



City of Westminster

Committee Agenda

Title:

Communities, City Management and Air Quality Policy and Scrutiny Committee

Meeting Date:

Tuesday 13th September, 2022

Time:

6.30 pm

Venue:

Rooms 18.06, 18.07 and 18.08 - 18th Floor, 64 Victoria Street, London, SW1E 6QP

Members:

Councillors:

Jason Williams
Melvyn Caplan
Laila Dupuy
Iman Less

Mark Shearer
James Small-Edwards
Judith Southern



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

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.

Email: akassi@westminster.gov.uk

Corporate Website: 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 they should contact the Head of Governance and Councillor Liaison in advance of the meeting please.

AGENDA

PART 1 (IN PUBLIC)

1. MEMBERSHIP

To note any changes to the membership.

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 previous meeting.

(Pages 3 - 6)

4. PORTFOLIO UPDATE - CABINET MEMBER FOR COMMUNITIES AND PUBLIC PROTECTION

(Pages 7 - 10)

5. PORTFOLIO UPDATE - CABINET MEMBER FOR CITY MANAGEMENT AND AIR QUALITY

(Pages 11 - 24)

6. ENVIRONMENTAL ENFORCEMENT

(Pages 25 - 34)

7. WORK PROGRAMME

(Pages 35 - 46)

**Stuart Love
Chief Executive
5 September 2022**



MINUTES

CITY OF WESTMINSTER

Communities, City Management and Air Quality Policy and Scrutiny Committee

23 June 2022

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

Minutes of a meeting of the **Communities, City Management and Air Quality Policy and Scrutiny Committee** held at **6:30pm** on **Thursday 23 June 2022**.

Hybrid meeting via Microsoft Teams and Rooms 18.01-03, 18th floor, 64 Victoria Street, London, SW1E 6QP.

Members Present: Councillor Jason Williams (Chair), Councillor Melvyn Caplan, Councillor Laila Dupuy, Councillor Iman Less, Councillor Mark Shearer, Councillor James Small-Edwards, Councillor Judith Southern.

Also present: Councillor Concia Albert (Deputy Cabinet Member for Voluntary Sector and Public Protection), Councillor Paul Dimoldenberg (Cabinet Member, for City Management and Air Quality), Serena Simon (Director of Communities), Raj Mistry (Executive Director of Environment and City Management), Patrick Ryan (Portfolio Advisor), Richard Cressey (Head of Cabinet and Committee Services), Elizabeth Everehi (Policy and Scrutiny Co-ordinator).

1. ELECTION OF CHAIR

1.1 Councillor Judith Southern proposed Councillor Jason Williams as chair, and Cllr Iman Less seconded this proposal.

1.2 The Committee agreed to this, and Councillor Williams was appointed as Chair of the Communities, City Management, and Air Quality Policy and Scrutiny Committee.

2. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

2.1 The Chair welcomed the Committee and advised Councillor Aicha Less had sent her apologies due to a personal matter. Councillor Concia Albert, Deputy Cabinet Member for Voluntary Sector and Public Protection informed the Committee that she would stand in Councillor Less's place.

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

3.1 There were no declarations of interest.

4. CABINET MEMBER FOR COMMUNITIES AND PUBLIC PROTECTION – PORTFOLIO UPDATE

4.1 The Committee received a written update from the Executive Director of Environment and City Management and Director of Communities on behalf of Councillor Aicha Less, who alongside Councillor Concia Albert and the Committee, discussed the following:

- A Member queried the Community strategy investment work. There was already a scoring system in place to make sure giving to the Voluntary and Community Sector was fair, and there was significant consultation done to put this in place. The Committee felt the work was being repeated. The Director of Communities advised the first stage of the work is to create a comprehensive picture of the current situation to ensure everything the Council does is creating equity.
- A Member asked for more information on the approach to anti-social behaviour (ASB), particularly where there is a split of responsibility. There are ASB teams in Housing Services and also an ASB team within the Environment and City Management Department. The question was posed as to whether this is the optimum method of operation on some ASB issues.
- A Member asked about the one of the strategic pillars of the ASB strategy, 'Perpetrators Brought to Justice' and what the Council's role in this is. Councillor Concia Albert advised part of this approach is about working closely with the Police.
- The Committee raised issue with the lack of policing resources.
- As a general point, a Member advised that this meeting is about scrutinising the Executive and that accompanying reports should be received earlier in the process in the future and questions should be answered by the Cabinet Member and not by officers.
- A Member asked for some clarity on some elements of all Cabinet Member terms of reference so they can ensure the correct Cabinet Member is scrutinised (this was relevant where joint responsibility was referred to).

4.2 ACTIONS

- Report to come back to the Committee outlining the approach to bringing ASB perpetrators to justice.

5. CABINET MEMBER FOR CITY MANAGEMENT AND AIR QUALITY – PORTFOLIO UPDATE

5.1 The Committee received a written update from the Cabinet Member for City Management and Air Quality. The Cabinet Member made some additional points to his written report, including:

- A recent school streets initiative at St Mary's Bryanston Square Primary school to improve air quality.
- Bike hangar issues brought forward by ward Councillors.
- Food waste signage issues.
- Pimlico Gardens being an underused space.
- Gaslights and the efforts to ensure our lighting is improved while retaining the historical fabric of the city.

The Committee discussed:

- A Member asked about hotspots for fly tipping and how to combat this. A range of techniques could be adopted, such as CCTV, signage, more regular controls by City Inspectors or moving the location of bins. The Cabinet Member also advised that the community should also be involved in how the Council approaches this issue.
- The issue of renters, landlords and the effect on fly tipping. The bulky refuse collection service will be improved to ensure rubbish is cleared quickly. A Member advised that quick collection could mean that people leave rubbish in these areas more frequently.
- A Member mentioned there was no mention of the public realm in the written report and queried who leads this area.
- A Member mentioned cycle hangars and cycle racks. The process leads to long delays in their installation which can be many months after the request is made. The latest consultation exercises will delay proposed installations by several more months.
- A Member mentioned Thames Water and the flooding of July 21 and requested that the Cabinet Member presses them to deliver on their promised flood alleviation measures.
- A Member asked about the cost of replacement gaslights.
- Big black bins causing rubbish dumping issues, but their removal does not always fix the problem.
- A Member raised issue with a community approach meaning a lack of privacy for people.
- A Member questioned the effectiveness of CCTV working as a deterrent given the lack of ability to identify those caught on film, and whether the cost of installation and maintenance is worth the result.

5.2 ACTIONS

- Councillor Dimoldenberg to meet with Thames Water if their report is not received on time and to press them to deliver the flood alleviation measures.
- The cost of gaslights to be brought back to the Committee.

- The cost of CCTV to be brought back to the Committee.
- Number for bulky rubbish to be passed onto the Committee.

6. WORK PROGRAMME

6.1 The Committee considered the proposed work programme for the Committee for the coming year, and made the following comments:

- There should be six meetings a year instead of four.
- Some items on the work list could be merged, for example, the parking items.
- The waste services and contract review may not need to be discussed as the first item as there will now be 6 meetings a year.
- Police use of stop and search could be changed to a discussion about police resources more generally.
- The Committee would prefer to have one major topic scrutinised rather than two at each committee.

6.2 ACTIONS

- Dates for additional committees to be circulated.
- Feedback on the work programme to be incorporated.

