



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

Date: TUESDAY, 24 APRIL 2018

Time: 3.00 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
Alderman Peter Estlin
Anne Fairweather
Christopher Hayward
Deputy Edward Lord
Andrew Mayer
Jeremy Mayhew
Alderman The Lord Mountevans
Deputy Tom Sleigh
Sir Michael Snyder
James Tumbridge
Alderman Sir David Wootton

Enquiries: Emma Cunningham
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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 26 February 2018.
For Decision
(Pages 1 - 6)
4. **BUSINESS OF TRUST KEY MESSAGES**
Joint report of the Director of Economic Development and the Director of Communications.
For Decision
(Pages 7 - 10)
5. **UPDATES AVAILABLE TO MEMBERS**
Report of the Director of Communications.
For Information
(Pages 11 - 14)
6. **BREXIT LEGISLATION: TRADE BILL AND TAXATION (CROSS-BORDER TRADE) BILL**
Report of the Remembrancer.
For Information
(Pages 15 - 18)
7. **EDO MONTHLY UPDATE - MARCH**
Report of the Director of Economic Development.
For Information
(Pages 19 - 28)
8. **POLITICAL ENGAGEMENT UPDATE**
Report of the Director of Communications.
For Information
(Pages 29 - 32)

9. **PARLIAMENTARY ACTIVITY UPDATE MARCH-APRIL 2018**

Report of the Remembrancer.

For Information
(Pages 33 - 36)

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

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

12. **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

13. **NOTE OF THE INFORMAL MEETING OF THE PUBLIC RELATIONS AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT SUB COMMITTEE**

To receive the note of the informal meeting of the Public Relations and Economic Development Sub Committee held on 27 March 2018.

For Information
(Pages 37 - 44)

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**

Part 3 - Confidential Agenda

16. **RECONFIGURATION OF THE CRM AND COD FUNCTIONS AND THE TRANSITION TO AND LONG-TERM SUPPORT FOR CITY DYNAMICS**

Report of the Director of Economic Development.

For Decision

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

Monday, 26 February 2018

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)	Andrew Mayer
Sir Mark Boleat (Deputy Chairman)	Jeremy Mayhew
Simon Duckworth	The Lord Mountevans
Deputy Keith Bottomley	Deputy Tom Sleigh
Anne Fairweather	Alderman Sir David Wootton
Christopher Hayward	
Deputy Edward Lord	

In attendance:

Tijs Broeke

Officers:

John Barradell	-	Town Clerk and Chief Executive
Bob Roberts	-	Director of Communications
Paul Double	-	Remembrancer
Damian Nussbaum	-	Director of Economic Development
Alistair Sutherland	-	Assistant Commissioner of CoL Police
Vic Annells	-	Executive Director of Mansion House & CCC
Sherry Madera	-	Economic Development Office, Town Clerk's
Giles French	-	Economic Development Office, Town Clerk's
Sarah Mayes	-	Economic Development Office, Town Clerk's
Eugenie de Naurois	-	Communications Department, Town Clerk's
Peter Cannon	-	Communications Department, Town Clerk's
Nigel Lefton	-	Remembrancers
Emma Wade	-	Remembrancers
Emma Cunningham	-	Town Clerk's

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Alderman Peter Estlin, Hugh Morris and Sir Michael Snyder.

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 18 January 2018 be approved as a correct record.

Matters arising

- On diversity, a Member updated the Sub Committee that following a meeting with the Town Clerk's department, she was content that work on increasing diversity at the City Corporation was progressing. The Town Clerk and the Chairman confirmed that a paper will be considered by the Establishment Committee and the Policy and Resources Committee in due course to help support staff diversity networks and other diversity initiatives.
- Members were told that a revised and more succinct version of the key messages on business of trust would be reported to the next meeting of this Sub Committee. A Member also enquired into mayoral themes more generally as to check whether they aligned with corporate strategies. The Executive Director of Mansion House assured Members that the business of trust theme, aligned with objectives of the Corporate Plan, and that the Senior Alderman Below the Aldermanic Chair (SABTAC) has reported his mayoral themes to this Sub Committee for next year.
- Members requested key messages could be made more widely available to the Members of Public Relations and Economic Development Sub Committee. The Director of Communications reminded Members of the existing channels but agreed to look at ensuring that Members of this Sub Committee were given more information on "lines-to-take".
- Regarding Chatham House membership, the Policy Chairman updated Members that attendance at events might sometimes need to be flexible if there is, for example, a particular individual identified who should represent the City Corporation. A Member reminded officers to send out instructions on how to access the Chatham House benefits. The Sub Committee agreed that the next Chatham House briefing session should be opened up to all Members of the Policy and Resources Committee.

4. **POLITICAL AND PARLIAMENTARY UPDATE**

The Director of Communications was heard regarding recent political activity, London elections and the new Labour candidate for the City and Westminster.

The Remembrancer then updated the Sub Committee on some of the work of his department, including that the EU Withdrawal Bill was currently working its way through the House of Lords, that the Open Spaces Bill is having its third reading tomorrow and that, following a meeting between the Policy Chairman and the Chairman of the House of Lords' EU Financial Affairs Sub-Committee, Baroness Falkner, the City Corporation and a number of trade associations are briefing the Sub-Committee on the effect of Brexit on financial services.

The Chairman thanked both the Director of Communications and the Remembrancer for their work.

5. **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT UPDATE**

The Director of Economic Development updated the Sub-Committee on the work of the Economic Development Office. On Brexit, this focused on the three “Ts” – seeking appropriate transition, trade access, and talent (ie access to workforce) for the financial and related professional services sector.

On transition, he reported that this appeared to have been largely agreed in principle and so there had not been as much focus on this area, currently.

On trade, he reported that the City Corporation is working with the financial services sector to promote the messages of the IRSG report, *Mutual Recognition – A Basis for Market Access After Brexit*, to the 27 EU countries and to Government.

On talent, whilst this has so far been focused on the least, the Director reported this was something that the City Corporation was now working on. He reported that whilst other trade associations had some top line work around messages for immigration, the City Corporation were working with Price Waterhouse Coopers (PwC) around competitiveness and the customer journey.

