

## **Save Golden Lane Leisure Centre**

Golden Lane Estate, London EC1Y 0SH

[savegoldenlane@gmail.com](mailto:savegoldenlane@gmail.com)

7 April 2026

### **Kate Doidge**

Governance Officer & Clerk, Community and Children's Services Committee

City of London Corporation, PO Box 270, Guildhall, London EC2P 2EJ

By email: [Kate.Doidge@cityoflondon.gov.uk](mailto:Kate.Doidge@cityoflondon.gov.uk)

cc: Helen Fentimen OBE JP, Chair, C&CS Committee- [helen.fentimen@cityoflondon.gov.uk](mailto:helen.fentimen@cityoflondon.gov.uk)

cc: Steve Goodman OBE, Deputy Chair, C&CS Committee- [steve.goodman@cityoflondon.gov.uk](mailto:steve.goodman@cityoflondon.gov.uk)

cc: Judith Finlay, Executive Director, Community & Children's Services- [judith.finlay@cityoflondon.gov.uk](mailto:judith.finlay@cityoflondon.gov.uk)

cc: Liz King, Alderwoman, Cripplegate Ward- [elizabeth.king@cityoflondon.gov.uk](mailto:elizabeth.king@cityoflondon.gov.uk)

## **RE: Formal Request for Committee Papers; Care Act Compliance Records; and Deputation Request – Proposed Closure of Golden Lane Sports and Fitness Centre**

Dear Ms Doidge,

We write on behalf of residents of the Golden Lane Estate, in advance of the proposed permanent closure of Golden Lane Sports and Fitness Centre on 30 April 2026. We write to you in three capacities: as Clerk to the Community and Children's Services Committee; as the officer responsible for committee governance records; and as the appropriate officer to receive a formal deputation request. Our primary purpose is to prevent this closure. We are pursuing that goal through every available formal and democratic mechanism, and we are asking for your assistance with three of them.

### **1. Documents Requested**

We formally request the following documents under the Local Government Act 1972 and the Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985:

1. The full public agenda pack and officer reports for the C&CS Committee meeting of 28 January 2026, specifically all papers relating to Golden Lane Sports and Fitness Centre, including any consultation plans, operator performance reports, and background papers.
2. The approved public minutes of the C&CS Committee meeting of 28 January 2026 in full.
3. Any officer reports, briefing notes, or correspondence relating to Golden Lane Sports and Fitness Centre presented to or circulated among members of the C&CS Committee between 28 January 2026 and the date of this letter.

4. Any formal Officer Decision Notice, delegated authority record, or equivalent documentation recording the decision not to bridge-fund continued operation of Golden Lane Sports and Fitness Centre, including the date of that decision, the officer who made it, and the power relied upon.
5. Any correspondence between the City of London Corporation (officers or members) and Fusion Lifestyle or S&W Partners LLP relating to the future of Golden Lane Sports and Fitness Centre from 1 January 2026 to the date of this request.
6. Any documentation relating to approaches made to alternative operators to take over the running of Golden Lane Sports and Fitness Centre, including the terms offered, the responses received, and the basis on which each approach was declined.
7. Any records of Pre-Market Engagement conducted by the City of London Corporation with potential operators of Golden Lane Sports and Fitness Centre, including any engagement conducted in or around March 2026.

## **2. Care Act Compliance Records**

The proposed closure removes Exercise on Referral, Young at Heart, and SEND sports provision without confirmed alternative. These programmes engage the City Corporation's statutory duties under Sections 1, 2, and 6 of the Care Act 2014. We additionally request:

8. Any Care Act compliance assessment, wellbeing impact assessment, or legal advice obtained in connection with the closure decision.
9. Any officer advice on whether the removal of Exercise on Referral, Young at Heart, and SEND provision without confirmed alternative constitutes a potential breach of the City's Section 2 prevention duty.
10. Any equalities impact assessment conducted in connection with the closure decision.

If no such assessment was conducted before the closure decision was made, please confirm this in writing. The absence of an assessment is itself significant and we will treat your response – or the absence of one – accordingly.

## **3. Deputation Request**

We formally request that the Community and Children's Services Committee grants a deputation to representatives of Golden Lane Estate residents at the Committee's next scheduled meeting, or at an emergency meeting convened before 30 April 2026. Please place this request before the Chair as a matter of urgency and confirm the date of the next scheduled meeting by return.

## **4. Response Deadline**

Given that the closure is proposed for 30 April 2026, we request that you respond and provide the documents within five working days of the date of this letter. These are committee papers to which residents have a statutory right of access. They are not Freedom of Information requests and should be immediately available. If any documents are held in the non-public part of the committee record, please identify the exemption relied upon and provide any available public summary.

Yours sincerely

**Dominique Tipper, Paul Drinkwater & Rajesh Thind**

Campaign Coordinators, Save Golden Lane Leisure Centre

On behalf of residents of the Golden Lane Estate, EC1