



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

Date: MONDAY, 26 FEBRUARY 2018
Time: 12.00 pm
Venue: COMMITTEE ROOM 3 - 2ND FLOOR WEST WING, GUILDHALL

Members: Deputy Catherine McGuinness (Chairman)
Sir Mark Boleat (Deputy Chairman)
Simon Duckworth
Hugh Morris
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

Enquiries: Emma Cunnington
emma.cunnington@cityoflondon.gov.uk

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 18 January 2018.
For Decision
(Pages 1 - 6)
4. **POLITICAL AND PARLIAMENTARY UPDATE**
The Director of Communications and the Remembrancer to be heard.
For Discussion
5. **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT UPDATE**
The Director of Economic Development to be heard.
For Discussion
6. **ASIA UPDATE**
The Special Adviser for Asia to be heard.
For Discussion
7. **PARTY CONFERENCES**
Report of the Director of Communications.
For Decision
(Pages 7 - 10)
8. **EUROPEAN UNION (WITHDRAWAL) BILL**
Report of the Remembrancer.
For Information
(Pages 11 - 14)
9. **QUESTIONS ON MATTERS RELATING TO THE WORK OF THE SUB-COMMITTEE**
10. **ANY OTHER BUSINESS THAT THE CHAIRMAN CONSIDERS URGENT**
11. **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.
For Decision

Part 2 - Non-Public Agenda

12. **NON-PUBLIC POLITICAL AND PARLIAMENTARY UPDATE**
The Director of Communications and the Remembrancer to be heard.
For Discussion
13. **NON-PUBLIC ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT UPDATE**
The Director of Economic Development to be heard.
For Discussion
14. **NON-PUBLIC QUESTIONS ON MATTERS RELATING TO THE WORK OF THE SUB-COMMITTEE**
15. **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, 18 January 2018

Minutes of the meeting of the Public Relations and Economic Development Sub (Policy & Resources) Committee held at the Guildhall EC2 at 3.00 pm

Present

Members:

Deputy Catherine McGuinness (Chairman)	Jeremy Mayhew
Sir Mark Boleat (Deputy Chairman)	The Lord Mountevans
Simon Duckworth	Deputy Tom Sleigh
Hugh Morris	Sir Michael Snyder
Deputy Keith Bottomley	James Tumbridge
Anne Fairweather	Alderman Sir David Wootton
Deputy Edward Lord	Alderman Peter Estlin
Chris Hayward	

In Attendance:

Wendy Mead (Chief Commoner)

Officers:

John Barradell	-	Town Clerk and Chief Executive
Simon Murrells	-	Assistant Town Clerk
Simon Latham	-	Head of Town Clerk's Office
Alistair MacLellan	-	Town Clerk's Department
Leanne Murphy	-	Town Clerk's Department
Bob Roberts	-	Director of Communications
Eugenie de Naurois	-	Head of Corporate Affairs
Damian Nussbaum	-	Director of Economic Development
Giles French	-	Assistant Director of Economic Development
Jeremy Blackburn	-	Head of Relationships & Networks
Paul Double	-	City Remembrancer
Nigel Lefton	-	Director of Remembrancer's Affairs
Carolyn Dwyer	-	Director of the Built Environment
Anne Bamford	-	Education and Skills Director

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Andrew Mayer. The Town Clerk noted that Chris Hayward and Alderman Peter Estlin had been appointed to the Sub Committee that day, and that the Chief Commoner was in attendance.

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 14 December 2017 be approved as a correct record.

4. **MEMBERSHIP OF CHATHAM HOUSE**

Members considered a report of the Director of Communications concerning the membership of Chatham House.

- The Sub Committee were advised that if a proposed nominee did not accept the position, they would be asked to propose an alternative. Members agreed with this approach and recommended that the Chairman of Planning and Transportation be added to the list of representatives.
- A Member suggested issuing a reminder of the core benefits and instructions on how to access them. Members also noted that they were often in receipt of a number of emails and asked that Officers ensure that invitations come well in advance of an event, and that advice on the priority of the event be given. Officers also agreed to ensure Member's addresses and emails were up to date.

RESOLVED – that Members,

- Approve a new proposed list of 25 City Corporation nominees, in accordance with the process set out in the report.
- Agree that that the list comprises of both Members and Officers.
- Agree that membership be offered to the following Member and Officers as detailed below and, more specifically, in Annex A.
 - Members of the Public Relations and Economic Development Sub Committee (PRED);
 - SABTAC;
 - 9 Officers representing interested departments/offices and/or leading on Chatham House engagement: EDO, Communications, Corporate Affairs, Mansion House, Remembrancer.