7. TERMINATION OF MEETING

7.1 The meeting closed at 20:00.

CHAIR:

DATE



City of Westminster

Communities, City Management and Air Quality Policy and Scrutiny Committee

Date:	13 September 2022
Portfolio:	Communities and Public Protection
The Report of:	Councillor Aicha Less, Cabinet Member for Communities and Public Protection
Report Author and Contact Details:	Patrick Ryan pryan@westminster.gov.uk

- 1. Key decisions made in the preceding period since my last Policy & Scrutiny report dated 23 June 2022:**
 - 27 July 2022 – Changes to the Ward Budget Programme.
 - 17 August 2022 – Refreshing Equalities Objectives.
- 2. The following report includes my priorities and delivery progress to date of the new administration:**

2.1 Public Protection

Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB)

Work continues to develop the new 5-year ASB strategy and supporting ASB Policy and the final drafts are being produced. A public consultation plan is also in place.

City Inspectors

City Inspectors have been tackling the issue of dockless bikes causing obstruction to the public. Several bikes have now been removed and contact has been made with relevant companies. The response has been positive with some companies advising their users on how they should be parking dockless bikes and action that will be taken if these regulations are not followed. Since this work began, there has been a noticeable reduction in the amount bikes parking in a dangerous manner.

Candy Shop Enforcement

The team has been processing evidence for prosecutions and have carried out test purchases to support the prosecutions. The service was also gathering evidence for a closure order at one premise, though this is on hold because the business is now compliant. After a joint visit with the HMRC to some premises, we will investigate whether any other closure orders on Oxford Street are necessary.

Busking and Street Entertainment

Officers will be working with colleagues from Policy to inform the review of the policy. From September, the central shifted teams will pick up the bulk of the reactive and proactive visits in relation to the enforcement of the policy. There remain some locations, such as Leicester Square,

Piccadilly, and Covent Garden where there is regular non-compliance, but officers are working to tackle the worst offenders.

Food Safety

The Food Standards Agency Road Map is in place which gives local authorities deadlines for completing inspections. We have met the June deadline and are now working within the September deadline.

Monkeypox is still prevalent within England, and Public Health recently contacted the Food Service to help advise a nightclub in Villiers Street to stop an event. The nightclub went ahead with the event with mitigation measures in place.

There have been four business closures recently due to poor food hygiene, serious risk of contamination and serious risk to health.

The service has received £36,000 from the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs for enforcement of the new prepacked for Direct Sale legislation (Natasha's Law). We have commenced a project whereby businesses will be inspected and provided with an information leaflet and advice to assist them in complying with this.

Night Stars

We have been awarded the only grant in London from the Home Office Safer Streets 4 in support of our Night Safety programme. A total of £283k has been awarded to the council which will allow us to expand our Night Stars service to both additional days and potentially new locations. The remainder of the Night Safety programme will support other potential projects which are subject to approval. It is intended that the Night Safety Programme will be supported by a Women's Safety Forum that will advise and become the sounding-board for the programme.

The deployment of the Night Stars is producing significant results. Our volunteers are supporting many women and vulnerable people out in the night-time economy and are ensuring that they receive the support they require.

British Summer Time Concerts

The Environment Health Consultation Team undertook pre-opening site inspections, and also inspections for food hygiene, health and safety and the licensing of over 50 street food stalls and over 30 bars. The team also undertook real-time monitoring of noise levels during concerts to ensure compliance with sound levels set under the Licence. The sound level condition was not breached over the three concert weekends.

Notting Hill Carnival

This year will be the first Notting Hill Carnival on the streets of Westminster for three years, and plans are underway ahead of the Bank Holiday weekend. Officers from across the council will be supporting the carnival over the course of the weekend, including City Promotion Events & Filming, Licensing, City Inspectors, Emergency Planning, Communications, Parking, Highways and Housing.

In Westminster, there will be:

- Six static sound systems.
- Street trading across two main locations - Westbourne Park Road and Talbot Road.
- The Judging Zone on Great Western Road.
- Toilets installed across various roads to ensure broad coverage and access for those attending.

- Significant parking restrictions for the weekend. The first restrictions will take effect on Wednesday 24 August to allow the building of the supporting infrastructure.

Leaflets have been delivered to residents in affected wards (Lancaster Gate, Bayswater, Westbourne, Queen's Park, Harrow Road). Booking for the after carnival clean up service is now open for both Council and private occupiers.

2.2 Communities

Community Investment Strategy

Engagement with the Voluntary and Community Sector (VCS) and Council officers have revealed the need for a centralised approach around defining needs, identifying outcomes, streamlining grant processes, and measuring the impact of the grants. We are preparing the options for the delivery of a community grants programme. Further work has started to review the council's approach to VCS rental of our properties.

Westminster Connects

The newsletter was rebranded in partnership with our VCS partner *One Westminster*. They have contributed opportunities for volunteers, developed a handbook for volunteers, created an advisory group from volunteer residents, and begun regular introduction sessions for new volunteers. A new range of volunteer opportunities with Adult Social Care are being developed to provide more volunteer support to people in their homes.

VCS contracts

Two new contracts for Healthwatch (the Advocacy Project) and for the voluntary sector infrastructure support and volunteer development (One Westminster) started on 1 July, and the redesign process for the Westminster Advice Service Partnership is beginning to develop a new contract for 23 September.

VCS networks

The food poverty network, which has run for two years as a monthly forum of VCS partners, was extended to include energy poverty work. The network oversees developments in food banks and food pantries and advice services, and tracks levels of need and gaps in provision, and has been contributing to the distribution of the hardship fund and the Cost-of-Living Strategy.

Engagement Deep Dive

We gathered feedback from residents, amenity societies, and community organisations in January and February on their experience of the Council. Feedback was summarised into six categories and will be used to transform how we involve the community in decision making. We have started joint staff and community workshops and Cllr Sanquest has been involved and attending these. We are now preparing recommendations for discussion.

Approach to equalities

The service will update our Equality Objectives, setting out our measurable priorities. We will also be reviewing and transforming our approach to equality impact assessments, making them mandatory for all decision making. As members have now supported the inclusion of socio-economic impact as part of our equalities consideration, we will ensure this is undertaken and are working with experts in the field. The team published the refreshed objectives in August 2022 and thereafter will start to scope the remit of a wider external equalities plan.

#2035

This programme is in collaboration with partners in Westminster to reduce the life expectancy gap and improve the health, wealth, and well-being of local communities through a cross-sector place-based strategy and looking at the wider determinants of health (housing, crime, employment, access to health services, neighbourhood and community connection). The partnership includes the Police, DWP, Imperial College Healthcare, GP Commissioning, Public Health and Communities. Recently we showcased this work to NHS England on their visit to Westminster. We are in the process of scoping priority areas to where partnership approaches will add value.

Inspiring Communities

This is a digital and event campaign, which will showcase the career and life stories of sporting and other professionals, leading community members and internal staff. We plan to launch our digital campaign across the borough in Autumn 2022, until March 2023, using a variety of digital media platforms and videos. The campaign will be supplemented by a series of themed in person community events. The first event took place on Thursday 21 July and focused on inspiring women.



City of Westminster

Communities, City Management and Air Quality Policy and Scrutiny Committee

Date:	13 September 2022
Portfolio:	City Management & Air Quality
The Report of:	Councillor Paul Dimoldenberg
Report Author and Contact Details:	Alexandra Deolinda Severino adseverino@westminster.gov.uk

1. Key decisions made in the preceding period since my last Policy & Scrutiny report dated 23 June:

- 22/07/2022 - Contract Award for the Supply, Installation and Operation of 1,000 New Shared Supply Charge Points for Westminster Residents.
- 11/08/2022 – Westminster Ceremonial Streetscape Project Trafalgar Square Extension.

