



Public Relations and Economic Development Sub (Policy & Resources) Committee

Date: THURSDAY, 6 JULY 2017
Time: AT THE RISING OF POLICY & RESOURCES COMMITTEE
Venue: COMMITTEE ROOM - 2ND FLOOR WEST WING, GUILDHALL

Members: Deputy Catherine McGuinness (Chairman)
Sir Mark Boleat (Deputy Chairman)
Simon Duckworth
Hugh Morris
Alderman Sir Michael Bear
Deputy Keith Bottomley
Anne Fairweather
Deputy Edward Lord
Andrew Mayer
Jeremy Mayhew
The Lord Mountevans
Deputy Tom Sleigh
Sir Michael Snyder
James Tumbridge
Alderman Sir David Wootton

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John Barradell
Town Clerk and Chief Executive

AGENDA

Part 1 - Public Agenda

1. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**
2. **MEMBERS' DECLARATIONS UNDER THE CODE OF CONDUCT IN RESPECT OF ITEMS ON THE AGENDA**
3. **MINUTES**
To agree the public minutes and summary of the meeting held on 8 June 2017.
For Decision
(Pages 1 - 6)
4. **EDO UPDATE**
The Director of Economic Development to be heard.
For Discussion
5. **PERMITTING FILMING AND PHOTOGRAPHY FOR ADVERTISING PURPOSES ON TOWER BRIDGE**
Report of the Director of Communications
For Decision
(Pages 7 - 10)
6. **POST-ELECTION OPPORTUNITIES AND THREATS**
Joint report of the Director of Communications and the Remembrancer.
For Information
(Pages 11 - 16)
7. **QUESTIONS ON MATTERS RELATING TO THE WORK OF THE SUB-COMMITTEE**
8. **ANY OTHER BUSINESS THAT THE CHAIRMAN CONSIDERS URGENT**
9. **EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC**
MOTION - That under Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Part I of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act.

Part 2 - Non-Public Agenda

10. **POLITICAL AND PARLIAMENTARY ACTIVITY**
The Director of Communications and the Remembrancer to be heard.
For Discussion
11. **NON-PUBLIC QUESTIONS ON MATTERS RELATING TO THE WORK OF THE SUB-COMMITTEE**

12. **ANY OTHER BUSINESS THAT THE CHAIRMAN CONSIDERS URGENT AND WHICH THE SUB COMMITTEE AGREES SHOULD BE CONSIDERED WHILST THE PUBLIC ARE EXCLUDED**

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PUBLIC RELATIONS AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT SUB (POLICY & RESOURCES) COMMITTEE

Thursday, 8 June 2017

Minutes of the meeting of the Public Relations and Economic Development Sub (Policy & Resources) Committee held at the Guildhall EC2 at 12.00 pm

Present

Members:

Deputy Catherine McGuinness (Chairman)	Anne Fairweather
Mark Boleat (Deputy Chairman)	Deputy Edward Lord
Simon Duckworth	Andrew Mayer
Hugh Morris	Jeremy Mayhew
Alderman Sir Michael Bear	The Lord Mountevans
Deputy Keith Bottomley	James Tumbridge

Officers:

John Barradell	- Town Clerk and Chief Executive
Simon Murrells	- Assistant Town Clerk
Damian Nussbaum	- Director of Economic Development
Bob Roberts	- Director of Communications
Paul Double	- Remembrancer
Jeremy Browne	- Special Representative for the City to the EU
Sherry Madera	- Special Adviser for Asia
Giles French	- Assistant Director of Economic Development
Heather Barker	- Assistant Director of Economic Development
Laura Davison	- Head of Research, Economic Development
Jeremy Blackburn	- Head of Corporate Affairs
Bruce Hunt	- Remembrancer's Office
Deborah Cluett	- Comptroller's & City Solicitor's Department
Peter Cannon	- Corporate Affairs
Colton Richards	- Corporate Affairs
Simon Latham	- Town Clerk's Department
Emma Sawers	- Town Clerk's Department

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Sir Michael Snyder and Deputy Tom Sleigh.

