



Bridge



Cities and the route to net zero

By Keith Bottomley

We have been leading on the private finance agenda at COP26. The public and private sector both have roles in financing a just transition and cities have a very important role to play in tackling climate change.

By 2080 the world will be 10 billion people, 80% of whom will be in 10,000 cities. There is no alternative to well-run low carbon cities if we are going to have 10 billion people on a finite planet.

There is now a clear understanding of what it takes to decarbonise a city: Coalition for Urban Transitions: Clean, Connected, and Compact. (Electrification, Materials Efficiency, Mixed Land Uses).

The need for finance to achieve net zero

I am the policy lead at the City Corporation for climate action and also a member of the UK Cities Climate Investment Commission Board (UKCCIC).

The level of investment needed is beyond the reach of the public finances so there is a need to address how financing and delivery systems can come together at a local level to co-ordinate decarbonisation activity across multiple sectors – the built environment, energy, transport, waste, and green infrastructure. This will not only develop the project pipeline and catalyse the flow of private sector finance but also help ensure a just and fair transition.

A significant part of the finance needed can and should come from the private sector. The public and private sectors need to come even closer together to co-invest in these activities so that both parties share the risks and rewards of tackling climate change. This means delivering both financial returns and policy outcomes; achieving not only carbon reductions but wider environmental and social benefits, for example around public health and fuel poverty.



Barriers to private sector investment

It is not the availability of finance, but the ability to create robust business cases and investment models that address issues of scale, longevity and confidence, along with the overall cost of finance, that constitute the major barriers to private sector investment.

We also need to recognise that only a proportion of the net zero investment that is needed can currently yield a commercial level of return and, in conjunction with our work on financing, we need government to create a market framework that actively supports low carbon choices.

The UK Cities Climate Investment Commission (UKCCIC) aims to develop innovative approaches to securing private investment into place-based Net Zero delivery. Using their collective networks and capabilities they are seeking to leverage the combined scale of cities to mobilise finance and drive investment into low and net zero carbon projects across all of the UK's largest cities, rather than individual ones.

By aggregating the low carbon investment plans across all of the UK's largest cities, estimated at a value of at least £206 billion, the CCIC is creating a proposition which is attracting significant interest from private sector sources of finance. The Commission has developed a concept of blended finance to drive investment across six different asset classes in cities, that will reinvest the returns from more benign asset classes into more risky ones which will support delivery of local priorities and address Net Zero across all areas.

This approach has not been developed elsewhere and provides a unique mechanism for attracting private sector finance into cities' Net Zero plans and one which we hope other nations and cities will be able to learn and benefit from.

We are committed to working with partners across all levels of government to deliver practical solutions to support the transition to net zero.



COVID-19 Booster and Flu Vaccines



The number of cases of COVID-19 in London is rising. But the COVID-19 booster programme can make a real difference. Boosters are available to those 50 years old or older, people who work in health or social care or younger people who have a long-term health condition. The jab boosts waning immunity for those most at risk over the winter period. More than eight million people in the UK have already received their COVID-19 booster vaccine. People will be invited by the NHS when it's their turn. If you have not been contacted within a week of reaching six months since your second vaccine you can call 119 or book online or visit various walk-in sites across London.

Flu is another virus that can be serious. To give people the best

protection over winter, those over 50 years old, and people who have a long-term health condition or are pregnant are eligible for a free flu vaccine and should book an appointment at either their GP practice or their local pharmacy.

The offer of a first and second COVID-19 vaccine remains open to anyone who is eligible, including children aged 12 to 15 years old.

Some of the new variants of concern spread more quickly. This means it is even more important to get both doses of the vaccine or just one dose for those aged between 12 and 17 years old.

www.nhs.uk/wintervaccinations

Free cycle services on offer



The City of London Corporation is calling on residents and workers to take advantage of free cycle services as the Square Mile's buzz returns.

Throughout the pandemic, many people across England took to two wheels as the benefits of fresh air and sustainable travel became even more evident during the months of lockdown.