Members discussed how newer Members could feel more involved with messaging as the debate on whether the City Corporation should take a position on the UK leaving the EU at Court of Common Council took place before many were elected on the Court. Members agreed that if Members are minded to introduce a significant change in the City Corporation’s current position, this would need to go through a formal governance process.

In addition, the Sub Committee requested that the Policy Chairman send more information via email to the Sub Committee outlining her political and business engagements and insight from this.

RESOLVED – that the Members of the Public Relations and Economic Development Sub Committee receive regular emails outlining the Policy Chairman’s political and business engagements.

The Director of Economic Development and the Assistant Commissioner of Police then gave an update on the development of the cyber security work, following feedback from Members at the Policy and Resources Committee. Members were pleased that feedback had been taken on board. A Member advised that before this is implemented, it is clear what the costs are surrounding this and whether there is a demand for this. Members suggested that the Director of Economic Development arrange a workshop with interested Members to discuss the proposal further.

RESOLVED – that the Director of Economic Development and the Commissioner of Police set up a workshop with interested Members to discuss

the cyber work further, then bring back a fully worked-up proposal in due course.

6. **ASIA UPDATE**

Members received an update from the Special Adviser for Asia on recent insight and activity in that market, including:

- The Policy Chairman's recent visits to China, once as a policy trip and once to join the Economic and Financial Dialogue (EFD) with the Chancellor of the Exchequer.
- The City Corporation has been viewed by Chinese stakeholders as contributing to the success of Green Finance, RMB trading and the Belt and Road initiative.
- Engagement with Hong Kong is now increasing with a Hong Kong dialogue and engagement with the Hong Kong Monetary Group.
- In India, the 10th EFD will be taking place in April, with the key discussions topics including internationalisation of the rupee, masala bonds, fintech and non-performing assets. The Special Adviser also reported on a recent trip that Sir Michael Snyder had undertaken to India to mark the tenth anniversary of the opening of the City Corporation offices in Mumbai.

A Member asked what the City Corporation is currently doing in Japan, and the Director of Economic Development confirmed that, as the market is critical to the UK, the City Corporation is using relationship management with Japanese firms and working very closely with the Tokyo Metropolitan Government. Members were too reminded of Sir Roger Gifford's role on the advisory committee.

7. **PARTY CONFERENCES**

Members considered a report of the Director of Communications, asking Members to review and approve the top-line proposals for the 2018 conference season.

RESOLVED, that:

- **it be recommended to the Policy and Resources Committee that the City Corporation continue hosting events at the Liberal Democrat, Labour, Conservative and SNP Conference and**
- **it be recommended to the Policy and Resources Committee that the City Corporation organise a set number of events tailored to each party conference as detailed in the report.**

8. **EUROPEAN UNION (WITHDRAWAL) BILL**

The Sub-Committee received a report of the City Remembrancer outlining the parliamentary proceedings on the European Union (Withdrawal) Bill and activity being undertaken to highlight issues of importance to the City.

RESOLVED, that:

- The report be noted.

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

One question was raised as follows -

Length of Public Relations and Economic Development Sub Committee meetings

Members discussed whether the meetings of this Sub-Committee were the right length to discuss all the business of the agenda. It was agreed that there needed to be more written reports rather than oral presentations and that, where possible, the meetings should be extended by half an hour.

RESOLVED – that there should be more written reports going forward, and where possible, the Town Clerk should extend the time of the meetings by thirty minutes.

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

The following items of urgent business were raised –

Public Relations and Economic Development Sub Committee Away Day

The Chairman advised that the PRED Sub Committee Away Day has been arranged to take place on Tuesday 27 March at The Carter Lane gallery at The Grange St Paul's Hotel. There will be a buffet lunch from midday at the art gallery, with the formal meeting starting at 12:45pm and finishing with a drinks reception. Members were advised that Sir Simon Fraser (Founder and Managing Partner of Flint Global) will give Members an overview of his findings, following a series of interviews with external stakeholders, on the City Corporation's impact in relation to its financial and professional services' work across the last year – with a particular focus on the new areas being taken forward by the Economic Development Office.

11. **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.

Item	Paragraph
12, 13	3

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**

There were no items of urgent business.

The meeting closed at 1.05 pm

Chairman

Contact Officer: Emma Cunnington
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Committee(s)	Dated:
Public Relations & Economic Development Sub-Committee	24 April 2018
Subject: The Business of Trust key messages	Public
Report of: Director of Communications and Director of Economic Development	For Decision
Report Author: Ian Schofield, Media Officer	

Summary

This report updates Members on the key messages and facts concerning The Business of Trust initiative, including further information that sits behind the policy, statistics on trust in business, as well as other relevant information.

Recommendation

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

- that the factsheet and key messages below relating to the Business of Trust initiative be approved.

Main Report

Background

The Business of Trust is a City of London Corporation initiative which was launched by Lord Mayor Charles Bowman in November 2017. It aims to improve the trustworthiness of the UK's financial and professional services sector and create a lasting legacy of better business trusted by society. Members asked for an updated report detailing the key messages of the programme.

Ten years after the financial crisis, trust in business and financial and professional services remains low, and the public remains sceptical about the progress that has been made through a variety of government, sector and company-led reforms.

The public continues to hear and experience negative stories about financial and professional services, and many people still think that businesses are remote, detached from their lives and separate from their communities.

The City Corporation's Business of Trust initiative aims to ensure that the UK's financial and professional services sector plays an important role in supporting the wider economy and society and is recognised as trustworthy by the public.