2. The following report includes my priorities and delivery progress to date of the new administration.

2.1 City Management

Parking and Highways Service Updates

Recently charging for optional SMS messages as part of pay-to-park has been successfully introduced. Penalty Charge Notices (PCNs) rates are currently at their highest since 2014 due to improved deployment models of on-street staff and increased Marshal numbers (due to improved recruitment and retention by our contractor NSL). Car Share contracts are to be relet with a view to support greater EV- usage. Currently the Car Share contracts expire in April with procurement about to start for the new service.

Electric Vehicle (EV) Charge Points

We have recently completed our third round of resident chargers' installation, bringing our total EV charge points in the City to 1,260. Work will soon commence on a fourth round of installation. We have also recently had a successful bid of over £1m for the next round of EV charge points that will deliver more than 500 units. The programme of dedicated resident bay installation alongside lamp column resident charge points continues and is expected to complete by the start of September. Source London is in the process of introducing 30 charge points with a 22kW output and this programme is expected to complete at the end of the summer.

Waste, Recycling and Street Cleansing Update

Officers are currently leafletting and door-knocking residents in the 6 wards with a food waste service to check if they require a second waste collection each week. Maida Vale ward will have a

food waste service introduced from early September with Little Venice then following in early October. An additional three deep clean units have been secured to increase stain removal projects across the city (equating to four units in total). This will be combined with education and enforcement against businesses placing out leaking bags of waste.

Public Conveniences

Work continues at pace with our refurbishment programme for our seven central London locations. The Broadwick Street Automatic Public Toilet (at surface level) is currently being refurbished and is scheduled to re-open mid-September. Quotes are underway for repairs works to the Maida Hill Market Subterranean toilets which are expected to reopen in October. The surface level remains open and free to use for residents and visitors. Condition surveys and quotes are being prepared to fully modernise the Parliament Street Public toilet based on designs prepared by a leading architect and toilet design experts. Carnaby Street and Great Marlborough Street will be the next toilet to be modernised and surveys are currently taking place.

Dumping Hotspots in Westminster – Waste Action Squad

City Inspectors are provided with statistics from Veolia to identify potential waste hotspots throughout the City. Officers have currently identified approximately 100 hotspot locations notably including: Queensway and Inverness Terrace, Strand and Belgrave Road, Marylebone Road and Boston Place, Edgware Road and Shirland Road.

The Public Protection and Licensing along with the Environment service are working to develop a on street engagement and enforcement programme (working title – Waste Action Squad), to provide a highly visible operation, signalling to the community that this is an area of focus and that we are acting against persistent problems. We will engage with residents about waste problems in their neighbourhood and gather insight into how they think these could be tackled together. More details will be available in my next update report.

Waste Enforcement Activity

City Inspectors have undertaken 915 waste investigations between the 11th July and the 7th August. This involves waste where there is insufficient evidence to take formal action including issuing a penalty notice. During this period, they have issued the following penalty notices: 166 for commercial receptacle offences, 105 for fly tipping, and 53 for failing to provide a waste transfer notice. There have also been 85 fly tipping warnings and 86 residential warning notices issued.

School Streets

The 10 trial Experimental Traffic Order (ETO) School Streets schemes continued to be on the street up to the end of the July 2021/22 academic year. They will return for the 2022/23 year and the significant 'Vivacity' multi-model monitoring sites will be fully operational, as will modest air quality monitoring. Two of the 10 sites have experienced difficulties in terms of adherence of drivers to the signs and controlled hours. These are: Droop Street, where an assault on a Marshal by an unknown driver occurred and Amberley Road, where local adjoining estate residents are regularly driving cars through the scheme during controlled hours.

Cycling in Westminster

130 additional cycle stands are programmed for installation over Q3-Q4 , following both informal/formal traffic order consultations. We intend to submit an ambitious LIP bid to TfL for the

design and delivery of C43, C40 and C51 cycle ways in the fall to complement its own capital investment. The programme and associated funding are currently in development. Due to the continued loss of TfL LIP funding this year, the Public Health Fund support for our Cycle Training programme continues in 2022/23. Likewise for roadside *Dr Bike* and *Cyclestation* sites. We continue to wait TfL's resourcing capabilities to be known to make use of Council funding for the implementation of 5 new Santander Cycle Station sites on Westminster highway.

The Secure Cycle Parking programme continues its roll-out of storage across the borough at pace. To date this year, 24 new units have been installed with a further 23 programmed for installation before winter. A further 13 proposed locations have been consulted on locally and will be added to the installation programme upon review of responses. Additionally, 57 S106 funded locations have been identified for installation before spring 2023, pending consultation.

Dockless Bikes

On July 28th I wrote to four dockless Bike operators demanding action for obstructions and hazards of their equipment being left on the pavement in Westminster. Since then, the Council has begun to seize the dockless bikes which would be considered a hazard to those walking through the City. We have since heard back from all four operators and we look forward to working with them on how to make cycling safer in the City of Westminster.

Transport for London (TfL) Relations

Westminster City Council continues to support the Zero Emission Zone (ZEZ). Recently officers met with counterparts at TfL and the GLA. We retain our position that ZEZs should be implemented top down by TfL, covering the inner London and Congestion Charging Zone. Officers are currently working on a united lobbying position with several inner-city London boroughs, which will be presented to TfL later this year.

Parks and Open Spaces

With long periods of extreme heat in July and August, parks and gardens are under considerable pressure. We thus expect some loss of plants and vegetation throughout the borough and will have a replacement programme in place for winter. Watering of annual bedding and some new shrub areas is taking place, all other areas including grass areas are now brown but will recover with rain fall. On August 24th Thames Water banned customers from using hosepipes due to the dry weather. Officers are working to support awareness among residents, businesses, and stakeholders. We would like to thank all our arboricultural staff discussing an exemption to the hosepipe ban with Thames Water on recently planted trees, which will help to save young trees from dying during the drought.

It has been another year of great success obtaining and maintaining Green Flags. We have recently received both a Green Flag Award and a Green Heritage Site Accreditation in partnership with Parks for London for the recently upgraded Hanover Square Gardens. Paddington Recreation Ground has also retained its Green Flag Award, as well as 3 Green Flag Awards for Westminster Housing Estates at Lillington and Longmore, Churchill Gardens and Lisson Green.

Flooding in Westminster

The Independent Flood Review was published 12th July 2022 and officers and Members soon after met with Thames Water to discuss the outcomes. The section 19 report will be finalised once the

review report has been considered. Following that the Local Flood Risk Management Strategy will be updated and published in 2023.

2.2 Update on Air Quality in Westminster

We are looking to re-engage with schools and amplify wins and improvements on the School's Clean Air Fund (SCAF) as we are set to relaunch this programme in September in line with the new school-year. There is over £700k available to schools across the borough to undertake Air Quality improvements. Applications for Defra's AQ Grant Programme 2022/23 will close on 23 September. Several bids are being put together, including one on commercial cooking emissions. There are two projects ongoing which are funded by previous round of Defra AQ Grant: Clean Air Logistics for London, led by Cross River Partnership, and Wood Burning awareness raising project led by Camden and Islington.

Air Quality Monitoring Update

We will soon sign off on pollutants and a rough location of new reference method station – NO₂, PM_{2.5} and O₃, located in a background site in Queen's Park ward. Next steps include a costing briefing, Strategic CIL application, and engagement with local resident groups to ensure community buy in and consultation on a precise location.

Discussions are ongoing with GLA and Imperial College London on the borough-wide data platform regarding low-cost sensor monitoring. We continue to support community groups such as Clean Air Bayswater and numerous schools with low-cost sensors (including supporting evidence base building for school streets). We are moving towards a unified council position to communicate to community groups on key outstanding issues with a number of low-cost sensors on the market, which include installation costs, ongoing electricity costs, and data quality.