5. **THE BUSINESS OF TRUST 'FACTSHEET' - KEY MESSAGES**

Members considered a report of the Director of Communications and Director of Economic Development concerning the key messages from the Business of Trust factsheet.

- Members strongly felt that 24 key messages were too many. It was agreed the messaging needed to be sharper and should be restricted to 5 or 6 key messages along with a clear description of what the City Corporation is doing to achieve them.
- Members agreed that the positioning of the messaging would benefit from some further consideration and recommended ensuring the

messaging was proactive in terms of highlighting the work the City Corporation undertook. A Member added that the facts need to be more focussed to communicate progress and suggested testing some messages externally.

RESOLVED, that

- The factsheet be amended based on recommendations from the Sub Committee in consultation with by the Chairman and Deputy Chairman.
- A further report on Business of Trust Key Messaging be referred to a future meeting.

6. **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES UPDATE**

Members considered a report of the Director of Economic Development concerning the quarterly Economic Development Activities update (October-December 2017).

- The Director of Economic Development highlighted that transition went beyond the EU and Brexit, linking the City with future markets where it can make the biggest impact. He also noted that the Commonwealth Business Forum, held in Guildhall and Mansion House, was a key way to showcase the City as a centre of finance in the wider Commonwealth.

RESOLVED – that the report be noted.

7. **POLITICAL AND PARLIAMENTARY ACTIVITY**

The Director of Communications and the City Remembrancer were heard regarding recent political and parliamentary activity.

- The Director of Communications advised Members that the London Government Dinner saw some positive engagement with wider London government stakeholders and that the London Mayor had noted in his speech his support for the City of London Corporation.
- The Director noted the summary of the main changes arising out of the Labour government reshuffle, which was circulated to Members and Officers following confirmation of the final appointments, and provided an update on planned engagement with the Shadow Cabinet
- The City Remembrancer noted that he would circulate a written update outside of the meeting. He noted that Lord McFall, former Chair of the Commons Treasury Committee, had raised numerous questions on the Open Spaces Bill which was currently progressing through the Lords. The Chairman commended the work by the Remembrancer and his wider team.
- A Member noted that the new Lord Chancellor would be attending a Shrieval Lunch at the Old Bailey.

- Members noted the positive speech by the Leader of London Councils Claire Kober at the London Government Dinner. The Chairman added that Ms Kober had been a positive influence of the work of London Councils and London government more generally.
- In response to a comment from a Member, the Director of Communications confirmed that all outgoing ministers would be receiving letters of thanks from the Corporate Affairs Team.

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

Remuneration and Diversity

A question was asked regarding what work was being undertaken by the City Corporation on remuneration and diversity.

- Members noted that efforts were being made by the City Corporation to promote diversity, e.g. the comprehensive programme of roadshows, events, etc, in the build up to the 2017 City Elections, but agreed more could and should be done.
- A Member noted that one potential area in which to promote diversity would be the Livery. For example, the Lord Mayor should in his annual speech to the Livery encourage the Livery Companies to undertake more outreach into the business community and encourage candidates to stand for election to the City. Members also noted the role the City had played in encouraging the admission of women to the Livery and how this provided some precedent for the sort of role the City could play going forward.
- Members noted that an emphasis on securing diversity should not preclude the right stakeholders being included in forthcoming City events, and that the City should be mindful that in some sectors, the diversity of senior stakeholders would undergo gradual change as middle ranking employees were promoted to senior roles over time.
- A Member noted that evidence suggested that women were less likely to put themselves forward for election. It was suggested that it might be helpful to circulate some information to potential female candidates and that gender diversity should be an explicit consideration mind when the City co-opted candidates on to its committees.

9. **ANY OTHER BUSINESS THAT THE CHAIRMAN CONSIDERS URGENT**

There were no urgent items.

10. **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.

11. **NON-PUBLIC MINUTES**
RESOLVED - that the non-public minutes and summary of the meeting held on 14 December 2017 be approved.
12. **NON-PUBLIC POLITICAL AND PARLIAMENTARY UPDATE**
There was no non-public political and parliamentary update.
13. **NON-PUBLIC ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT UPDATE**
There was no non-public economic development update.
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**
The late circulated report concerning the draft outline mayoral programme for 2018/19 was withdrawn.

The meeting closed at 3.54 pm

Chairman

Contact Officer: Leanne Murphy
leanne.murphy@cityoflondon.gov.uk

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Committee Public Relations and Economic Development Sub (Policy and Resources) Committee	Dated: 26 February 2018
Subject: City of London Corporation – Recommendations for 2018 Party Conferences	Public
Report of: Bob Roberts, Director of Communications	For Decision
Report author: Jan Gokcen, Corporate Affairs Officer	

Summary

Every year the City of London Corporation delivers a programme of strategic political engagement at three party conferences – Liberal Democrat, Labour, Conservative. In the previous two years the City Corporation has also attended and hosted events at the Scottish National Party (SNP) conference.