Key Messages

The proposed key messages concerning The Business of Trust initiative are as follows:

- Public expectations of business are changing. People now expect business to deliver for society, demonstrate a human face and act transparently, and the City of London Corporation is committed to help increase responsible business practices within the financial and professional services sector.
- We must continue to re-earn the trust of society that FPS is there to serve and invest in retaining our position as the trusted cluster of choice for international businesses.
- We have developed five guiding principles (the CIVIC principles) that act as a starting point for business in embedding them in their plans and values. They are:
 - Demonstrate and build Competence and skills (**C**ompetence)
 - Act with Integrity (**I**ntegrity)
 - Create Value for society (**V**alue to society)
 - Balance the Interests of others (**I**nterests of others)
 - Deliver Clear communication (**C**ommunication)

Key Facts

The proposed key facts concerning the Business of Trust initiative are outlined as follows:

- The 2018 Edelman Trust Barometer revealed a flatline in trust across business, the media and government in the UK. Trust in business fell to 43%, while 61% trust the media and just 36% trust governments.¹ Trust in the financial and professional services sector, in particular, is low.
- While trust has improved globally in the last five years - up 11 percentage points to 54%² - in the UK Brexit uncertainty, fears over job losses and corporate relocation continue to undermine public sentiment.
- The public's rating of UK banks' performance across a number of targets reached a low of 29% in 2013.³ In 2015, only 36% of UK consumers stated that they had trust in financial services firms.⁴
- We must present the importance of the FPRS industry, as it is a national asset and employs over 2.2 million people right across the country. The financial services and related professional services sector accounts for around £87bn in tax revenues. In 2016, it accounted for over 14% of UK gross value added – more than one and a half times its share of employment (7%).
- Two-thirds of these jobs are found outside of London right across the country from Bournemouth to Edinburgh.

¹ Edelman UK Results 2018, 10

² Edelman Trust Barometer Financial Services 2017, 22-23

³ Edelman Trust Barometer 2013, 23

⁴ Financial Services Compensation Scheme and Warwick Business School, Mind the Gap: Restoring Consumer Trust in Financial Services, November 2015, 5

Further Information

- Through the 'Business of Trust' programme, the City Corporation is challenging business to improve in delivering better business, trusted by society.
- Early in 2017, an advisory group of industry leaders reviewed and distilled years of guidelines, standards and codes of conduct. The City Corporation tested these findings during the summer of 2017 through a series of focus groups. This series of day-long focus groups with the public were held in London, Nottingham and Edinburgh to help gather feedback and develop recommendations. These have further shaped the City Corporation's thinking on the steps that the sector can take to increase its trustworthiness.
- A key point from the focus groups was that stakeholders wanted consumer focused firms to be more transparent, not just in their business practices, but in how they communicate vital information to consumers and an approach where the customer was put first.
- Through the 'Business of Trust' the City Corporation will be:
 - Supporting businesses and their leaders to meet tomorrow's challenges and operate with integrity and grow their positive impact
 - Bringing the City together to explore the changing role of business in society
 - Connecting with communities to take the discussion beyond business
- To achieve this ambitious programme, the City Corporation will support the Leaders of Tomorrow – the City's next generation of leaders - to:
 - Engage with the social, political, economic and technological challenges that are impacting on trust and which the City will need to address to sustain business performance over the longer term.
 - Build the skills and understanding that will support more effective communications with the public on the role of the City and its contribution to society.
 - Build a first-rate peer network from across the sector and work with the City of London's unrivalled network of senior stakeholders.
 - The Leaders of Tomorrow were nominated by their CEOs as being leaders in their organisations, and despite being 5-10 years away from sitting on boards, had the ability to affect change within their organisations. The more than 70 members of the Leaders of Tomorrow programme are all from different companies in the Financial and Professional services sector.
 - Activities of the Leaders of Tomorrow programme involve networking events, leadership and other seminars, and mentorship.
- The City Corporation published an insight paper, "Understanding trust in business", on public perceptions of the financial and professional services in the City.
- The City Corporation needs to make sure that transparent and responsible business practices are at the heart of how the financial and professional services sector operate, and while we are not aiming to create more targets and standards for businesses, we aim to encourage inclusive leadership and long-term culture change.
- As an innovative global financial centre, the UK is recognised across the world as a leader in the development and promotion of high standards of regulation and best practice. Despite new and better regulation, the UK's financial and professional services industry has struggled to regain trust with the public since the financial crisis.

- The 'Business of Trust' will support the financial and professional services sector to demonstrate and communicate its strengths internationally and to continue and grow its positive impact.
- The City Corporation is working with businesses to promote the City of London, and wider UK, as a trusted global business centre. The UK's corporate governance regime is a unique selling point for London and helps to deliver long-term success and promote trustworthy practices.
- The City Corporation is also working hard to ensure that the UK's regulatory, governance and legal systems are fit for the future, responding to the opportunities and challenges that changing technologies present.
- The 'Business of Trust' will encourage and support businesses to deliver inclusive growth that ultimately benefits society. It will also provide opportunities for businesses based in the UK and abroad to share best practice and learn from each other's experiences and common challenges.

Trust through Diversity

- It is also important to make sure that City businesses better reflect the society they operate in - the City Corporation's research in 2017 found 87% of business people in the City surveyed did not think that their company's efforts on diversity and inclusion were having any impact at all.
- The City's continued success is based on the recruitment and retention of the brightest and best – regardless of background. Those companies that have clear purpose and align with changing values are the ones which attract talent.
- The City Corporation also recognises that the sensitive issues of pay and employee engagement often have a negative impact on how the sector is perceived – and this will be one of the biggest issues that the sector needs to address.

Ian Schofield, Media Officer

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Committee(s)	Dated:
Public Relations and Economic Development Sub-Committee	24 April 2018
Subject: Updates available to Members	Public
Report of: Bob Roberts, Director of Communications	For Information
Report author: Jan Gokcen, Corporate Affairs Officer	

Summary

This report has been prepared in response to a Member's inquiry into the means available for all Members to be updated of City of London Corporation's public statements and positions on issues of local, regional, national and international importance.

There are a number of existing products designed to inform all Members of City Corporation policies, general political developments and City Corporation positions on a daily, weekly, monthly, quarterly and ad hoc basis. Amongst other things, these include the Members' Briefing, Parliamentary Brief and Morning Media Briefing.

Recommendation

Members are asked to:

- note the report.

