

St Paul's Gyratory Project Team Strategic Transportation Team Environment Department City of London Corporation London EC2P 2EJ

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## **RE: St Paul's Gyratory Consultation**

Dear Sir/ Madam

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 full membership list of 150 can be found <u>here.</u>

The City of London's three proposals for the transformation of St Paul's Gyratory are under consultation to help determine the level of support for each. The City Property Association wishes to provide a letter of support for the undertaking of work to transform this part of St Paul's Gyratory and provide vastly improved public realm for pedestrians and cyclists.

We welcome that all three proposals would see the creation of a new public square next to Christchurch Greyfriars Church Garden, along with traffic calming measures and improvements for people walking and cycling.

Set up initially in the 1970s to manage traffic flow through the Square Mile, new measures are now needed to better cater for active travel and prevent Sir Christopher's Wren's masterpiece, St Paul's Cathedral from being surrounded by traffic. The Cathedral is a key attraction to UK and global tourists alike and is synonymous with the City of London.

The Gyratory is an important link, connecting Bank, the City's cultural heart of Barbican and the Holborn Viaduct and significant improvements to the public realm would create a sense of arrival into the City and provide a much-needed boost for the retail and leisure destination of Cheapside, including One New Change.

The appeal of the City as a destination and an attractive place to visit is 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, visitors for leisure and boosting the City's vibrancy.

At the CPA we strongly advocate for improved public realm, which can create places and spaces people want to work and visit, while opening up and better connecting parts of the City that have become increasingly disparate. We are conducting our own research into the importance of public realm and we would welcome the opportunity to discuss your proposals in more depth, along with the findings of your consultation at a roundtable at the earliest opportunity.

Yours faithfully,

Charles Begley Chief Executive Charles.Begley@CWPA.org.uk