2. MEMBERS' DECLARATIONS UNDER THE CODE OF CONDUCT IN RESPECT OF ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

There were no declarations of interest.

3. MINUTES

RESOLVED – That the public minutes and summary of the meeting held on 4 May 2017 be approved as a correct record.

4. **EDO QUARTERLY UPDATE**

Members received a quarterly update from the Economic Development Office. The Director of Economic Development gave some examples of successful work the office had undertaken since the Grand Committee granted an uplift last year, including the Green Finance Summit (with 700 attendees), launch of the Institute of Apprenticeships at Mansion House, as well as work to discuss what could be included in the financial services chapter of a bespoke Free Trade Agreement between the UK and the EU27.

Members also received verbal updates from the Special Representative to the City for the EU and the Special Adviser for Asia.

The Special Representative for the EU gave background on the current political landscape and the UK's relationship with the EU. He updated Members on his extensive travel across the EU, most recently to Denmark, Spain, Portugal, Lithuania, Italy, Austria, Poland and Brussels, which is coordinated with partners, including the Foreign Commonwealth Office network. Members were requested to feedback on the visits' reports.

The Special Adviser for Asia explained how her work was focused on three key strategic regions: Greater China, India and Singapore, as a part of "future-proofing" the City, using opportunities for trade and investment in Asia. She talked about how the learnings of her recent visits make clear that there is a growing need to engage with China, including contributing to the Belt and Road initiative. She mentioned that Singapore is seen as both a collaborator and competitor as a global financial centre looking aggressively at opportunities, post-Brexit. In India, she noted we participated in the recent UK-India Economic and Financial Dialogue (EFD). She added that the City Corporation offices in Beijing, Shanghai and Mumbai were being utilised to pick up intelligence on the ground and push forward work on identified priorities.

The Chairman commented that this activity was especially important in the current political climate, and particularly important to do in partnership with others, such as TheCityUK and the International Regulatory Strategy Group (IRSG).

The following additional points were made:

- The Chairman of the IRSG will be attending the Resource Allocation Sub Committee Away Day
- The risks that are posed to the City post-Brexit are also posed to the rest of the EU27. It is in everyone's interest that a Brexit deal is struck, which maintains the City's status as the world leading financial centre.
- Material in Chinese, including brochures and/or a video, could be produced to give out to stakeholders from China.
- Members with the relevant connections and expertise can be used to support the work in Asia and the EU.

- The Policy Chairman will be introducing a series of briefing breakfasts for Members on particular areas relating to the work of the Economic Development Office.
- There was discussion on whether it would be useful for the Special Representative and Special Advisers to be accompanied on visits by the industry, where one Member proposed that access to key stakeholders could be reduced on visits with a wider delegation.

The Sub Committee agreed that they would like to see a regular update on the Economic Development Office, each month.

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5. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OFFICE BUSINESS PLAN 2017-18

Members considered a report of the Director of Economic Development on the department's business plan for 2017-18.

Members commented:

- It was requested that the Corporation include more emphasis on youth unemployment and that more office space for small businesses is provided as part of our offer.
- SMEs, particularly FinTech companies, were vibrantly important to the ecosystem and it would be important to work with them.
- There should be more focus on tackling the cyber threat, as well as noting that maritime services is a key theme for the mayoralty as part of the financial and professional services sector.

RESOLVED, that the Economic Development Office Business Plan 2017-18 is agreed.

6. REGIONAL STRATEGY

The Sub Committee considered a report of the Director of Economic Development on the City Corporation's regional strategy.

This report was well received and the Chairman commented that she had consulted a variety of business and Government stakeholders on this draft strategy who were also positive about it.

In response to a question, Members heard how the regional strategy will initially be piloted on three UK financial centres (Edinburgh, Belfast and Manchester), and if successful would then be rolled out to other UK cities.

