourhood Plans have been subject to national EQIAs. The council will review its CIL charging schedule on a biennial basis.

**If you have any queries about this Report or wish to inspect any of the Background Papers, please contact:**

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E-mail: [ACsicsek@westminster.gov.uk](mailto:ACsicsek@westminster.gov.uk)



## **BACKGROUND PAPERS**

Report to Cabinet dated 17 October 2022 on Priorities for the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) and update to the CIL Spending Policy Statement and governance arrangements

Report to Cabinet Member for Planning and Economic Development on Winter 2023 Neighbourhood CIL and Carbon Offset applications recommendations

Westminster CIL Spending Policy Statement

Equalities Impact Assessment Screening documents for Neighbourhood CIL applications

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