

12 December 2022



Strategic Transportation Team
Policy and Strategy
Environment Department
City of London Corporation
Guildhall, PO Box 270
London EC2P 2EJ

By email: pedestrianpriority@cityoflondon.gov.uk

Dear Sir/ Madam

RE: Pedestrian Priority Streets Consultation

I am writing on behalf of the City Property Association (CPA), the membership body for the owners, investors, professional advisors and developers of real estate in the City of London. Our list of 162 member companies can be found [here](#).

The CPA supports the permanent and enhanced adoption of the measures outlined in this consultation for all the streets concerned. As an advocacy group, the CPA seeks to support and promote the success of the City and its built environment, and we believe the Pedestrian Priority Streets Programme positively contributes towards this.

As the Square Mile's main mode of travel, prioritising pedestrians' needs is vital, particularly to ensure comfort and safety. Permanent installation of high-quality designs and materials will help to deliver Vision Zero and future proof the City's streets. By accommodating increases in footfall while increasing pedestrian comfort levels, accessibility and safety, the City will ensure it remains an attractive and world-leading destination for workers, visitors and residents.

The appeal of the City as a destination and an attractive place to visit is therefore fundamental to its ongoing success. Enhanced public realm, including open spaces and streets have a key role to play in attracting workers outside of office hours and boosting the City's vibrancy. The Pedestrian Priority Streets measures which will deliver Healthy Streets with greenery and seating, encouraging people to rest and enjoy the Square Mile will help to create much improved public realm and supports the City's 'Destination City' vision and pandemic recovery response.

Prior to the pandemic City workers generated 43% of spend in the City. It is therefore critical that workers are encouraged to return and linger longer. We also need to ensure that during periods not well used by workers visitors are enticed. Crucially, they will only return if their experience of the City's streets and open spaces is welcoming, safe and enjoyable.

In the context of the climate emergency, these measures also support climate resiliency, providing shade and shelter during extreme weather events which are increasing in frequency. Most importantly though, the Pedestrian Priority Streets measures prioritise active and sustainable modes of travel, which are essential for delivering the Climate Action Strategy and Net Zero by 2050.

While the Pedestrian Priority measures are relatively small, the positive impact they contribute to the City is much larger. As a result, the CPA feel the measures should be retained and further developed. To not do so, would be a missed opportunity.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Charles Begley', written over a light blue horizontal line.

Charles Begley

Chief Executive

Charles.Begley@cwpa.org.uk