It was pointed out that the strategy delivered in Belfast needs to cover also the north west of Northern Ireland given the City's close links with County Londonderry. It was confirmed that to Members that in this area, the City Corporation would be working with Invest Northern Ireland, who have a remit, which is wider than just Belfast.

It was requested that, when looking at additional centres, officers accounted for the benefit of working with cities with a high proportion of employment in the

financial services' sector. It was agreed that this Sub Committee would be involved with the discussion of future cities to engage with.

RESOLVED, that the Public Relations and Economic Development Sub Committee recommend to the Policy and Resources Committee that the regional strategy be approved.

7. **PARTY CONFERENCES**

Members considered a report of the Director of Communications on attendance of the Policy and Resources Committee at the 2017 Party Conferences.

The Chairman underlined that it was important to use Members with relevant expertise and to also ensure they were conveying corporate messages at party conferences.

It was agreed that the team of Members, who are going to each conference, should meet in the week leading up to Communications and Corporate Affairs teams to coordinate attendance at roundtables and events, strategically.

RESOLVED, that the attendance for future party conferences is:

- Maintain the approach of previous years, whereby funded attendance was available to all Members of the Public Relations and Economic Development Sub Committee, subject to the Corporate Affairs budget;
- Other Members of the wider Court with specific experience or relevance may exceptionally be invited to attend party conferences as a representative of the City Corporation, where appropriate, subject to the Corporate Affairs budget;
- Other Members attending party conferences in a self-funded and separate capacity would be entitled to attend Corporation dinners.

8. **MEDIA UPDATE**

The Sub Committee received a report of the Director of Communications updating on media output over the past six months.

The Chairman thanked the Communications Team for their help and support to her in the first month of her Chairmanship. The Team were also commended on how well they responded to the terrorist attack on London Bridge.

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9. **STANDALONE WEBSITE POLICY**

Members considered a report of the Director of Communications on the City Corporation's standalone website policy, setting out when and how institutions owned or wholly-funded by the City Corporation can set up standalone websites or digital platforms.

The Director of Communications was asked to give an update on the branding strategy, to which he will come back to the particular Member to update outside of the meeting.

There was also quite a lot of discussion surrounding the functionality of the City Corporation website, particularly in relation to its search function and its ease of navigation. Members asked for a joint paper of the Director of Communications and Director of IT to be taken back to this Sub Committee outlining proposals for a new digital strategy.

RESOLVED, that the new standalone website policy be approved.

10. **SPORT ENGAGEMENT OPPORTUNITIES**

Members considered a report of the Town Clerk relating to sport engagement opportunities for the City Corporation.

One Member highlighted that the hospitality should involve children from the City's family of schools as well as Members.

RESOLVED, that the proposed hospitality to be provided for the upcoming IAAF World Athletics Championships be noted; and that the Town Clerk, in consultation with relevant officers, be asked to look further into how the City Corporation can strategically support further major sports events and report back on a way forward.

11. **QUESTIONS ON MATTERS RELATING TO THE WORK OF THE SUB-COMMITTEE**

Prime Minister's Visit to Smithfield Market

A question was raised to ascertain the details of the Prime Minister's Visit to Smithfield Market as part of her campaign, the day before the General Election.

There were mixed opinions on this. Some Members stated that there was precedent for such visits and that Smithfield Market is a public place so is open to any party candidate during a political campaign. Others felt that the City Corporation had been inconsistent in its policy, having asked a Member of Parliament not to use an official visit to Highgate Wood during purdah as an opportunity for campaigning or publicity.

Officers clarified that there was a difference between the Prime Minister's visit to Smithfield Market and the MP's visit to Highgate Wood, as the latter example was taking place in her own constituency. Additionally, the Smithfield Market building is open to the public and is not a local authority building, and the prohibition relates to provision of financial or other assistance. This is generally taken to involve financial assistance using public funds, at publicly accessible facilities. Therefore it was not considered any breach of the prohibition has occurred.