City of Westminster

Committee Report

Meeting:	Communities, City Management and Air Quality Policy and Scrutiny Committee
Date:	13th September 2022
Classification:	General Release
Title:	Gas street lighting electrification
Wards Affected:	St James, West End, Knightsbridge & Belgravia, Vincent Square, Pimlico North
Policy Context:	<p>The electrification of gas street-lights reduces carbon emissions, reduces finance risk associated with the extensive costs of underground pipe repair, and improves night time safety for all including the vulnerable and women. The scheme provides improved lighting in areas with historic lighting level complaints from the MPS and businesses including theatres.</p>
Cabinet Member:	Councillor Paul Dimoldenberg
Financial Summary:	<p>The current cost for the LED conversion of Gas lighting works is £2,994,000 for which financial approval was granted in 2020.</p> <p>Conversion avoids estimated gas energy and maintenance costs of £6,595,365. LED energy and maintenance over the same 25 years estimated as £689,598. This results in an overall costs reduction of £2,911,000 and a return on investment of 15 years.</p>

It would reduce annual revenue
maintenance and energy costs from
£112,500 to £11,700 in current year

Report of:

Head of Operations – City Highways

1. Executive Summary

To provide an update on the current position of the gas street lighting electrification scheme following its pause pre-election pending a review with interested parties.

2. Recommendations

For information only

3. Background, including Policy Context

In 2019 the Council had 305 gas lights across Westminster, 139 of which are listed assets.

30 of these 305 gas lights have been switched to 'gas effect' LEDs, this approach was approved by the Cabinet Member in the Lighting Master Plan in July 2020 and subsequent planned preventative maintenance decisions. Links below.

<https://committees.westminster.gov.uk/ieDecisionDetails.aspx?Id=1211&LLL=0>

<https://committees.westminster.gov.uk/ieDecisionDetails.aspx?ID=1166>

Maintenance

The assets (gas lights) are of historical value but due to their age, mostly over 100 years old, the mains connection pipes (managed by Cadent) and repairs to the lantern components (managed by British Gas) require replacement parts. The annual maintenance budget of £25,500 only covers reactive repairs and inspections by our service provider (FM Conway) and British Gas and includes fortnightly clock resets. This is currently kept within budget due to the management of part replacements requested by British Gas throughout the year.

The Council experience ongoing delays when a gas main connection needs replacement and have in some cases waited over 8 months for a quote for repair. Quotes for Tavistock Street in 2018 for two mains replacement came to £9,000 and £26,000 each to replace Cadent's gas mains pipes. These costs put pressure on existing maintenance budgets. In most cases these repairs also require road closures as the gas mains are usually in the carriageway.

For the mains supply defects there is a large difference in performance between Cadent and our electrical power operator UKPN. Whilst both are subject to OfGEM regulations, Cadent have not set national service levels regarding timescales and do not work to an agreed set of costs. In comparison UKPN have a service level agreement to provide repairs within 28 working days at a set rate. It is also worth mentioning that for standard dead UKPN supply repairs there is no cost to the council for their cable replacement and associated works.

Regarding lantern components, whilst British Gas do a good and timely job to standard lantern repairs, they have been asking the council for any spare parts for the last 3 years, to help have parts to repair gas lights elsewhere the country, indicating the possible lack of stock and materials they have to maintain these assets.

Even when working, the gas lights provide inadequate lighting levels which don't meet British Standards, so the lighting team has worked with colleagues in planning as well as Historic England to come up with the gas effect LED lanterns. These lanterns replicate the previous gas lanterns in appearance so that the aesthetics of the column and lantern are not changed to ensure we continue to support the City's unique heritage while also ensuring the good management of the city which wouldn't be possible with gas powered lighting.

Where a system of street lighting exists, it is the duty of the asset owner, WCC, to maintain it, this includes maintaining appropriate lighting levels. All roads have been designed with the gas effect LED, greatly improving the lighting levels.

Historic England

Historic England have advised they do not need to be consulted on the switching of the non-listed gas lights. The lighting team has held discussions with the WCC planning department on the non-listed assets and they provided their approval for the gas effect LED lantern in 2019.

Changes to listed assets require liaison with Historic England and gaining listed building consent via the council's planning department. Historic England acknowledged in October 21 the council is seeking a sympathetic solution, mindful of its duty of care to keep the lights working and respond to the climate emergency by reducing carbon emissions. These discussions will ensure that the correct consents are sought and that a clear and convincing justification is provided as part of the planning process, which can be considered against any harm that may be identified to heritage assets.

Safety and Crime Reduction

Historically, complaints concerning low lighting levels and safe egress along the highway, crime and anti-social behaviour have been received from the MPS, residents and businesses on roads with gas lights. Complaints are received via the council's neighbourhood co-ordination team, requesting improved lighting levels. The Lyceum Theatre requested lighting level improvements in Burleigh, Exeter and Tavistock, Bedford Street, and Chandos Place.

Crown Passage off Pall Mall had reports from Il Vicolo Restaurant and MPS of crime and anti-social behaviour in early 2021 resulting in accelerating their gas replacements with electric gas effect LED lanterns.

It should be noted that the gas lights are unable to have more gas pressure coming into the lanterns to give adequate lighting levels to meeting current British standards, this was addressed in the early 2000's through increasing the gas pressure and the number of gas mantles to improve both the colour appearance of the light and the level of light output, but this provided limited improvements to the light output. More recently, the council looked to use additional wall lighting to improve lighting levels on those roads without changing the gas lighting. However, many of the buildings on these streets are listed and lighting attachments weren't permitted, so until now we've been unable to adequately resolve complaints regarding lighting levels.

The agreed solution is to make use of a gas effect LED lantern which produces improved lighting levels in line with current British lighting standards to improve the

night-time visibility for our residents, businesses and visitors. By changing to electrical power we can make use of LED technology to improve lighting levels drastically, reduce long delays to repair power supplies, greatly reduce energy and carbon usage and provide a more reliable lighting source that is able to be remotely monitored.

Crown Passage



Gas light before



Gas effect LED light

Lighting Level Designs

The service provider's design consultant, WSP, undertook lighting designs for all the roads making use of the existing gas light positions. The gas effect LED using existing positions bring the roads up to current British lighting standards. In some cases, additional in-fill light columns were found to be required to bring lighting levels up in high footway and crime areas, all within Covent Garden area. These additional columns will look the same as the surrounding columns and LED gas effect lanterns. Chandos Place and Bedford Street are examples of locations that will require infills.

In other gas lit roads outside of Covent Garden that have much lower footfall, such as the Smith Square area it is calculated that no additional in-fills are required and the improved lighting levels on the existing gas column locations will be sufficient.

Specific areas with historic gas supply issues

Tavistock Street has had two gas lights at the Drury Lane end without gas supplies since 2018 due to the mains pipe needing replacement, the high cost of these repairs and need for road closures required mean conversion to electrical feed is a better use of limited public funds. The lights here are listed so listed building consent is required before conversion is permitted.

James Street in Covent Garden had a gas mains fault Cadent had not repaired for 3 years due to water egress they had not resolved with Thames Water. Following further complaints of lighting levels here in Winter 2020 from the surrounding businesses and council management, the lights were electrified and temporary gas effect LED lights installed pending the installation of Rochester lanterns.

James Street



Previous gas lighting



Temporary electric lighting Dec 20 Rochester LED



LED gas effect mimic lanterns

Trial LED gas effect lanterns were approved by the planning department in 2019. The first in Bull Inn Court was a Varioptic light from Pudsey Diamond. A Braun lamp from DW Windsor was also installed along Floral Street in partnership with the Seven Dials Trust under a Public Realm scheme. Planning advised that the appearance of the Varioptic was preferred to progress with.



