

Dear Julia

I am writing to you to give you an update on the work of Pollinating London Together (PLT), recent developments and future plans.

Firstly, I would like to personally thank you for your support of PLT to date.

There are of course synergies between climate change and biodiversity loss. Both need urgent attention and mitigations are often interdependent. Greenspaces and biodiversity can help with climate change and biodiversity loss as well as having positive effects on wellbeing.

Plants have a major role in climate change mitigation through carbon uptake and adaptation through environmental resilience against for example heat island effect and flooding. Plants don't exist in a silo and need the whole biodiversity network to flourish.

In the past 20 years we have lost 40% of our flying insects. Key contributors to the decline have been development projects which have caused a huge loss of greenspace and the use of pesticides. A saving grace is that where there are urban greenspace this can be managed in a way that supports insects providing food to adults and larvae as well as nesting sites. Insects in turn provide a food base for much of the ecosystem.

Some key achievements of PLT follow:

- *Since 2020 we have been drawing attention to ways in which our greenspace can be managed to help reverse this decline. We have been able to make suggestions to improve these habitats. Since 2022 we have been checking and monitoring what pollinators are present in the City of London and using that information to provide green corridors and networks to enable our pollinators to move and prevent genetic loss through an island effect. Our own mapping is informing the selection of survey sites currently.*
- *We have shared our data with others such as the City of London Environmental Resilience Team, University of Reading, Greenspace Information for Greater London, the Natural History Museum, Royal Parks, RHS, RBG Kew and Northumbria University.*
- *PLT provided input to the Haberdashers Earth Day Schools Conference in April 2023 at Goldsmiths University, London.*
- *In the last year PLT has been featured in the Summer 2022 issue of City Guide magazine, the members' publication of the official City of London Guide Lecturers' Association. We have also made a presentation to City Guides.*
- *In November 2022 PLT was featured in the BBC Lord Mayor's Show TV news coverage showing the Lord Mayor receiving a pollinating house for insects and was also in the Event programme.*
- *In March/April 2023 PLT held a exhibition at Cannon Place. PLT was featured on the internal building app and was also visible from Cannon Street and in the main lobby of the building, visible to both public and those that work within the building.*
- *In March 2023 PLT was a table sponsor at the Lord Mayor's Big Curry Lunch, with representation in the event programme and as a table host.*
- *Many new member livery companies featured PLT on their own communications. For example, the Stationers' Company and members also used social media to highlight their engagement with PLT eg Saddlers and Apothecaries Liveries*

However, there is SO much more we could be doing with your help. So far, the progress we have made has been through very enthusiastic volunteers and the support of many Livery Company members, there are now 44, and a growing number of Corporations based in the in and around the City .

'PLT is so vital. With the support of livery companies and the City of London Corporation, PLT has already achieved a great deal in its short life.'

Lord Mayor of the City of London, Alderman Nicholas Lyons

Time is not on our side for reversing the damage of the last 50 years but we are determined to continue in our mission to do everything possible to make London the example of how a modern city can contribute to the health of our planet, our people and the lives of those who work and live in this City.

We achieved CIO status the end of January.

We are most grateful to the Worshipful Company of Wax Chandlers for allowing us to operate under the umbrella of the Wax Chandlers Charitable Trust since inception. We established PLT as a separate Charity in April, setting up our own bank account, rules of governance, constitution et cetera.

PLT is a foundation charitable incorporated organisation, whose only voting members are its charity trustees. However, the charity welcomes members as they play a valuable contribution to the charity, members will not have any voting rights and will not be involved in the running of the charity which are performed by the charity's trustees.

We will shortly be embarking on a fundraising campaign to enable us to build upon the science-based evidence work we have been conducting to date. Attached are our key achievements to share with your Liverymen.

With this in mind, we would like to discuss with your Company as to how you might be able to support us.

One of our Board of Trustees will reach out shortly to discuss.

Yours sincerely,

John Burton
Chairman

Pollinating London Together is registered with the Charity Commission, Charity Number 1201781.