This report provides an opportunity for Members to review and approve top-line proposals for the 2018 conference season.

Recommendations

Members of the Public Relations and Economic Development Sub Committee are asked to recommend to the Policy and Resources Committee that the City Corporation:

- continue hosting events at the Liberal Democrat, Labour, Conservative and SNP Conference; and
- organise a set number of events tailored to each party conference as detailed in the report below.

Background

1. The City of London Corporation began attending major party conferences in 1994 and has been doing so on an annual basis ever since.
2. Party conference attendance and activity is now intrinsic to the City Corporation's political engagement programme and aims to achieve the following objectives:
 - To engage across the political spectrum and outside the City and London
 - To be involved in key policy debates of strategic importance.
 - To engage politically with numerous contacts who are concentrated in the same location at a given time
 - To be seen as a regular, reliable and relevant attendee and partner on key issues.
3. The format of participation has evolved over time: initially hosting small, private dinners, the City Corporation began hosting additional fringe events from 1997 onwards. More recently, the City Corporation has also hosted private roundtable discussions on relevant policy matters with politicians, policymakers and other experts.
4. In line with our aim to achieve cross-party engagement, in 2017, the City Corporation attended the Liberal Democrat, Labour, Conservative and Scottish National Party conferences.

Proposals

5. Following an evaluation of last year's Party Conference activity, the Corporate Affairs team will ensure that the 2018 party conference activity provides the most effective opportunities for strategic political engagement with each political party and is relevant in policy terms.
6. Following a series of recces in January, hotel rooms and venues have already been secured for all party conferences except the SNP, where dates and location are confirmed nearer to the time.
7. In chronological order, it is proposed the 2018 party conference season follows the following format:

2018 Liberal Democrat Party Conference, 15-18 September 2018, Brighton:

Proposal: To host a private roundtable in partnership with a think-tank, covering a policy area of significant relevance to the City Corporation. To host a sit-down dinner of approximately 50 attendees with a select and focused guest list from the business, political and policy related sectors.

2018 Labour Party Conference, 23-26 September 2018, Liverpool:

Proposal: To host a private roundtable in partnership with a think-tank, covering a policy area of relevance to the City Corporation and independently host a private drinks reception. The reception aims to facilitate engagement with key Labour figures at national, regional and local level.

2018 Conservative Party Conference, 30 September – 03 October 2018, Birmingham:

Proposal: To host a private roundtable in partnership with a think-tank, covering a policy area of relevance to the City Corporation, host a public fringe event in partnership with a separate think-tank, and to independently host a private dinner for between 100-120 guests.

2018 Scottish National Party Conference, dates and locations TBA:

Proposal: To host a small roundtable and continue with a programme of bilateral meetings, including participation in roundtable discussions of relevance to the City Corporation's policy interests, for the Chairman of Policy and Resources.

8. Regarding Member attendance at City Corporation roundtables: it was agreed in the PRED meetings of 21 September and 19 October, that roundtables should not be opened to Members generally, and, where it might be a case for more than one Member to attend these events, it should be at the discretion of the Policy Chairman of the day to decide.

Conclusion

9. Members are asked to approve recommendations for the City of London Corporation's programme of engagement at the 2018 party conferences. Further information will be presented to Members in due course.

Jan Gokcen

Corporate Affairs Officer
T: 020 7332 3307
E: jan.gokcen@cityoflondon.gov.uk

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Committee(s)	Dated:
Public Relations & Economic Development Sub-Committee	26 February 2018
Subject: European Union (Withdrawal) Bill	Public
Report of: City Remembrancer	For Information
Report author: Nigel Lefton	

Summary

This report is intended to inform Members of the parliamentary proceedings on the European Union (Withdrawal) Bill and activity being undertaken to highlight issues of importance to the City.

Through Bob Neill MP, Chair of the Justice Select Committee, a number of amendments were tabled for consideration during the Commons Committee stage of the Bill and a new Clause was tabled at Report Stage. Briefing was provided to MPs and Peers for the Second Reading of the Bill in the Commons (and latterly, Second Reading in the Lords) on matters of significance to the City. It is anticipated that the City Corporation will continue to be active during the remaining parliamentary stages of the Bill.

Recommendation

Members are asked to note this report and the steps being taken to contribute to parliamentary consideration of the Bill.