The Chairman of Markets Committee who was present at the visit of the Prime Minister to Smithfield Market clarified further details, that the City Corporation did not use this as a publicity opportunity itself and no press release was issued, and that the Prime Minister was not invited by the City Corporation but

the request had come through only the afternoon before from her private office at the Conservative Party Headquarters.

12. **ANY OTHER BUSINESS THAT THE CHAIRMAN CONSIDERS URGENT**
Members congratulated the Remembrancer on his recent appointment as Master of Middle Temple.
13. **EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC**
RESOLVED – That under Section 100(A) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public be excluded from the meeting for the following items on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Part I of the Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act.
14. **NON-PUBLIC QUESTIONS ON MATTERS RELATING TO THE WORK OF THE SUB-COMMITTEE**
There were no questions.
15. **ANY OTHER BUSINESS THAT THE CHAIRMAN CONSIDERS URGENT AND WHICH THE SUB COMMITTEE AGREES SHOULD BE CONSIDERED WHILST THE PUBLIC ARE EXCLUDED**
There were no items of urgent business.

The meeting closed at 13:15

Chairman

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Committees: Public Relations & Economic Development Sub (Policy & Resources) – for decision Culture Heritage & Libraries – For information	Date: 6 July 2017
Subject: Permitting filming & photography for advertising purposes on Tower Bridge	Public
Report of: Director of Communications	For Decision
Report author: Joanna Burnaby-Atkins, Film Liaison Manager Chris Earlie, Head of Tower Bridge	

Summary

Tower Bridge currently permits advertising shoots inside the Bridge, mainly within the Walkways, and only if they will help to promote Tower Bridge's successful commercial tourism business. However since the run up to the 2012 Olympics, apart from exceptional cases, the organisation has not facilitated brand promotional shoots on the exterior of the Bridge. We believe some commercial advertising shoots on the bridge, such as some luxury or British brands, could actually be good for the image of the bridge, raise its profile and could increase income.

Recommendation

This report recommends to Members that requests to film on the Bridge at pavement level should be assessed on a case by case basis and if the brand or product is suitable and the fee is attractive permission should be granted.

Main Report

Background

1. Before 2009 selective advertising was permitted on the exterior of the bridge. These included Johnnie Walker whisky; Storm Watches, Dunhill Perfume and Total Oil. However in 2009, in the run up, during and post the 2012 Olympics there was a huge increase in demand from many types of brands wishing to promote themselves to an international market using the Bridge as a backdrop. There was also a big increase in the number of charities wishing to film PR stunts on the bridge. As well as becoming unfeasible to facilitate these numerous requests there was a clear need to protect the image of the bridge, its status as a national landmark and any resulting potential reputational implication for the City of London Corporation.

Current Position

2. Tower Bridge currently facilitates two forms of third party filming activity. Firstly filming which takes place inside the Bridge (mainly the interior walkways) and does not feature the external structure of the Bridge, with there being no potential for reputational association with the City. These are dealt with on a case by case basis as business decisions, judged and negotiated on the potential for disruption to the tourism business balanced with the potential for high levels of promotion for the business at Tower Bridge. For example filming for the new Paddington movie was facilitated within the Walkways as it has the significant potential to showcase the visitor attraction on a substantial international level. It is not proposed that current arrangements are altered in this regard as this generates income and publicity for the Bridge as a tourist attraction and is facilitated at a manageable level.
3. The second type of activity facilitated currently is for requests to film at Bridge level but only for television shows, movies, or news stories where there is little room for the organisation to be associated with a commercial brand or product. This report solely looks to address this type of filming, which takes place on or from the Bridge in relation to activity taking place on Corporation property, and looks to open this up to paid filming for the purposes of promoting a particular brand or product at road or pavement level only. To apply a few examples, this could take the form of a car advertisement as it drives over the Bridge or an advertisement for a camera being used by a pedestrian on the Bridge's pavement.
4. Since 2009 the only advertising or brand promotion that has been permitted on the exterior of the bridge has been those with the over-riding factor that they primarily promote London as a whole, these are usually endorsed by London & Partners and are usually shoots promoting a large London event or film release.
5. Requests that have been refused over the last five years include Jaguar, Burberry, Links jewellery and TM Lewin menswear.
6. Commercial brands wishing to feature Tower Bridge as their backdrop have always been able to do so by filming on many areas of the Southbank, in particular on Potters Field, a privately owned location, where it is possible to have Tower Bridge framed majestically in the backdrop. Prominent brands that have filmed or photographed commercials here include Coca Cola, Hilton Hotels, Skoda Cars, H&M and BT. It should be noted that there is no potential for the organisation to benefit from this type of filming, where the bridge is used solely as a backdrop and no filming takes place on the corporation asset itself, as this is precluded by Freedom of Panorama copyright and the fact that the image of a structure cannot be trademarked.

