



Date:	19 May 2021
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As per the new agreed Cabinet Member report structure, this update provides highlights on my City for All priorities, areas of current focus in the Deputy Leader and City Management Portfolio and pertinent performance information.

1. City for All Vision and Strategy (2021 – 2022)

1.1 Thriving Economy

1.1.1 Oxford Street Transformation

The Council is making great progress in delivering its commitment to make 2021 Oxford Street District's Year of Delivery. In February we launched our Oxford Street District Framework setting out a road map for the district's transformation over the next ten years. Less than a month later, we broke ground as we commenced works on Oxford Street with our plans for temporary public realm improvements which include pavement widening, pocket parks, new street furniture and experience lighting. The pavement widening has been completed in time for the district's reopening on 12 April, supporting businesses, residents and visitors.

In March, the Council also started the delivery of the Soho Photography Quarter – the first permanent scheme delivered as part of the programme. Additionally, Marble Arch Hill – a new temporary attraction aimed at attracting visitors back into the west end offering new experiences – received unanimous planning approval and is set to be open to public this summer.

The Council continues with the delivery of this ambitious programme at pace with additional work packages set to be delivered throughout the year, with a strong focus on a greener and smarter Oxford Street District, delivered in full engagement with communities and stakeholders.

1.1.2 Safe movement across Westminster

The School Streets programme was implemented from 19 April with close monitoring and stakeholder feedback gathered to assess the success of the measures.

1.2 Greener and Cleaner

1.2.1 West End Public Toilets and Enhanced Street Cleansing Operations

To ensure the West End continues to be an attractive visitor destination the provision of public toilet facilities and street cleansing services have been substantially enhanced since lockdown ended. Prior to lockdown, the Council deployed 12 mobile urinals at key locations each Friday and Saturday evening. This has now been increased to 18 mobile urinals and 12 portaloos to ensure the needs of female visitors are met. These facilities are also now deployed on Sundays and Bank Holiday Monday's (in addition to Friday/Saturday) and will also be deployed during weekday events such as Euro 2021 football matches. Additional signage has also been installed directing visitors to these facilities. The evening/night-time street cleansing operation in the West End has also been increased with additional street cleaning teams and flusher/washer vehicles operating in key areas from 10pm. Further street cleaning resources are also then introduced from 3am each weekend night to provide a detailed clean-up of the West End once the crowds have reduced and in preparation for the re-opening of businesses the next morning.

1.2.2 Sustainable transport – Electric Vehicle (EV) Charging

The Council, working in partnership with Siemens GB&I, installed the 1,000th EV charging point in April 2021 and are on track to deliver another 500 chargers by April 2022. The charging points range from 3kW to 50kW and have been installed at key residential and commercial locations across the city. The charging points are available to all users, making it easier for residents to switch to environmentally friendly transport solutions. The rollout plan

has been driven by residents where 98.5% of requests received are within a three-minute walk of a charging point.

1.2.3 Reduce energy consumption - Light-emitting diode (LED) street lights

As the Committee will be aware, in 2019 the Council commenced a programme of installing LED street lights to improve lighting control and reduce energy consumption that was expected to conclude at the end of March 2022. As of the end of April, we have switched 13,286 of our street lamps to LED, with a further 3,268 to be switched by November 2021 as part of our accelerated programme. Once complete it is projected that 1,335 tonnes CO₂e emissions will be saved per annum. Equally a programme of LED lighting improvements continue within the leisure service and the main sports pitches have now been converted to energy efficient lighting.

1.3 Vibrant Communities

1.3.1 Active environment - Leisure facilities

Leisure centres in Westminster re-opened from 12 April, after receiving the Government's go-ahead for Step Two of the roadmap out of lockdown.

Moberly Sports Centre, Paddington Recreation Ground, Little Venice Sports Centre, the Porchester Centre, Seymour Leisure Centre, Marshall Street Leisure Centre and Queen Mother Sports Centre operated by sports and leisure operator Everyone Active in partnership with Westminster City Council fully reopened with normal opening hours following a three-month closure due to the coronavirus pandemic.

1.4 Smart City

1.4.1 Smart Technology Trials

The Council have worked with FM Conway to lay a warm mix surface course using 85% recycled materials. To our knowledge we are the only local authority to trial such a high percentage of recycled materials when resurfacing. This innovation with high recycled content and lower carbon production methods supports the Council's carbon zero objective while providing the durability we need to maintain our highways assets to the highest standards.

2. Cabinet Member Decisions (March 2021 – 10 May 2021)

Since the last report, as Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for City Management, the following decisions have been made:

- Leisure Contract Variation;
- Leisure Contract Exit;
- Regent Street, Enhanced Temporary Highway Improvements; and
- Marble Arch Mound - Design, commission, construction and operation of the showcase event.

3. Key Performance Indicators

Waste tonnages were unsurprisingly significantly impacted by COVID-19 with overall tonnages reducing by 53% during 2020/21. The end of lockdown has seen a notable increase in commercial waste activity with pre-paid bag sales doubling during the first two weeks of April compared to the last two weeks of March 2021. Total waste collected has also increased by 16% during April 2021 compared to March 2021 with further growth expected as businesses return to normal operations.

As of 30th April, on the Public Realm capital programme we spent £46 million (2020/21).

96% of the Planned Preventative Maintenance (PPM) programme was delivered by year end. The anti-skid elements are the outstanding elements to be completed. Some resurfacing works in the West End have been moved to 2021/22 to ensure co-ordination with hospitality measures and will be progressed after September.

As of quarter four:

- 100% of urgent lighting defects made safe within an agreed timescale;
- 99% of carriageway and footway defects repaired or made safe within 24 hours;
- 86% of Resident parking bays available (based on number of bays and average of those suspended); and
- Latest bi-annual Parking compliance survey shows that 98% of motorists were parking in accordance with the regulations.