Main Report

Background

1. The European Union (Withdrawal) Bill was introduced by the Government in July 2017. It passed through the House of Commons stages by mid-January and received its Second Reading in the House of Lords on 1st February. The Bill will convert existing EU law into British law and repeal the European Communities Act 1972. It will also allow Ministers to make changes to the EU law which is converted “retained EU law” to make it “operate effectively” through regulations subject to only limited parliamentary scrutiny. This aspect of the measure has attracted particular criticism in Parliament on the basis that it gives Ministers “Henry VIII” powers.
2. The Bill was approved at Second Reading in the Commons by 326 votes to 290. Committee stage in the Commons took place over 8 days on the floor of the House (rather than before a committee) in recognition of its constitutional

importance. Just under 500 amendments were tabled, but there was only one Government defeat, on an amendment tabled by former Attorney General Dominic Grieve. The amendment, passed by 309 votes to 305, requires UK withdrawal from the EU to be subject to a vote by Parliament on the final terms of the withdrawal.

3. In response to the debates in Committee, the Government brought forward a number of amendments at Report Stage to limit Ministers' ability to amend EU rules and regulations (see further below). The Bill was approved at Commons Third Reading by 29 votes. Following a 2 day debate, the Bill was given a Second Reading in the Lords and now proceeds to its Committee stage.

City Corporation activity

4. During the Bill's Commons Committee Stage, the Remembrancer's Office worked closely with Bob Neill, Chair of the Justice Select Committee, on ten amendments to the Bill. All but one of these amendments were informed by the work of the International Regulatory Strategy Group (jointly sponsored by the City Corporation and TheCityUK) and the Financial Markets Law Committee, a forum of practitioners with a secretariat based in, but independent of, the Bank of England. The remaining amendment concerned inspection of imported food for which the Corporation, as port health authority for London, is responsible.
5. The 'City financial' amendments were not designed to rerun the Brexit debate or to force parliamentary votes, but to improve the legislation and address issues arising of concern to the Corporation and the wider City. Some were aimed at getting clarity on specific questions, such as the interpretation of legal contracts which currently refer to EU law, and use of official EU materials to aid interpretation of the domesticated EU law post-Brexit. Others sought commitments for the future, for example, requiring consultation with the financial sector before regulations dealing with City issues are amended and ensuring that the modifying powers created by the Bill do not enable arbitrary restrictions to be placed on the rights of EU nationals and businesses in the UK. One of the amendments called on the Government to report before exit day on its progress in securing post-Brexit mutual market access for financial and professional services.
6. All the amendments were selected for debate. The Government's response indicated an openness to dialogue, and issues that were the subject of two of the amendments (on the use of official EU materials to aid interpretation of the domesticated EU law post-Brexit and cost recovery for inspection of foodstuffs carried out by the City as port health authority post-Brexit) were resolved. Discussion on a third amendment debated in Committee on the interpretation of commercial contracts is ongoing.
7. During Report stage in the Commons (during which a new Clause on interpretation was tabled through Bob Neill), the Government made some further concessions. For example, the power given by the Bill to Ministers to use statutory instruments to amend primary and secondary legislation to ensure that UK law continues to operate effectively after exit day, has been amended to set

out the complete list of the kinds of deficiencies that Ministers would be able to correct. The Bill has also been amended to introduce an exception to Schedule 1 to the Bill. This Schedule states that no legal challenges can be brought to domestic legislation on the basis of a failure to comply with the general principles of EU law. Legal challenges will now be possible on this basis if they relate to anything that happened before “exit day” and, in the case of primary legislation, begin within three months of “exit day”.

8. In addition to the amendments proposed by the City Corporation noted above, briefing material was supplied to MPs and Peers in advance of the Second Reading debates. The briefing focused on the concerns of the financial and professional services sector, including legal services and also port health (in the Commons), the arts sector and immigration, following the established City Corporation lines, in addition to technical issues relating to the domestication of EU law. Comments were made by MPs and Peers in the course of the debates reflecting the concerns expressed.

Future stages

9. The Lords are expected to conclude their consideration of the Bill by May, following which the Bill will be remitted to the Commons. If this timetable is adhered to, the Bill should receive Royal Assent by the summer recess. This would allow seven months for the secondary legislation required to be put in place before “exit day”. The Government does not, however, have the same control over timetabling in the Lords as it does in the Commons.
10. The form of engagement during Committee and subsequent stages in the Lords is now being worked on. The reports commissioned by the International Regulatory Strategy Group, and discussion with their authors and the Economic Development Office, provide the basis for this work. The overall objective of any action is to promote consistency, clarity and continuity for the various sectors of relevance to the City, to minimise the cost businesses will face in the context of EU withdrawal, and to seek to ensure that the legislation enables effective delivery of the necessary changes consistent with the City Corporation’s agreed policy lines.

Paul Double
City Remembrancer

T: 020 7332 1200

E: paul.double@cityoflondon.gov.uk

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