Proposals

7. It is proposed that in view of the fact advertising takes place beyond our control on the Southbank that we would not be harming the reputation of the bridge by permitting some advertising shoots on or from the bridge itself (where the activity

physically takes place on City property) where the brand is not contentious and the fee is beneficial. There is the potential to raise up to £10,000 extra revenue for the bridge per year

8. This proposal is in relation to paid filming activity utilising the Bridge at road or pavement level in a 'business as usual' circumstance and does not include publicity stunts or public events for commercial or charitable purposes which may involve zip lines, climbing, abseiling, lighting the Bridge (current guidelines are in place for allowing lighting to be altered in cases of national and international significance), vehicles/stuntmen jumping from the Bridge into the river, or any exceptional or highly unusual activity, which is normally politely declined as this would set an otherwise unmanageable precedent and has wider implications in terms of reputational association with the City.

Implications

9. By permitting some advertising shoots on the bridge there is the potential to raise up to £10,000 extra revenue for the bridge per year. Using the expertise of the Tower Bridge's Marketing Team to assess each request on a case by case basis and selecting only quality brands/shoots there is the further potential to raise the profile of the bridge.
10. If demand greatly increased this could have an impact on staff resources in the Tower Bridge Marketing Team which may need to be reviewed in the future.

Conclusion

11. We propose Members agree we allow advertising shoots on Tower Bridge.

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Committee(s):	Date(s):
Public Relations and Economic Development Sub Committee	6 July 2017
Subject: 2017 Parliament and Government	Public
Report of: Remembrancer Director of Communications	For Information
Report author: Emma Wade	

Summary

This report summarises the changes to Parliament and Government following the General Election and the implications for the City of London Corporation.

With no political party achieving the necessary 326 seats to win an overall majority in the 2017 General Election, the resulting minority Conservative government, supported by a confidence and supply agreement with the Democratic Unionist Party (DUP), will have major implications for the UK's future legislative programme and Brexit negotiations. As parliamentary scrutiny picks up following the election there will be an opportunity for business and the City to contribute to the debate.

Recommendation

Members are asked to note the contents of this report.

Main Report

Election results

1. With no clear majority in the House of Commons and a minority of Conservative Peers in the House of Lords, the Government will face a more difficult task in securing the passage of its business through Parliament. In the Commons, individual backbenchers will be able to wield more influence, particularly on the Government benches. In the Lords, a dispute beckons about the applicability of the Salisbury Convention, which usually permits a government to push manifesto pledges through the Upper Chamber. Some Labour and Liberal Democrat Peers have cast doubt on the applicability of the Convention in the light of the Conservatives' failure to secure an absolute majority.
2. Parliament has 99 newly elected Members. Of these, 51 are Labour, 32 Conservative and eight Liberal Democrat. Going against the trend in England and Wales, the Scottish Conservatives, led by Ruth Davidson, gained 12 seats to take their total to 13, second only behind the SNP who have 35 seats.
3. There is significant political experience amongst the newcomers, including 10 former MPs, three MEPs, several MSPs and an MLA, and one former member of

the GLA. Financial services and legal backgrounds feature prominently amongst the new intake.