TfL revealed that cycling levels during the coronavirus pandemic were boosted from 21 per cent of Londoners in 2019/20 to 27 per cent in 2020/21.

Those who live, work or study in the City of London are eligible to receive free cycle training from expert instructors who will tailor the session to the rider's ability – from first-time riders to regular cyclists looking to improve confidence.

Since August last year, a total of 218 adult cycle skills sessions have been undertaken by Pedal Me and Cycle Confident in the City of London. In addition, two Square Mile schools have benefited from school cycle training sessions.

More on the Cycle Confident free training: cycleconfident.com/sponsors/city-of-london/; **the Pedal Me business cargo bike rider training:** pedalme.co.uk/training/

Meet your candidates

By the time you receive this newsletter the deadline for registering to vote in next year's City elections will almost be due – 16 December.

If you are registered you will be able to vote for the City's Common Councillors in March 2022. These elections are held by 'first past the post' and you will have the same number of votes as councillors you are electing, eg three votes in a three-member ward. If there is a vacancy for an Alderman in your ward next year, you will also have one vote in that election.

You will also be invited to attend your ward's Wardmote, a meeting similar to a hustings, the day before the election, 23 March 2022. This will give you the opportunity to meet your candidates and ask them questions. You will be able to vote in your allocated polling station on polling day, 24 March 2022. As with any other election, you can request a postal vote without needing a reason. If you think you might be away from the City or busy on Election Day, you might want to arrange a postal vote that goes to your home or work address. Postal votes are usually dispatched 10 working days before polling day.

Updated information on the wardmotes, their timing and location will appear on the website.

Invitations to the meetings will also be sent to all electors.

If you have any queries regarding the meeting in your Ward please contact the Electoral Services Office on 0800 587 5537, electoralservices@cityoflondon.gov.uk or speakforthecity.com



WORK OR LIVE IN THE CITY?

REGISTER TO VOTE BY 16TH DECEMBER

www.speakforthecity.com

 **SPEAK FOR THE CITY**



The City of London Corporation has mounted a new campaign to support retail, leisure and hospitality businesses as well as cultural attractions by encouraging people back into the Square Mile for work and play.

The "Square Smile" campaign is designed to raise awareness of the benefits of returning to the City and face-to-face interaction as firms increasingly give their staff more flexibility on where they locate through hybrid working. It showcases the City's vibrant offer – ranging from world-class culture, heritage, cuisine, entertainment, retail, architecture and much more.

The campaign – which runs until the beginning of 2022 – targets hybrid workers as well as those who have fully returned to their workplace. The campaign seeks to remind them of all the things they missed during the pandemic, including socialising and enjoying the City's culture and entertainment. Whether it be collaborating with teammates, going for a spontaneous lunch or having the opportunity to go for after work drinks, the City can help to bring people together.

cityoflondon.gov.uk/squaresmile

ASK FOR ANGELA

By telling customers that they can 'Ask for Angela' we're giving them a discreet code word that they can give to staff if they feel unsafe or threatened.

The City of London Police, City of London Corporation and Metropolitan Police Service are working in partnership with Safer Sounds, who are part of the Safer Business Network, and licensed venues to help keep people safe while in the City of London.

The 'Ask for Angela' initiative is being rolled out to bars, clubs and other licensed businesses across the whole of London, including in the City of London. The scheme aims to reduce sexual violence and vulnerability by providing customers with a phrase they can use to get the attention of staff if they feel unsafe or uncomfortable. Staff can help by reuniting them with a friend, seeing them to a taxi, or by calling venue security and/or the police.

The City of London Police, City of London Corporation and Metropolitan Police Service are working in partnership with Safer Sounds, who are part of the Safer Business Network, and licensed venues to help keep people safe while in the City of London.

Many of the City's bars, clubs and other licensed businesses are getting busier and will continue to do so in the lead up to Christmas. For many people, this could be the first time they have been to a licensed premises during the festive period in two years, due to the pandemic.