Varioptic



Braun



Bull inn Court, gas in foreground, trial replica LED in background

Gas lanterns are replaced on a like for like basis with new replica electric heritage Grosvenor, Rochester, and Windsor lanterns, shown below, to provide sealed lanterns for the LED fitting against dust and water egress. Unfortunately existing gas lanterns are not suitable for re-use as they are not sealed to allow excess gas to escape.

FM Conway undertook site surveys in March 2020 of current gas lantern type, and potential locations for feeder pillars to provide power to lanterns, which was completed March 2020. Small feeder pillars in discreet locations to provide electrical power are required as some gas columns do not traditionally have door accesses in them for power supplies, and we are not wanting to replace the existing cherished columns.

Following various discussions with manufacturer, planning and consultant, we asked if the piping could be replicated to further mimic the gas lantern aesthetic and we now have second generation lanterns produced for each of the three types of lantern in the city;



Grosvenor (Kingsley)



Rochester (Chesterton)



Windsor (Dickens)



2nd generation gas mimic lantern installed in Queen Anne's Gate and Abbey Orchard Street

The manufacturer is responsive and happy to adapt lantern design at the Council's request.

The Pudsey Diamond's Varioptic gas effect LED lamps assist in providing appropriate lighting levels and match the number of mantles previously in the respective gas lantern for each site. The units also include the Urban Control Central Management System (CMS) to align with the Council's current LED/CMS rollout, to allow variable light levels when appropriate, and also to automatically identify potential faults remotely. This CMS system enables lights to be turned on and off or dimmed/brightened remotely.

4. Costs

Regarding the costs of the proposed works, below is a breakdown of the capital cost, it includes for the gas disconnections, LED lanterns and power replacement costs, along with designs to British Lighting Standards to improve safety. It also includes surveys of underground services, research & development costs of the gas effect LEDs following feedback from planning, Historic England and Councillors over the last 3 years, and the fees to undertake listed building consent with Historic England.

Comparing the 25 year expected lantern life of the electrification scheme against existing gas costs;

	Capital	Revenue 25 years	Total whole life cost
Gas costs	£0	£6,595,365	£6,595,365
LED gas effect scheme	£2,994,000	£689,598	£3,683,598

Also, when we compare the cost of these works to doing nothing, we need to account for the ongoing maintenance and energy costs of the gas lighting compared to the gas effect LED. Our current energy and maintenance yearly costs for gas are around £112,000, LED equivalent is £12,000, even if we don't allow for the huge rise in gas and electrical energy prices we have experienced this year and simply assume a 3-5% increase in energy and contractor maintenance costs per year, after 25years the total gas cost to maintain would be £6.60M, LED equivalent £0.69M, With the £3M gas electrification scheme that equates to a 15 year payback.

With current energy increases it has been highlighted by the council finance department that gas prices have increased 80% in 2022/23 and electrical energy costs 50% and as a consequence the payback of the electrification will be less than the 15 years stated above.

5. Carbon Impact

The gas lighting asset under the ownership of WCC consists of 1,567 mantles in over 300 lanterns. On average each lantern produces 322 watts, resulting in approximately 200 tonnes of carbon per year

The gas effect LED has the same number of mantles per lantern to maintain appearance but only uses around 45W, resulting in 30 tonnes of carbon in total, which is also significantly offset from the council's 100% renewable electricity generation we already procure.

Based on the proposed designs, the expected LED conversions should reduce the carbon emissions by 85%

6. Consultation

Significant engagement has been undertaken on look and feel of the gas effect LED.

Discussions have been had with the council's planning department since 2019 and continues, along with discussions with Historic England regarding the replacement of historic gas lighting with gas effect LED lighting. The council is seeking a sympathetic solution, mindful of its duty of care to keep the lights working and respond to the climate emergency by reducing carbon emissions. For listed assets, these discussions will ensure that the correct consents are sought and that a clear and convincing justification is provided as part of the planning process.

During 2020 and 2021, notification letters were sent to affected residents for the work.

During 2021 and early 2022, 5 on-site engagement sessions with Cabinet Member, Exec Directors and Ward Councillors, a consultant on behalf of St James's Trust, Royal Parks, the Ministry of Defence and the Royal Household were undertaken. The gas effect LED lantern gathered acceptance from all parties, and suggested minor amendments have been taken into account resulting in the current generation of lanterns installed on Queen Anne's Gate. As a result of the on-site visits, Royal Parks have advised they plan to engage with the same lantern manufacturer.

Prior to the May 22 election the electrification programme was put on hold pending a review.

Following the election, officers prepared the engagement review consultation letter, which will be provided to interested stakeholders along with supporting information. The review is due to be completed by 21st October 2022 and will include the offer of 3 evening site visits to show the gas effect LEDs we have developed and installed on Queen Anne's Gate, so stakeholders can see them and discuss any issues they may have in relation to the proposed works.

Next Steps

Assuming a positive outcome to the stakeholder engagement process, it is envisaged that the electrification would recommence and be completed in 2 phases. Non-listed assets complete by Autumn 2023 and listed assets, subject to approved consent process, by Autumn 2024

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

Dean Wendelborn dwendelborn@westminster.gov.uk

Or

Dan Perks dperks@westminster.gov.uk

APPENDICES

N/A

BACKGROUND PAPERS

- WCC Gas Lighting Conversion Supporting Information
- Links to approved Cabinet papers
 - <https://committees.westminster.gov.uk/ieDecisionDetails.aspx?Id=1211&LLL=0>
 - <https://committees.westminster.gov.uk/ieDecisionDetails.aspx?ID=1166>
 - <https://committees.westminster.gov.uk/ieDecisionDetails.aspx?ID=1309>
 - <https://committees.westminster.gov.uk/ieDecisionDetails.aspx?ID=1594>



City of Westminster

Committee Report

Decision Maker:	Cabinet Member for City Management and Air Quality
Date:	13/09/2022
Classification:	General Release
Title:	Enhancing our approach to tackling fly tipping and street waste
Wards Affected:	All
Policy Context:	Addresses the administration's priority of street cleanliness and fly tipping
Cabinet Member:	Councillor Paul Dimoldenberg
Key Decision:	No
Financial Summary:	N/A
Report of:	Raj Mistry

1. Executive Summary

Achieving the ambition of clean and pleasant streets across the city will require us to enhance our efforts to tackle the constant challenge of dumped rubbish and littering. In response, we are proposing to roll out a targeted engagement approach to identifying and finding effective solutions to addressing dumping 'hotspots' across Westminster. This will bring together a range of officers, including from our Waste and Cleansing Service and City Inspectors, and be underpinned by stronger resident engagement and communications, to support partnership working on waste at a local level.

2. Recommendations

That proposals for targeted local action on fly tipping and street waste are supported by Members.

3. Reasons for Decision

Traditional approaches to dealing with dumped waste via reporting, enforcement and cleaning often has short-term results. Therefore, we believe a more holistic project-based approach should be adopted in addition to our standard practice, for us to better understand the drivers in specific locations, deliver bespoke action in response and to achieve long term sustained outcomes for our residents. There are also possible additional benefits from this approach, for example, in terms of providing residents advice on waste collections and recycling via our engagement.

4. Background, including Policy Context

Street cleanliness and tackling fly tipping is a priority for the council - the manifesto commits us to crack down on fly tipping and ensure clean streets and this is a key concern for residents. Residents have long seen this as a priority, with 31% identifying rubbish and litter as a problem in the most recent City Survey (an increase of six points on the previous survey).