4. The 2017 Parliament is also its most diverse – with 208 women (an increase of 17 to take it up to 33% of total MPs), five MPs with a registered disability, 51 BAME, and over half of the total number of MPs now educated at comprehensive schools.
5. London has nine new MPs, seven of whom were elected as a result of seats changing hands with another party. The Conservatives lost Croydon Central (Housing Minister Gavin Barwell), Battersea (Financial Secretary Jane Ellison), Kensington (Victoria Borwick) and Enfield Southgate (David Burrowes) to Labour, who have cemented their dominance in the capital city, much to the disappointment of the Remain-backing Liberal Democrats, who only managed to pick up two seats (Twickenham and Kingston and Surbiton) and lost Richmond Park to a resurgent Zac Goldsmith by 45 votes.

Ministerial changes

6. In light of the election results the Prime Minister conducted a smaller-than-expected reshuffle of Ministerial positions. Most significant Cabinet members were reconfirmed in role, including Chancellor Philip Hammond.
7. This, coupled with the elevation of 'Remain' supporter Damian Green to the position of First Secretary of State (de facto Deputy Prime Minister), and the loss of a majority mandate, has led to speculation that a faction of Ministers could press for a softening of the UK's stance on Brexit. Public comments so far indicate, however, that this will take the form of a delayed withdrawal from elements of the EU (in the form of a transitional period) rather than full continued membership of the Single Market or the Customs Union.
8. The Department for Exiting the EU underwent a junior ministerial reshuffle – with David Jones replaced as Minister of State by FCO Minister and Remain supporter Baroness Anelay. Lord Bridges, who quit his post, has been replaced by influential backbencher Steve Baker. Mark Field has been promoted to Minister of State at the Foreign Office, with responsibility for Asia and the Pacific, 'economic diplomacy' and the British Council. In the Treasury, former financial services lawyer Steve Barclay is the new Economic Secretary and former Whip Mel Stride has been appointed Financial Secretary.

Confidence and supply agreement

9. The Conservative Party and the DUP have agreed a 'confidence and supply agreement' whereby the 10 DUP MPs will support the Conservative Government on Commons votes. The agreement runs for the length of this Parliament, but will be reviewed after each parliamentary session. A co-ordination committee, chaired by the Government, will be set up to oversee the operation of the agreement.
10. The DUP has agreed to support the Government on:
 - All motions of confidence

- The Queen's Speech
- Budget and finance bills
- National security measures
- Legislation on leaving the EU

Support on other matters will be agreed on a case-by-case basis.

11. The Conservative Government will depend on the arrangement with the DUP and also the support of its Scottish MPs (both groups publicly favour a workable deal with the EU), for a working majority. However, the Eurosceptic faction of the Conservative Party, loosely grouped under the 'European Research Group' and chaired by Suella Fernandes, is a larger group in number. Friction between these two factions could therefore result in only a limited change in approach or tone.

Legislative Programme

12. The Queen's Speech is the first test as to whether the Conservatives will be able to command a majority in the House of Commons and in doing so deliver a programme of legislation. At the time of writing, the vote to approve a minority government agenda is due to take place on Thursday 29th June, after its contents have been debated by both Houses. Given the deal with the DUP, it is unlikely that the Conservatives will fall at this hurdle.
13. A third of the proposed Bills are in some way connected to the UK's departure from the EU. In addition to the so-called 'Great Repeal Bill' to secure the continuity of EU-derived laws, they cover important matters such as trade, immigration and customs. They may therefore provide a vehicle for Parliament to seek to modify the Government's approach to Brexit negotiations. The inclusion of Brexit legislation in the Confidence and Supply Agreement with the DUP may on the other hand give the Government cause for optimism.
14. Security is another dominant theme following the recent terror attacks in London and Manchester, with a promised review of anti-terrorism legislation. Other measures of interest to the City Corporation include Bills seeking to modernise the courts system and to update data protection legislation. In non-legislative measures, fair funding in education was in the Queen's Speech supporting documents, which will have implications for the funding of the City's academies. The Local Government Finance Bill, which had made significant progress before it was lost as a result of the election, is seemingly not to be reintroduced for now. It is as yet unclear where this leaves the Government's policy of enhanced devolution of business rates, on which negotiations had been taking place for a pan-London pilot scheme. Similarly there was no mention of a review of the elections for the Mayor and the London Assembly.
15. The Labour Party has said that it will seek to amend the Queen's Speech and produce an 'alternative' programme for Government. If Theresa May cannot command the confidence of the House, then Jeremy Corbyn could be invited to form a government instead. However, realistically, an alliance with the remaining parties (excluding the DUP and Sinn Fein) would still see Labour falling short of the 316 seats needed for a working majority. An alignment between Labour, the Liberal Democrats, the SNP, Greens and Plaid Cymru, could involve cooperation