Main Report

1. Members are updated on City Corporation activities, positions and policies, and general developments on issues of relevance to the City Corporation through a variety of products.
2. These products include:
 - Media updates on the City of London Corporation website (<https://news.cityoflondon.gov.uk/>)
 - Morning Media Briefing;
 - Weekly Media Summary;
 - Members' Briefing;
 - Email updates from the Chairman of Policy and Resources;
 - Town Clerk's Bulletin;
 - Parliamentary Brief;
 - Reports on legislation;
 - Public Policy Bulletin;

3. They are in addition to the committee minutes of meetings produced by the Committee and Member Services team.
4. Any Member who wants to know what our position is on any subject can also contact the Director of Communications Bob.roberts@cityoflondon.gov.uk or the Head of Corporate Affairs Eugenie.denaurois@cityoflondon.gov.uk.
5. In the past, there have been requests for the Communications Team to issue “lines to take” (positions on current issues). The Director of Communications considers this would not be appropriate for the following reasons:
 - It would risk interfering with the independence of Members;
 - It would invite comparisons between the City Corporation and a political party where “lines to take” are issued by the party’s headquarters of the Chief Whip;
 - It would duplicate the work of Service Committee officers as, when necessary, “lines to take” are already communicated to Members via approved committee minutes
6. Hereby, further details on the above-mentioned communications:

- **Media updates on the City of London Corporation website**
(<https://news.cityoflondon.gov.uk/>)

In addition to a selection of latest coverage relevant to the City Corporation, further information regarding official policy positions, policy updates and the City Corporation’s various functions can be found on the City Corporation’s website. News releases can be found on the City Corporation’s newsroom.

- **Morning Media Briefing**

Circulated daily, the Morning Media Briefing outlines the City Corporation’s media coverage and the wider media landscape.

- **Weekly Media Summary**

The Weekly Media Summary highlights the key coverage of City Corporation activity each week, details selected social media engagement and major upcoming events or activities

- **Members’ Briefing**

The Members’ Briefing, issued monthly, updates Members on the City Corporation’s recent and upcoming activity, including that of the Lord Mayor, Chief Commoner, Chairman of Policy and Resources and City Corporation departments.

It includes relevant newspaper cuttings and Members can lodge enquiries at MembersBriefings@cityoflondon.gov.uk.

- **Email updates from the Chairman of Policy and Resources**

The Chairman of Policy and Resources has recently started to provide Members of the Public Relations and Economic Development Sub Committee with regular updates of strategic engagements via e-mail. In addition, Officers from Corporate Affairs, the Economic Development Office and the Office of the Remembrancer

will provide Members of the Public Relations and Economic Development Sub-Committee with regular e-mails concerning business and political engagement.

- ***Town Clerk's Bulletin***

The latest information from the Town Clerk, including diary highlights, news from across the City Corporation, and upcoming activity is circulated monthly and is available on the intranet.

- ***Parliamentary Brief***

The Parliamentary Brief, circulated weekly by the Office of the City Remembrancer, deals with the main issues arising in Parliament and City Hall as they relate to the City Corporation and its interests. The Office of the Remembrancer also provides written updates of Parliamentary business and engagement, circulated to Members on an ad hoc basis.

- ***Reports on legislation***

The Office of the City Remembrancer provides reports to service committees on legislation passing through Parliament that has a direct or indirect impact on departmental activity. These are produced in consultation with the relevant department.

- ***Public Policy Bulletin***

The Public Policy Bulletin, coordinated by the Corporate Affairs team and Office of the Remembrancer, provides timely updates on political events and/or developments of relevance to the City Corporation, responding to major political, governmental and parliamentary events.

- ***Events and Dinners***

Members attending Banquets and Committee events are provided with briefings ahead of the event, including background, speakers and policy issues and positions.

Conclusion

7. Products designed to inform Members of City Corporation policies, general political developments and City Corporation positions on issues of local, regional, national and international importance are available on a daily, weekly, monthly, quarterly and ad hoc basis.

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Committee(s):	Date:
Public Relations and Economic Development Committee	24 April 2018
Subject: Brexit legislation: Trade Bill and Taxation (Cross-Border Trade) Bill	Public
Report of: Remembrancer Report Author Philip Saunders	For Information

Summary

This report provides a brief summary of the Trade Bill and Taxation (Cross-Border Trade) Bill.

Recommendation

Member are asked to:

- note the report

Main Report

Background

1. The EU (Withdrawal) Bill was reported to PRED in February 2018. This report summarises two further Bills that form part of the current set of Brexit legislation. There are connections between the Trade Bill and the Taxation (Cross-border Trade) Bill in that they are both intended to ensure that the necessary tools are in place to deliver an independent trading framework for the UK outside of the EU.

Trade Bill

2. The Bill, which is progressing through the House of Commons, provides for the implementation of existing EU-third party international trade agreements upon the UK's departure from the EU. The Trade Bill includes a power for the Government to implement any changes to domestic law which will be necessary for the UK to meet obligations flowing from EU free trade agreements. The Bill does not make arrangements for entirely new international trade agreements.
3. The Bill is limited in scope and contains little of direct interest for the financial services sector. This is primarily because existing EU free trade agreements contain only very limited arrangements in relation to financial services.
4. The Trade Bill aims to enable the UK to provide continuity in its existing trade and investment relationships with third countries. The Bill will provide

Government with the powers to make any changes to domestic legislation that are necessary to ensure these agreements, once signed by both parties, are fully implemented and can be ratified.

5. Of interest to the City in its capacity as a port health authority, during the Bill's Commons stages the Government was challenged about future arrangements on food safety standards. Minister Greg Hands said "We are absolutely clear that all existing commitments on standards and regulations will remain when those agreements are transitioned. That is in line with our clearly articulated principle that our intent is to transition solely the existing effect of the agreements". The City proposes to follow up through correspondence with the Minister and further discussions at official level.
6. As part of the City's activity on the EU (Withdrawal) Bill but related to trade matters, Brexit minister Steve Baker offered reassurance that that the cost of mandatory veterinary checks on imported food and animal feed are fully recoverable.

Taxation (Cross-Border Trade) Bill

7. Currently VAT and excise rules are largely harmonised by rules at the EU level. This means, for example, that the rules for when the tax becomes chargeable, what the rate of VAT is, who has to pay it, and what VAT businesses can recover are currently set at EU level.
8. Often referred to as the Customs Bill, the Taxation (Cross-Border Trade) Bill provides a mechanism for a customs regime largely based on the existing EU rules and deals with tariff-related aspects of the UK's future trading framework that are covered by existing treaties. VAT and excise are two examples of areas where the Bill will allow existing regimes to continue to function whatever the outcome of the Brexit negotiations. The proposals also provide flexibility to amend the VAT arrangements between the UK and EU.
9. More broadly on matters that directly relate to customs duties, the Bill would, for example, permit the UK to impose additional duty in the event of a dispute with another country (where allowed under international law) and would allow the UK to create a duty preference system to decrease the duty paid on imports from developing countries.
10. The Bill will create a new authority, the Trade Remedies Authority, to manage the UK's trade remedies function.