For context, the waste collection operation in Westminster and corresponding enforcement is substantial with our waste collection and cleansing services around twice the size of any other borough. The enforcement response is similarly significant with approximately 20,000 reports of fly tipping or dumped waste per year. We issue between 5,000 to 6,000 fixed penalty notices a year along with 1700 warnings (since 2018/19). In addition, our officers proactively report around 6000 items of waste for clearance by our contractor Veolia.

Legislation and guidance tend to be more supportive of enforcement action against commercial businesses than residents, with the result that enforcement by way of fixed penalty notices is predominantly against commercial premises with warnings mostly for residential waste.

The drivers of fly tipping and poor waste disposal are hyper-local, for example, in areas with high densities of short-term lets, areas with a residential/commercial mix or around street bins and mixed recycling centres. We know that whilst our 140 or so communal big black bin sites are popular, they are also a magnet for dumping, with bulky items such as fridges and mattresses routinely being left at these sites. We also have a perennial problem with rubbish

being left next to the bins rather than put inside them, often when there is space inside the bin.

Changing behaviour involves a detailed conversation with residents and businesses, to support them to dispose of their waste in the right way and being clear on the consequences of not doing so. Educating residents on how to dispose of their waste appropriately both through on street facilities and through on street collections remains a priority. The turnover of residents in Westminster and the number of short-term lets and multiple occupancy homes, amplifies the need for continuous education.

Alongside this we need to consider opportunities to drive the right behaviours through the services we provide, including targeted removal of bin sites, the enforcement approach, or opportunities to design-out dumping behaviour, through for example, planting or other street changes. This requires a holistic approach that considers local drivers and works together with local communities and their representatives to find solutions to address them.

The response

From a council perspective delivering clean streets involves a range of services, including City Inspectors, waste removal and street cleaning teams working alongside area-dependant teams such as our short-term lets service, housing teams or anti-social behaviour professionals. Currently, our City Inspectors dedicated to individual Wards, undertake education and enforcement and work with Veolia to identify solutions in problem areas.

Enforcement (and to some extent education) is dictated by our waste enforcement policy - [Westminster waste enforcement policy](#). This was last reviewed in 2020. The policy covers the context and legislation that supports enforcement.

Whilst this has been successful in specific cases and enforcement levels have increased, this success has often been time limited and concentrated in more heavily commercial areas. In addition, whilst the approach to dumped rubbish has been managed locally it has not always been coordinated, and with a focus on outputs (e.g. FPNs) rather than outcomes.

We are proposing to enhance this with a coordinated approach that will enable us to focus officer resources at key dumping hotspots in each ward (prioritised according to hotspot areas) and enhance local visibility and engagement. Officers will be present for a week to speak with residents, Ward Councillors and other local representatives to better understand and deter localised drivers for dumping through enhanced community engagement and greater on-street presence (further details are provided in 4.3). The overall outcome we are seeking is a reduction in the dumping of waste and littering through education, and solutions developed in partnership with the community that better reflect the problems presented.

4.1. Identifying hotspots (100 hotspots)

In order to inform our waste enforcement activity, we have consolidated our existing data (both enforcement data and reported dumping incidents reported to us by Veolia) to identify a list of key dumping hotspots across the city. In addition, we have engaged across all Wards to ask residents, councillors (and officers) to feedback on known problem areas, enabling us to cross-reference these with the data held.

This list is a live document, and we will continue to refine it in light of locations highlighted by residents and councillors through our engagement. Work has begun (or continued) on

focusing on these hotspots to identify the drivers for the issues being experienced, speaking to residents, and taking enforcement action where possible. We have started reporting back work on these hotspots to councillors in their fortnightly updates.

We will also be using this list to inform the local targeted action proposed here, including as a basis for prioritising our efforts and as a basis for feedback and monitoring.

We increasingly want to use a more intelligence led approach to our work tackling hotspots and will be looking at opportunities for improving data and monitoring, and the ways we can share information and updates with our residents.

4.2. Examples

Though it is early days, City Inspectors are targeting newly identified hotspots as well as existing hotspots and updating on this work via their regular briefing to councillors. Please find some examples of the ongoing work below -

On Saturday 20th of August 2022 at 10:00 on Brewer Street, Central City Inspectors found a commercial fly tip of four boxes from a local business, an FPN was issued for commercial waste fly tipping to the local business and a request sent for the fly tip to be removed. Just after the FPN was issued on the street at 10:10, a Veolia operative with a cycle cart cleared the fly tip. Please see before and after pictures below.



Cambridge Street/Charlwood Street – officers on patrol observed fly tipped waste at the micro recycling centre bins. An FPN and WTN notice were issued to one business and a residential warning was also issued.



Eaton Terrace -The City Inspector has arranged for the litter bin to be relocated on a temporary basis to West Eaton Place junction Eaton Place. The officer has not had any issues in the last week.



Tavistock Road - The main issue here is the bins that attract waste. There has been improvement here of late after Fixed Penalty Notices were issued to several residents and a large programme of education took place. There was also a new development on the corner, and the developers would also clear the area around the bins in order to promote the new build to attract tenants.



4.3. Proposed local targeted action model

Reflecting the need to tackle this issue holistically, the need for enhanced community engagement and drawing on previous experience, we are developing proposals for a ward-focused education and enforcement programme. The operation aims to bring together key council services to focus on engaging with residents and the community for a dedicated week in individual wards – informed by priority streets from the hotspot list for that area. The aims include:

- To provide a highly visible operation, to signal to the community that this is an area of focus and that we are acting against persistent problems.
- To engage residents in a meaningful conversation about waste problems in their neighbourhood and gather insight into how they think these could be tackled together. We will also have conversations with residents on the best ways of disposing of their waste to keep their streets clean and tidy.
- To collaborate with other services within the council which may be underlining causes of waste issues, for example, promoting recycling, anti- dog fouling

campaigns, increased awareness of climate emergency actions and greening initiatives.

- As part of this new approach, we will create a toolkit of options to draw upon to tackle these issues. Options currently being scoped are as follows; planters able to be deployed to hotspot areas, a small collection of CCTV cameras, “don’t dump” signs.

Dedicated ward week

We recommend the operation will be led by a team leader from the City Inspector service and operate Monday to Friday, bringing together a core group of officers including;

- Between 2-4 City Inspectors (depending on the geographical size of the ward and the number of hotspot areas to be tackled).
- A dedicated officer from the waste team, alongside a representative from our waste partner Veolia.
- An offer to local community groups, such as our green champions, recycling champions and ward councillors to join the on-street conversations.
- Additional officers from other council team’s dependant on the issues identified in wards, for example Short Term Letting Officers, Housing Estate Teams, Highways colleagues.

The engagement, education and enforcement programme will depend on the concerns identified in the ward and will include:

- Officers highly visible on the street asking members of the public for “waste hotspots” or “how we can improve current waste enforcement and cleanliness”.
- Targeted education focused on improving understanding of how residents and businesses dispose of their waste and what to recycle and how.
- Directed and visible enforcement and cleansing activities on areas that have been highlighted by residents. We are reviewing our waste enforcement approach to see where this can be strengthened.

At the end of the week the manager and team will be responsible for drafting an action plan which sets out the activity to tackle the issues highlighted by the community. This will focus on the top three areas identified by the community and document how we propose to resolve these concerns.

We are investigating the opportunity to create a live document or web-based site, that can keep the community informed about the activities being undertaken.

Communications

Each week of activity will be bookended by communications to the community. This will include highlighting what we are doing and notifying them of where we will be for residents to come and talk to us about any concerns they have. This will also include an offer to interested groups to come and join us with on street engagement. At the end of each week, we will collate a roundup of activity and engagement, and publish an action plan for the local teams to work towards resolving. The aim of the engagement is to create a clear feedback loop between what residents are telling us, what we are going to do and what we have done.