Bridge

Who We Are



Alderman Sir Alan Yarrow
E-mail: alan.yarrow@cityoflondon.gov.uk

Committee Appointments:
Court of Aldermen
Court of Common Council



Deputy Keith Bottomley
E-mail: keith.bottomley@cityoflondon.gov.uk

Committee Appointments:
Board of Governors of the City of London School; Bursary Committee of the Board of Governors of the City of London School
Capital Buildings Committee; City of London Police Authority Board
Community & Children's Services Committee; Court of Common Council; Economic and Cyber Crime Committee of the City of London Police Authority Board; Establishment Committee
Finance & Estates Committee of the Board of Governors of the City of London School; Gresham (City Side) Committee; Joint Consultative Committee; Planning and Transportation Committee
Policy and Resources Committee (Vice-Chairman); Port Health & Environmental Services Committee (Chairman); Projects Sub (Policy and Resources) Committee (Chairman); Public Relations and Economic Development Sub (Policy & Resources) Committee; Resource Allocation Sub (Policy and Resources) Committee; Resource, Risk & Estates (Police) Committee; Senior Remuneration Sub-Committee; Strategic Planning & Performance (Police) Committee



Tim Levene CC
E-mail: Tim.levene@cityoflondon.gov.uk

Committee Appointments:
Academic & Education Committee of the Board of Governors of the City of London School (Deputy Chairman); Board of Governors of the City of London Freeman's School (Ex-Officio Member); Board of Governors of the City of London School (Chairman); Board of Governors of the City of London School for Girls (Ex-Officio Member); Bursary Committee of the Board of Governors of the City of London School (Chairman); Court of Common Council; Digital Services Sub (Finance) Committee; Finance & Estates Committee of the Board of Governors of the City of London School (Deputy Chairman); Finance Committee; Financial Investment Board; Governance Committee of the Board of Governors of the City of London School (Chairman)
Investment Committee

Ward Constables **PC Manjit Kambo** – Manjit.Kambo@cityoflondon.police.uk
PC Matthew Clapham – Matthew.Clapham@cityoflondon.police.uk

CONTACT US

If you no longer wish to receive this newsletter, only want to receive an email notification to download it or are receiving more than one copy per household then please send your details and the name of your ward newsletter to wardnewsletters@cityoflondon.gov.uk and we will amend our database.



We are always happy to talk to workers and residents within the Ward about any issues you may wish to raise. Please contact us if you would like to arrange a meeting.

COMMUNICATING WITH THOSE WHO LIVE AND WORK IN THE CITY OF LONDON

Programme of Work

Our own programmes of work include External Events to help convene the UK's Financial & Professional Service sector to support the promotion of Green Finance. Financing Sustainable Growth (F4SG) a programme that looks at the 'reach' of the City and Financial Services to support SMEs across the UK to transition to net-zero technologies and innovations. Place Based Investment (PBII) research we are contributing to which is focused on Place-based Impact Investing in the UK ("PBII"), delivered by the Impact Investing Institute. Climate Finance Leadership Initiative (CFLI) a global programme that seeks to connect finance with emerging economies. Green Investment Principles (GIP) to promote climate action across the FPS sector. The GIP is a coalition of European, Chinese, and Emerging Markets banks and project developers

across the Belt and Road Initiative. UK Voluntary Carbon Markets Forum (UKVCMF) new cross-government programme of work that looks at the challenge of de-carbonising high emission industries and Digital Sandbox we are leading a programme with the FCA for financial services firms. One aim is looking at how innovators within the Financial and Professional Services sector can support sustainability in the delivery of financial services. Specifically, this project has looked at how technology can help provide transparency and disclosure on firms' Environmental, Social and Good Governance (ESG) data.

To find out more visit <https://news.cityoflondon.gov.uk/> and <https://cp.catapult.org.uk/project/uk-cities-climate-investment-commission/>