Conclusion

11. At the time of writing, the two Bills are the subject of an impasse between the Government and anti Brexit Conservative MPs who support a move to oblige the Government to join a customs union with the EU. An amendment to the Customs Bill initiated by Anna Soubry (Con) has gathered limited cross-party support which, if expanded and realised, could lead to a defeat for the Government. The Government is unlikely to proceed without further negotiations with its backbenchers.

12. These two Bills are part of a suite of Brexit legislation that is intended to create a framework that enables existing UK-EU arrangements, albeit with some functional changes, to be established as part of UK law after the UK leaves the EU. The Trade Bill and Customs Bill are at close to completing their stages in the Commons and will move to the Lords over the coming weeks. Further thematic Bills on matters including fisheries and immigration will be introduced over the forthcoming year.

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Committee(s)	Dated:
Public Relations & Economic Development Sub-Committee	24 April 2018
Subject: EDO monthly update – March	Public
Report of: Director of Economic Development	For Information
Report author: Alex Greaves	

Summary

The following report provides Members with highlights of the key activity undertaken by the Economic Development Office (EDO) in March 2018.

Recommendation

Members are asked to:

- Note the content of the monthly highlights newsletters.

Main Report

1. The key activities and achievements of EDO and the wider work of the City Corporation to support financial and professional services are captured in the monthly highlights newsletters (see Annex 1). These newsletters were developed to communicate the contribution of the Corporation's financial and professional services work more effectively with key external stakeholders. For March, key points to note were:

- The welcome progress in the Brexit negotiations around the transition period as well as positive engagement by the UK government with the IRSG's proposed mutual recognition approach. The April highlights newsletter also notes the importance of questions around talent in these negotiations.
- The announcement by the Chancellor of the Exchequer of the Government's Fintech Strategy, which reflected the Corporation's calls for a Fintech Sector Deal. The Corporation also launched the Fintech Strategy Group with Innovate Finance, to be vice-chaired by the Chairman of Policy and Resources.
- The Green Finance Taskforce published its recommendations, which we will work with Government to support.
- The launch of the Corporation's 'the City as a Place for People' report. This report explores the use of innovative place-strategies to attract talent and facilitate collaboration and creativity.

2. Further information on these areas and other key activities can be found in the attached highlights newsletters. Also attached is a summary of the activities

undertaken by the Special Representative for the EU and Special Adviser for Asia in the final quarter of 2017/18.

Recommendation

3. Members are asked to note the content of the monthly highlights newsletters.

Annexes

Annex 1 – Highlights Newsletters for March and April 2018

Annex 2 – Special Representative for the EU and Special Adviser for Asia activity report

Alex Greaves

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April 2018

Dear ,

There has been significant progress by the UK and the EU in Brexit negotiations in the last month. In particular, we welcome the response of UK regulators to the transition announcement, and call on their EU counterparts to respond positively as well. The Chairman of Policy and Resources, Catherine McGuinness, noted that political commitment to transition and guidelines for trade talks 'lifts [some weight off the shoulders of firms](#) in the UK and the EU'. Particularly welcome is [the UK Government's positive engagement with the mutual recognition approach](#) promoted in the International Regulatory Strategy Group's report. We continue to promote this approach to EU and UK audiences.

Beyond transition and trade our third ask for the industry is 'talent'. The Chairman of Policy and Resources highlighted at a speech to the Investment Association that we cannot close the door on the world's best and brightest and remain a leading centre. Addressing an audience that included the Foreign Secretary and his ministerial team at the Corporation's Easter Banquet, the Lord Mayor stressed the vital role that international talent has played in the prosperity of London and the UK.

The UK continues to drive innovation and excellence. London has once again retained its top ranking in the Global Financial Centres Index, the only European centre in the top 10, and is number one in the Global Green Finance Index. The Green Finance Taskforce, chaired by the Corporation's Sir Roger Gifford, has been examining how to retain this

position. Its report, [Accelerating Green Finance](#), proposes comprehensive measures including boosting investment into cleantech and issuing a sovereign green bond.

In March we hosted the [Innovate Finance Global Summit](#), which attracted over 2000 senior leaders in the sector and saw the launch of the industry-led [Fintech Strategy Group, vice-chaired by the Chairman of Policy and Resources](#). We also welcome the Government's new Fintech Sector Strategy. This reflects many of the recommendations from our [Value of Fintech](#) report with KPMG. It establishes a new DIT Fintech Steering Board, chaired by the Lord Mayor, and a new fintech bridge agreement between Australia and the UK, building on the Lord Mayor's recent visit.

Further afield, the Lord Mayor led a business delegation to China, meeting senior members of Chinese government and business leaders to [highlight London and the UK's offer](#), particularly for the Belt and Road Initiative. In Shanghai, the Lord Mayor and the Mayor of Shanghai [re-signed our memorandum of understanding](#). At the GREAT Festival of Innovation in Hong Kong, the International Trade Secretary, Liam Fox, noted that '[the City of London \[is\] vital for developing the Golden Era of relations between our two countries](#)'. After the visit the Trade Secretary and the Lord Mayor joined forces again at the Board of Trade, held in Preston.

[Commonwealth Heads of Government](#) meet in London this month, and the Corporation will be hosting the Commonwealth Business Forum (with our partners in Government and the Commonwealth Enterprise and Investment Council) at Guildhall and Mansion House. Bringing together over a thousand heads of government, ministers, top business leaders and senior officials, the Forum will tackle critical areas for future prosperity, such as artificial intelligence, infrastructure investment, climate volatility resilience, and trust in government and business.