4.4. Next steps/inviting suggestions for making success.

We are currently refining resourcing and delivery plans for this as well as the look and feel of the activity (to ensure this is underpinned with a clear, recognisable brand and effective messaging). We would welcome feedback on the approach to help ensure this has impact in the community, with strong resident buy in as well as clear results in terms of deterring dumping behaviours in priority areas across the city.

Alongside this proposal we are also looking to enhance our monitoring approach to dumped rubbish as well as developing impact indicators to highlight progress to residents and councillors.

5. Financial Implications

There are currently no financial implications as the proposed approach will draw from existing resources.

6. Legal Implications

There are no changes proposed that relate to use of existing or new legislation.

7. Carbon Impact

It is now mandatory to include the carbon impact of the decision proposed in all reports as part of the Council's commitment to becoming a carbon neutral council by 2030 and a carbon neutral City by 2040. Report authors are required to independently assess the carbon impact of their decision and use this section to explain that impact, make a declaration that the decision will have no carbon impact or set out why a carbon assessment is not possible.

8. Equalities Impact

Requires an analysis of how many people with protected characteristics will be impacted by a proposed decision.

9. Consultation

This is a proposed pan-Westminster approach and not targeted at specific wards. Therefore, apart from ongoing consultation with councillors on hotspots and the approach further consultation is not required.

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

Alex Juon - ajuon@westminster.gov.uk

Background data

Waste collection/cleansing

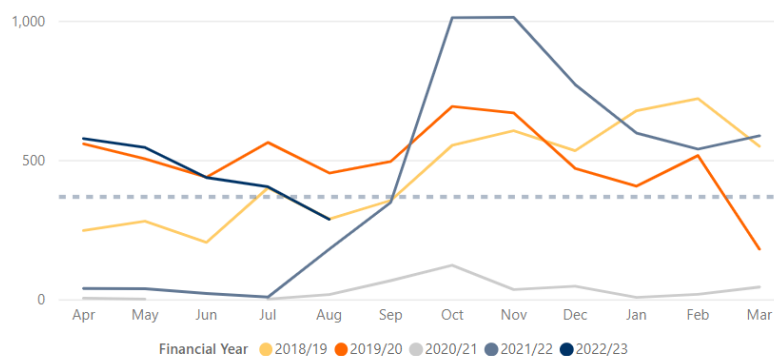
- 180,000 tonnes of waste collected per year - 50% commercial, 40% residents, 10% litter
- One million waste and recycling collections per week.
- CW income - £15m.
- Veolia – 700 staff incl. 450 street cleaners. Service operates 24/7.
- 1250km swept per day (London – Madrid). 1200 litter bins emptied up to 25 times/day during summer.

Enforcement

We receive approximately 20,000 service requests around fly tipping (dumped rubbish) per year (Veolia)

In response we issue between 5000, and 6000 fixed penalty notices per year and issue around 1700 warnings.

FPNs by Month and Financial Year



Officers also report around 6000 items of dumped waste for collection/clearance a year, not including that cleared directly by Veolia in response to reported flytipping.

Westminster Enforcement Policy

[Westminster waste enforcement policy](#)

Residential Waste enforcement

Government guidance on residential waste specifies when and how councils may issue fixed penalty notices [Household waste bins: when and how councils may issue fixed penalties - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)

The guidance explains councils may issue fixed penalties to people who do not follow their waste collection rules if this is likely to cause a nuisance or have a negative effect on local amenities.

The guidance explains councils cannot issue fixed penalties for minor problems. These include accidentally putting items in the wrong receptacle, forgetting to close bin lids, and leaving bins out for a few hours before a collection. There is no differentiation between council areas with weekly collections and urban locations where residents have multiple collections per day/week.

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Communities, City Management and Air Quality Policy and Scrutiny Committee

Date:	13 September 2022
Classification:	General Release
Title:	2022/2023 Work Programme
Report of:	Head of Governance and Councillor Liaison
Cabinet Member Portfolios:	Cabinet Member for Cabinet Member for Communities and Public Protection Cabinet Member for City Management and Air Quality
Wards Involved:	All
Policy Context:	All
Report Author and Contact Details:	Clare O’Keefe cokeefe@westminster.gov.uk

1. Executive Summary

1. This report requests the committee members to consider the work programme for the 2022/2023 municipal year.

2. Meeting dates for the 2022/2023 year

- 2.1 The Committee is advised that the scheduled meeting dates for the 2022/2023 year are:
 - 31 October 2022;
 - 12 December 2022;
 - 6 March 2023; and
 - 25 April 2023.

3. Suggested topics

- 3.1 The Committee’s agenda for the meeting on 13 September meeting includes reports on Environmental Enforcement and the Gas Light Replacement

Programme. The Committee is therefore asked to reflect on and discuss the suggested work programme for the October meeting. The Committee may also wish to consider other items currently listed as unallocated.

If you have any queries about this report or wish to inspect any of the background papers, please contact Clare O'Keefe.

cokeefe@westminster.gov.uk

Appendix 1: Terms of Reference

Appendix 2: Work Programme

Appendix 3: Action Tracker

COMMUNITIES, CITY MANAGEMENT & AIR QUALITY POLICY AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

COMPOSITION

7 Members of the Council (4 Majority Party Members and 3 Opposition Party Members).

TERMS OF REFERENCE

(a) To carry out the Policy and Scrutiny functions, as set out in Chapter 4 of the Constitution in respect of matters relating to all those duties within the terms of reference of the Cabinet Member for Cabinet Member for Communities and Public Protection and the Cabinet Member for City Management and Air Quality.

(b) To carry out the Policy and Scrutiny function in respect of matters within the remit of the Council's non-executive Committees and Sub-Committees, which are within the broad remit of the Committee, in accordance with paragraphs 18.2 and 18.3 as well as section 19 of Chapter 4 of the Constitution.

(c) Matters within the broad remit of the Cabinet Members referred to in (a) above which are the responsibility of external agencies.

(d) Any other matter allocated by the Westminster Scrutiny Commission (WSC).

(e) To have the power to establish ad hoc or Standing Sub-Committees as Task Groups to carry out the scrutiny of functions within these terms of reference.

(f) To scrutinise the duties of the Lead Members which fall within the remit of the Committee or as otherwise allocated by the Westminster Scrutiny Commission.

(g) To scrutinise any Bi-borough proposals which impact on service areas that fall within the Committee's terms of reference

(h) To oversee any issues relating to Performance that fall within the Committee's terms of reference.

(i) To have the power to scrutinise those partner organisations whose services fall within the Committee's terms of reference.

(j) To consider any Councillor Calls for Action referred by a Ward Member to the Committee.

(k) To discharge the Council's statutory responsibilities under Section 19 of the Police and Justice Act 2006, thus acting as the Council's crime and disorder committee and fulfilling all the duties that entails.