on some issues such as a ‘softening’ of Brexit. Other Labour manifesto commitments would also come into play, including pledges on a Constitutional Convention, executive pay, and a ‘Robin Hood Tax’.

16. Newly appointed Leader of the House of Commons Andrea Leadsom has already announced that there will be no Queen’s Speech in 2018, allowing for a two year period of legislative scrutiny, rather than the usual one.

Select committees

17. At the time of writing, Commons Select Committees and All Party Parliamentary Groups are yet to be reconstituted. Nominations for the Chairmen of Select Committees are expected to open during the first week of July, with Chairs appointed before the summer recess. It is likely that Committee members will not be appointed until after the recess.
18. ‘Leave’ supporting Jacob Rees-Mogg and Richard Bacon, and ‘Remainers’ Stephen Hammond, John Penrose and former Education Secretary Nicky Morgan, have all thrown their hat into the ring for the Commons Treasury Committee.
19. Other notable Committees seeking new Chairs include the Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy Committee, and the Education Committee, to replace Labour’s Iain Wright and Conservative Neil Carmichael respectively.

Brexit implications

20. Brexit negotiations began as planned on the 19 June, with Michel Barnier hosting talks with Brexit Secretary David Davis in Brussels. The EU’s proposed programme for the talks, whereby progress will have to be made on citizens’ rights, a financial settlement and the Irish border before discussions on a future trading relationship begin, has been accepted by the Government despite earlier indications of disagreement.
21. In a Commons Statement, the Prime Minister set out details of the UK’s offer intended to guarantee that EU citizens who have been resident in the UK for five years will maintain broadly their current rights and entitlements. Those citizens resident when the UK leaves the union will be entitled to stay five years to acquire such rights. The main difference between the sides at this early stage appears to be over the EU’s wish for continued ECJ jurisdiction with respect to the rights of EU citizens who continue to reside in the UK.

Other implications

22. The discussion around Brexit and free movement has focused primarily on the movement of people. However, if the UK leaves the Customs Union, there is a need for the City Corporation to articulate the concerns of the Port Health Authority as new border and customs structures are created and resourced.
23. Other events which have coincided with the General Election and the formation of a new government include both terrorism and the Grenfell Tower disaster. These

have understandably had an impact on political debate and priorities, beyond Brexit.

24. The increasing frequency of 'low intensity attacks', their lack of sophistication and the resulting complication for the intelligence services, will be something that all levels of government will need to respond to and will inevitably form part of the debate on the freedom of movement and immigration. Through the City Police, the Corporation is committed to providing stability and protection for the City and the capital through existing operations, whilst taking the opportunity to feed into the new proposed counter terrorism strategy.
25. The Grenfell Tower disaster has raised questions about the capacity of local authorities to deal with disasters of this scale, as well as how national government can or should respond. In addition to the Grenfell Tower Recovery Taskforce, the Secretary of State at DCLG is now establishing an independent expert advisory panel on fire safety. The Government will face specific pressure on action around the safety of residential tower blocks, but more generally on the level of public spending allocated to local government. This tragedy has already fuelled further anti-austerity protests.

Conclusion

Members are asked to note the content of this report.

Appendices

None

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