Kind regards,
**Catherine McGuinness, Chairman,
Policy and Resources Committee**

Kind regards,
**Charles Bowman, The Rt Hon The
Lord Mayor**

CITY OF LONDON CORPORATION



Financial and Professional Services Monthly Highlights

March 2017

Dear Alex,

We were pleased to host the Prime Minister's major speech on Brexit policy at the Mansion House, in which she addressed some of the choices inherent in the UK's post-Brexit relationship with the EU. Policy Chairman Catherine McGuinness welcomed the speech as [a step towards an ambitious free trade agreement](#), echoing proposals from the [International Regulatory Strategy Group](#) (which we support jointly with TheCityUK). This message was strengthened by the Chancellor in his speech last week which also highlighted 'the principle of mutual recognition and reciprocal regulatory equivalence' as an 'effective basis' for a UK-EU agreement. Catherine McGuinness noted that ['firms across the EU will welcome the ambitious yet achievable proposals'](#) and urged the EU to give their negotiation team the flexibility to agree a mutually beneficial deal that avoids added fragmentation and added costs to consumers. Failure to do this, she pointed out at a speech to the IBDE, will be detrimental to both Britain and the EU.

The Policy Chairman visited Poland where the Prime Minister's recent speech allowed a deeper and more insightful conversation on mutual recognition as a future mechanism for EU/UK trade. During meetings with Brexit leads within the Polish Foreign Affairs Ministry, the Finance Ministry, central bank and other key bodies, the Chairman and Special Adviser to the EU encountered openness to finding solutions

on issues such as transition, as well as a desire to understand the detail of the [model of mutual recognition](#) proposed by the IRSG.

We were also pleased to host the Business Secretary, Greg Clark, at the Business and Investment Dinner at the Mansion House. The Secretary of State [emphasised the need to secure the implementation period](#) and for tariff-free, friction-free trade, and for long-term certainty on the UK's relationship with the EU. The Lord Mayor, Charles Bowman, speaking alongside the Business Secretary, highlighted the crucial challenge of winning trust for the industry, reflecting our newly published insight paper [Understanding Trust in Business](#). He pointed to the continuing importance of welcoming international talent as well as talent from across the UK, regardless of background.

In parallel, we continue to promote the City's strengths internationally. In [a keynote speech to the New Economic Forum on his business delegation to Spain and Portugal](#), the Lord Mayor emphasised the fundamental strengths of the UK's financial and professional services sector, and the importance of trust for continuing success. Discussions with government and industry in both countries focused partly on the future EU-UK relationship. Further afield, the Lord Mayor's two-week trade delegation to Australia and New Zealand engaged with senior industry and policy leaders on [opportunities for building trade links](#), with a focus on asset management and fintech. He launched new research on [boosting our trade links with Australia and New Zealand](#) at an event hosted by the Australian British Business Chamber of Commerce.

Supporting the expansion of the UK's fintech sector continues to be a priority. [More than 50 European fintech companies gathered at Guildhall](#) to hear about the support available for the sector UK-wide, while the Corporation co-hosted a roundtable on [helping UK fintech firms to expand in India](#), with the Indian High Commission.

In fintech and across the financial and professional services sector, access to the best talent underpins London's success as a leading global finance and business centre. Speaking at a Policy Forum for London conference, the Policy Chairman emphasised that maintaining this access to talent will be a crucial part of maintaining the City's competitiveness after Brexit.

Developers and City businesses are using innovative place-strategies to attract talent and create workplaces that facilitate collaboration and creativity. Our new report – [the City as a Place for People](#) – examines how they are succeeding. Our partners in the research, the City Property Association, hosted a London launch, while the Policy Chairman hosted a seminar at MIPIM to discuss the key research findings with an international audience. She also presented the wider UK offer with Belfast, Edinburgh and Manchester.

As part of the drive to support and develop UK talent, we marked National Apprenticeship Week by launching a [series of webinars](#) in partnership with the City HR Association, Investment 2020, and the National Skills Academy for Financial Services, aimed at helping businesses to take on apprentices and use their levy payments.

Kind regards,

**Catherine McGuinness, Chairman,
Policy and Resources Committee**

Kind regards,

**Charles Bowman, The Rt Hon The
Lord Mayor**

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EDO QUARTERLY UPDATE – ENGAGEMENT PROGRAMME OF THE:
SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE FOR THE CITY TO THE EU, JEREMY BROWNE
SPECIAL ADVISER FOR ASIA, SHERRY MADERA

Special Representative to the EU programme of visit:

<u>DATE</u>	<u>COUNTRY</u>	<u>KEY INTERLOCUTORS</u>
10th-11th January 2018	Brussels	Permanent Representative of the Netherlands, MEPs, Permanent Representation of Denmark, Bundesverband deutscher Banken
16th-17th January 2018	Finland	National Coalition Party, Confederation of Finnish Industries EK and the Federation of Finnish Financial Services FK, Ministry of Finance and Financial Supervisory Authority
17th-18th January 2018	Estonia	British-Estonia Chamber of Commerce, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Department in Ministry of Finance
7th-8th February 2018	Switzerland	SIX Group, Liechtenstein Bankers' Association and Federal Department of Foreign Affairs
13th-14th February 2018	Slovenia	Slovene Banking Association, Ministry of Finance, British Slovene Chamber of Commerce
14th-15th February 2018	Croatia	Prime Minister's Office, EU Affairs Committee, Central Bank and Croatian Banking Association (CBA)
20th-21st February 2018	Brussels	Swedish Permanent Representation, MEPs, Portuguese Permanent Representation, Spanish Permanent Representation, US Mission, Austrian Permanent Representation
5th-6th March 2018	Poland	Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Warsaw Stock Exchange Centre and National Bank of Poland <i>Accompanying Chairman of Policy & Resources</i>
13th-14th March 2018	Ireland	Department of Finance, Dept Foreign Affairs & Dept of Taoiseach officials, Financial Services Ireland and British Irish Chamber of Commerce
20th-21st March 2018	Austria	Bundesministeriums für Finanzen (Ministry of Finance), Federal Ministry for Europe, Integration and Foreign Affairs and Meeting with Oesterreichische Nationalbank (Central Bank of Austria)
21st- 22nd March 2018	Romania	National Bank of Romania, Ministry of Public Finance, Romanian Businessmen's Association, Bucharest Stock Exchange and Ministry of Foreign Affairs
10th-11th April	Brussels	MEPs, UKREP, Permanent Representatives of EU Member States
19th-20th April 2018	Denmark	British Danish Chamber of Commerce, Ministry of Finance, Central Bank and Ministry of Foreign Affairs
25th-27th April	Bulgaria	Eurofi Conference