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**APPENDIX 2 – Communities, City Management and Air Quality Policy and Scrutiny Committee
Work Programme**

ROUND 1 23 June 2022		
Agenda item	Purpose	Responsible Cabinet Member and Executive Director/senior officer
Cabinet Member Q&A	To update the committee on key areas of work within its remit and the Cabinet Member’s priorities	Councillor Paul Dimoldenberg, Cabinet Member for City Management and Air Quality Raj Mistry, Executive Director for Environment and City Management
Cabinet Member Q&A	To update the committee on key areas of work within its remit and the Cabinet Member’s priorities	Councillor Aicha Less, Cabinet Member for Communities and Public Protection Raj Mistry, Executive Director for Environment and City Management Serena Simon, Director for Communities (on behalf of Pedro Wrobel, Executive Director of Innovation and Change
Work programme	To consider and agree the outline work programme for the committee for the year ahead, with input from Cabinet Members, Executive Directors and other officers on how to make best use of the Committee’s time and where the Committee will have the biggest impact	n/a – report of Head of Governance and Councillor Liaison, drafted in conjunction with relevant senior officers

ROUND 2 13 September		
Agenda item	Purpose	Responsible Cabinet Member and Executive Director
Cabinet Member Q&A	To update the committee on key areas of work within its remit and the Cabinet Member's priorities	Councillor Paul Dimoldenberg, Cabinet Member for City Management and Air Quality Raj Mistry, Executive Director for Environment and City Management
Cabinet Member Q&A	To update the committee on key areas of work within its remit and the Cabinet Member's priorities	Councillor Aicha Less, Cabinet Member for Communities and Public Protection Raj Mistry, Executive Director for Environment and City Management Pedro Wrobel, Executive Director for Innovation and Change
Environmental enforcement	To review the council's approach to and performance on tackling street-based issues e.g. fly-tipping	Councillor Paul Dimoldenberg, Cabinet Member for City Management and Air Quality Raj Mistry, Executive Director for Environment and City Management
Work programme	To review the work programme in light of events and recent discussions	n/a – report of Head of Governance and Councillor Liaison, drafted in conjunction with relevant senior officers

ROUND 3 31 October		
Agenda item	Purpose	Responsible Cabinet Member and Executive Director
Cabinet Member Q&A	To update the committee on key areas of work within its remit and the Cabinet Member's priorities	Councillor Paul Dimoldenberg, Cabinet Member for City Management and Air Quality Raj Mistry, Executive Director for Environment and City Management
Cabinet Member Q&A	To update the committee on key areas of work within its remit and the Cabinet Member's priorities	Councillor Aicha Less, Cabinet Member for Communities and Public Protection Raj Mistry, Executive Director for Environment and City Management Pedro Wrobel, Executive Director for Innovation and Change
Policing in the City	To examine policing in the City, including resourcing, operating models, use of Stop and Search, Section 60 and other relevant notices.	Councillor Aicha Less, Cabinet Member for Communities and Public Protection Raj Mistry, Executive Director for Environment and City Management
Air Quality update	To review the draft new Air Quality Action Plan and provide feedback on this	Councillor Paul Dimoldenberg, Cabinet Member for City Management and Air Quality Raj Mistry, Executive Director for Environment and City Management
Work programme	To review the work programme in light of events and recent discussions	n/a – report of Head of Governance and Councillor Liaison, drafted in conjunction with relevant senior officers

ROUND 4 12 December		
Agenda item	Purpose	Responsible Cabinet Member and Executive Director
Cabinet Member Q&A	To update the committee on key areas of work within its remit and the Cabinet Member's priorities	Councillor Paul Dimoldenberg, Cabinet Member for City Management and Air Quality Raj Mistry, Executive Director for Environment and City Management
Cabinet Member Q&A	To update the committee on key areas of work within its remit and the Cabinet Member's priorities	Councillor Aicha Less, Cabinet Member for Communities and Public Protection Raj Mistry, Executive Director for Environment and City Management Pedro Wrobel, Executive Director for Innovation and Change
Parking policy review, including emission-based parking charges	To review the council's approach to parking policy, including zoning, allocation of space, pricing etc.	Councillor Paul Dimoldenberg, Cabinet Member for City Management and Air Quality Raj Mistry, Executive Director for Environment and City Management
Flooding	To review the council's response during the flood-risk months and the report from Thames Water.	Councillor Paul Dimoldenberg, Cabinet Member for City Management and Air Quality Raj Mistry, Executive Director for Environment and City Management
Anti-Social Behaviour	To provide a brief update on the Council and partners' response to tackling ASB.	Councillor Aicha Less, Cabinet Member for Communities and Public Protection Raj Mistry, Executive Director for Environment and City Management
Work programme	To review the work programme in light of events and recent discussions	n/a – report of Head of Governance and Councillor Liaison, drafted in conjunction with relevant senior officers

Budget Task Group gap – January/February

ROUND 5 6 March		
Agenda item	Purpose	Responsible Cabinet Member and Executive Director
Cabinet Member Q&A	To update the committee on key areas of work within its remit and the Cabinet Member's priorities	Councillor Paul Dimoldenberg, Cabinet Member for City Management and Air Quality Raj Mistry, Executive Director for Environment and City Management
Cabinet Member Q&A	To update the committee on key areas of work within its remit and the Cabinet Member's priorities	Councillor Aicha Less, Cabinet Member for Communities and Public Protection Raj Mistry, Executive Director for Environment and City Management Pedro Wrobel, Executive Director for Innovation and Change
Communities – engagement and consultation	To review progress made in improving the council's approach to engagement and consultation	Councillor Aicha Less, Cabinet Member for Communities and Public Protection Pedro Wrobel, Executive Director for Innovation and Change
Work programme	To review the work programme in light of events and recent discussions	n/a – report of Head of Governance and Councillor Liaison, drafted in conjunction with relevant senior officers

ROUND 6 25 April		
Agenda item	Purpose	Responsible Cabinet Member and Executive Director
Cabinet Member Q&A	To update the committee on key areas of work within its remit and the Cabinet Member's priorities	Councillor Paul Dimoldenberg, Cabinet Member for City Management and Air Quality Raj Mistry, Executive Director for Environment and City Management
Cabinet Member Q&A	To update the committee on key areas of work within its remit and the Cabinet Member's priorities	Councillor Aicha Less, Cabinet Member for Communities and Public Protection Raj Mistry, Executive Director for Environment and City Management Pedro Wrobel, Executive Director for Innovation and Change
Waste service and contract review	To review the key data which underpins the waste contract and contribute to the development of a future service	Councillor Paul Dimoldenberg, Cabinet Member for City Management and Air Quality Raj Mistry, Executive Director for Environment and City Management
Work programme	To review the work programme in light of events and recent discussions	n/a – report of Head of Governance and Councillor Liaison, drafted in conjunction with relevant senior officers

Unallocated items – this may either be substituted in for a substantive item elsewhere in the year or may be rolled over for future municipal years

Utilities	To consider action to improve supply, security and maintenance in the city
Biodiversity strategy	To review the council's biodiversity strategy
Cycling strategy	To review the council's approach to cycling
Public conveniences	To consider the council's approach to public conveniences
Anti-social behaviour	To consider the council and partners' response to tackling ASB. This will be appropriate as a substantive item in 2023.

Appendix 3 - ACTION TRACKER
Communities, City Management and Air Quality Policy and Scrutiny Committee

ROUND 1 23 June 2022		
Agenda Item	Action	Status/Follow Up
Item 4 Cabinet Member Updates Policy and Scrutiny Portfolio Overview: Cabinet Member for Communities and Public Protection	Report to come back to the committee outlining the approach to bringing ASB perpetrators to justice.	Complete
Item 5 Cabinet Member Updates Policy and Scrutiny Portfolio Overview: Cabinet Member for City Management and Air Quality	Councillor Dimoldenberg to meet with Thames Water if their report is not received on time and to press them to deliver the flood alleviation measures.	Complete
	The cost of gaslights to be brought back to the committee.	Complete
	The cost of CCTV to be brought back to the committee.	In progress
	Number for bulky rubbish to be passed onto the committee.	In progress
Item 6 Work Programme	Dates for additional committees to be circulated.	Complete
	Feedback on the work plan to be incorporated.	Complete

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