Special Adviser for Asia programme of visits:

<u>DATE</u>	<u>COUNTRY</u>	<u>KEY INTERLOCUTORS</u>
15th – 19th January 2018	Hong Kong, China	British High Commission, Asia Financial Forum, Cyberport, Hong Kong Monetary Authority, British Embassy, National Association of Financial Market Institutional Investors (NAFMII), 2 financial and professional services firms.
30th January – 2nd February 2018	India	India Advisory Council Meeting and associated financial services & FinTech roundtables, British High Commission, CBI and UKIBC, National Stock Exchange, Bombay Stock Exchange, 1 financial and professional services firm. <i>Accompanying former Chairman of Policy & Resources</i>
5th – 9th February 2018	Malaysia, Singapore	World Capital Markets Symposium, British Malaysia Chamber of Commerce, Bank Negara Malaysia, Securities Commission Malaysia, Bursa Malaysia, SGX, British High Commission, 11 financial and professional services firms.
21st – 28th March 2018	China	Shanghai Stock Exchange, AIX, CFETS, Shanghai Clearing House, Shanghai Foreign Affairs Office, DIT, British Embassy, Lujiazui Financial City, National Development and Reform Commission, China Investment Corporation, Green Finance Committee, Ministry of Finance, ASIFMA, 6 financial and professional services firms. <i>Accompanying Lord Mayor</i>
9th – 11th April 2018	Hong Kong, China	FSTB, Hong Kong Monetary Authority, Cyberport, Bo'Ao Forum.

Committee(s)	Dated:
Public Relations and Economic Development Sub-Committee	24 April 2018
Subject: Political engagement update	Public
Report of: Bob Roberts, Director of Communications	For Information
Report author: Jan Gokcen, Corporate Affairs Officer	

Summary

This report has been prepared to update Members on political activities of the City of London Corporation, including engagements undertaken on behalf of the organisation by the Chairman of Policy and Resources and the Lord Mayor.

The updates covered in this report span the period since the Public Relations and Economic Development Sub-Committee last met on 26 February 2018 until 9 April 2018.

Recommendation

Members are asked to note the report.

Main Report

The political update is presented thematically and is not ordered in terms of importance. It aims to provide an overview of developments and engagements relating to the City Corporation's public policy commitments.

Brexit

On 2 March Mansion House hosted the Prime Minister's speech on the United Kingdom's future economic partnership with the European Union. This occasion therefore allowed both the Policy Chairman and the Lord Mayor to meet the Prime Minister at Mansion House.

Domestic engagement

The Policy Chairman and the Lord Mayor spoke to the Secretary of State for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy and the Foreign Secretary at the Business and Investment Dinner and Easter Banquet respectively.

The Policy Chairman also met the Chair of the Home Affairs Select Committee, the Chair of the Treasury Select Committee and Minister for Trade and Investment.

The Lord Mayor also met the Mayor of London and the Governor of the Bank of England respectively, conducting interviews with the pair concerning the 'Business of Trust', while a meeting was also held with Lord Chancellor and Secretary of State for Justice.

International engagement

Between 4-6 March the Policy Chairman, together with the City Corporation's Special Representative to the European Union, Jeremy Browne, visited Warsaw, Poland, and held meetings with senior representatives of Polish government and business.

Between 12-15 March the Policy Chairman attended MIPIM where meetings and events were held with international business leaders and figures of UK government at local, regional and national level.

As part of the annual international engagement programme, the Lord Mayor also visited Portugal and Spain between 4-8 March. (*Press release available here: <https://news.cityoflondon.gov.uk/lord-mayor-to-promote-economic-relationship-with-portugal-and-spain/>*).

Following the visit to Portugal and Spain the Lord Mayor then visited China, meeting senior representatives of Chinese government and business between 19-27 March. A meeting with the Secretary of State for International Trade also took place during the visit. (*Press release available here: <https://news.cityoflondon.gov.uk/lord-mayor-travels-to-china-to-boost-economic-cooperation-and-trade/>*).

Upcoming: International Engagement

As part of the annual international engagement programme both the Policy Chairman and the Lord Mayor will be visiting the United States of America. The Policy Chairman will be visiting New York and Washington D.C. between 8-11 May, while the Rt Hon Lord Mayor will be visiting Boston and Chicago at a later date.

Upcoming: Commonwealth Business Forum

The Commonwealth Business Forum [CBF] is scheduled to take place between 16-18 April in Guildhall and Mansion House. It includes a political engagement programme for both the Policy Chairman and the Lord Mayor.

For the first time since 1997, the UK will host Commonwealth leaders for the 25th Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting and will take place following the CBF.

Conclusion

The period between 26 February – 12 April includes political developments and engagements of interest to the City Corporation's initiatives in public policy that are of local, regional, national and international relevance.

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Committee(s)	Dated:
Public Relations & Economic Development Sub-Committee	24 April 2018
Subject: Parliamentary activity update	Public
Report of: The City Remembrancer	For Information
Report author: Emma Wade	

Summary

The following report provides Members with highlights of key activity undertaken by the Parliamentary Team in the Remembrancer's Office since the last meeting of the Committee. During this time, the Government's centre-piece Brexit legislation, the European Union (Withdrawal) Bill, was considered in Committee by the House of Lords. The Remembrancer's Office will continue to engage with the Bill during its remaining stages, and the reports commissioned by the IRSG will 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, practical delivery of the necessary changes.

Parliament was in recess for Easter from 30 March – 15 April.

Recommendation

Members of the Public Relations and Economic Development Sub-Committee are asked to note the update.

Main Report

EU (Withdrawal) Bill

1. The EU (Withdrawal) Bill completed 11 days of Committee stage in the Lords on 28 March. An amendment on mutual market access (based on the work of the IRSG), tabled on the City Corporation's behalf by Lord Carrington and supported by Chair of the Lords EU Financial Affairs Sub-Committee Baroness Falkner, was debated on 12 March. While declining to support the clause, noting that the negotiations on detail were yet to be had, Lord Callanan, for the Government, thanked Lord Carrington for precipitating an "excellent short discussion," and stated that "the Government share the aims of the Noble Lord's amendment."
2. Six days have been timetabled for report stage in the Lords, beginning on 18 April.

3. As a consequence of the amendment tabled by Bob Neill MP in the Commons on ambulatory references in contracts, meetings have taken place with officials from DExEU and the MoJ to consider how the interpretation of contracts, prospectuses and other related documents should be approached and unwanted interference with private contractual arrangements avoided. This may result in an amendment at Report Stage in the Lords.
4. In response to the Commons amendment on the use of official commentaries in the interpretation of EU legislation, the Solicitor General has deposited a letter in the Commons' Library which explains the Government's approach. This has met the object of the amendment.

Open Spaces Act

5. Having passed its third reading on 27 February, the City of London Corporation (Open Spaces) Bill was given Royal Assent on 15 March. The Act will enable the City Corporation to manage the open spaces more effectively and provides for a new licensing scheme to control commercial activity in the open spaces. The Act will also enable the City Corporation to issue fixed penalty notices for breaches of bylaws.

Select Committees

6. The Parliamentary Team worked closely with Mansion House and EDO on preparations for the Lord Mayor's appearance before the Foreign Affairs Committee on 'Global Britain'. The evidence session took place on 27 February. The Lord Mayor was joined as a witness by Alderman Sir David Wootton in his capacity as Chair of the Mayoral Visits Advisory Committee.
7. The Office made arrangements for a City Corporation-led financial services roundtable briefing session for members of the Lords EU Financial Affairs Sub-Committee on 21 March. City representatives, led by the Policy Chairman, included UK Finance, the Association of British Insurers, the Investment Association, and legal experts from Hogan Lovells, Linklaters and the Law Society of Scotland.
8. Support was provided for the Policy Chairman's meeting with Yvette Cooper, Chair of the Home Affairs Select Committee. During the meeting, the work of the Committee, including a new inquiry into post-Brexit migration policy, was discussed.
9. The Office continued its programme of engagement with Select Committees, meeting with the International Trade Select Committee Clerk to discuss current and future Committee inquiries and ways of working together. Written evidence was submitted to the Committee on trade with Australia and New Zealand, following the Lord Mayor's overseas visit in February.
10. The Office submitted evidence to the Treasury Select Committee's inquiry on Women in Finance, following the City Corporation's signing of the Treasury's Women in Finance Charter. The City Corporation's commitment to social

mobility was emphasised, and City Corporation-led initiatives such as 'Power of Diversity' and the 'She Can Be' campaign were highlighted.

11. Evidence was drafted in conjunction with the Port Health team for a submission to an informal Lords EU Energy and Environment Sub-Committee inquiry into Brexit and food. This was not a public call for evidence, but the Office had been working closely with the Committee on their Brexit workstream, and had been asked to provide this information in advance of the Committee's session with the DEFRA Minister.
12. Written evidence has also been submitted to the Lords Home Affairs Sub-Committee on the Movement of People: Sports and Culture, emphasising the importance of access to talent to the creative industries, and to the Environmental Audit Committee on the 25-Year Environment Plan, highlighting the City Corporation's initiatives on air quality, disposable packaging and green finance.
13. The Office is making arrangements, working closely with the Economic Development Office, the Communications Team and the Policy Chairman's Office, for the Policy Chairman's appearance before the Lords EU Committee on Post-Brexit UK-EU Relations on 24 April.

Debates and briefings

14. Parliamentary support has been provided to the Economic Development Office for a briefing for MPs and Peers on the recent Green Finance Taskforce recommendations, which was well received, including by the Chair of the Lords EU Energy and Environment Committee Lord Teverson.
15. A briefing was provided for a debate on legal services. The Corporation note was used by Justice Select Committee Chairman Bob Neill MP, who spoke about the need to prioritise the legal services sector in Brexit negotiations and the sector's key asks during negotiations.
16. A briefing was also provided to Justine Greening MP for a debate on social mobility.

All-Party Parliamentary Groups

17. The office facilitated, with the APPG for London, a meeting on charity and philanthropy in London at which Alderman Gowman spoke on behalf of City Bridge Trust and highlighted CBT's new 5-year plan. Politicians heard that CBT's 'Stepping Stones' programme helped about 65 smaller charities across London. Details were given about CBT's 'Bridge to Work' scheme, designed to tackle unemployment among young, disabled Londoners.
18. Communication continues with both the China APPG and the India APPG to discuss future engagement – promoting the work of the City Corporation's Asia offices, the Special Adviser and the Lord Mayor's overseas programme.

19. Support was provided for officers from Markets & Consumer Protection, who gave evidence to the APPG for Working at Height's inquiry into injury from falls.
20. Evidence was submitted to the Skills Commission, a cross-party group of parliamentarians linked to the Skills and Employment APPG, regarding the contribution of apprenticeships and the impact of skills on social mobility.
21. Operational-level engagement has continued with officer attendance at meetings of the following Groups – Africa, Commonwealth, Inclusive Growth, and Burma. Engagement with these Groups, and others, will continue to be reported to this Committee in the usual way.

The GLA & the Regions

22. A briefing was provided to the GLA Environment Committee on the City Corporation's plastics and water bottle initiatives.
23. Evidence was submitted to the consultation on the Mayoral Economic Development Strategy.
24. The expansion of the City Corporation's regional strategy has been noted and contacts will be developed with the relevant All-Party Parliamentary Groups and, where appropriate, officers at the relevant regional centres (Birmingham, Leeds and Cardiff).

Other

25. The Office's programme of parliamentary meetings, held jointly with the Industry and Parliament Trust, continued with a dinner meeting at which the Lord Mayor spoke about his Business of Trust agenda. Joe Garner (CEO of Nationwide) was the other guest speaker. Baroness Kramer chaired the meeting. Guests were drawn from Parliament and the commercial sector.
26. Arrangements are being made for a briefing roundtable for Lib Dem frontbench MPs and Peers, titled 'Phase II: what should the UK be seeking in a Free Trade Agreement with the EU – perspectives from the financial services industry'. The meeting will take place on 25 April, and will be led by the Policy Chairman, alongside Rachel Kent from Hogan Lovells.

Emma Wade

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By virtue of paragraph(s) 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A
of the Local Government Act 1972.

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