



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

Date: THURSDAY, 11 FEBRUARY 2021

Time: 3.00 pm

Venue: VIRTUAL MEETING

Members: Deputy Catherine McGuinness (Chair)
Sheriff Christopher Hayward (Deputy Chairman)
Deputy Keith Bottomley
Tijs Broeke
Dominic Christian
Karina Dostalova
Anne Fairweather
Alderman Prem Goyal
Alderman Timothy Hailes
Deputy Jamie Ingham Clark
Alderman Vincent Keaveny
Deputy Edward Lord
Andrew Mayer
Jeremy Mayhew
Deputy Tom Sleigh
Sir Michael Snyder
Alderman Sir David Wootton

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

Accessing the virtual public meeting

Members of the public can observe this virtual public meeting at the below link:

<https://youtu.be/ZM8AOIkExqY>

This meeting will be a virtual meeting and therefore will not take place in a physical location following regulations made under Section 78 of the Coronavirus Act 2020. A recording of the public meeting will be available via the above link following the end of the public meeting for up to one municipal year. Please note: Online meeting recordings do not constitute the formal minutes of the meeting; minutes are written and are available on the City of London Corporation's website. Recordings may be edited, at the discretion of the proper officer, to remove any inappropriate material.

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 14 January 2021.

For Decision
(Pages 1 - 6)
4. **UPDATE ON 2019-20 MAYORAL THEME AND PRIORITIES FOR 2020-21**
MAYORAL THEME - LORD MAYOR ALDERMAN WILLIAM RUSSELL
Joint report of the Director of Community & Children's Services, the Assistant Town Clerk & Director of Major Projects, the Director of Innovation & Growth and the Director of Communications.

For Information
(Pages 7 - 10)
5. **IG MONTHLY UPDATE**
Report of the Director of Innovation & Growth.

For Information
(Pages 11 - 14)
6. **CORPORATE AFFAIRS UPDATE**
Report of the Director of Communications.

For Information
(Pages 15 - 18)
7. **SIX MONTH MEDIA UPDATE**
Report of the Director of Communications.

For Information
(Pages 19 - 28)
8. **PARLIAMENTARY TEAM UPDATE**
Report of the Remembrancer.

For Information
(Pages 29 - 34)
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 QUESTIONS ON MATTERS RELATING TO THE WORK OF THE SUB-COMMITTEE**

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

This page is intentionally left blank

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

Thursday, 14 January 2021

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 (Chair)	Alderman Vincent Keaveny
Deputy Keith Bottomley	Deputy Edward Lord
Karina Dostalova	Andrew Mayer
Anne Fairweather	Jeremy Mayhew
Alderman Prem Goyal	Sir Michael Snyder
Alderman Timothy Hailes	Alderman Sir David Wootton
Deputy Jamie Ingham Clark	

Officers:

Aqib Hussain	- IT
Bob Roberts	- Director of Communications
Damian Nussbaum	- Director of Innovation & Growth
Devika Persaud	- Town Clerks
Emily Garland	- Remembrancers
Emma Cunningham	- Town Clerks
Giles French	- Innovation & Growth
John Barradell	- Town Clerk & Chief Executive
Mary Kyle	- Innovation & Growth
Nick Bodger	- Town Clerks
Nigel Lefton	- Remembrancers
Paul Double	- Remembrancers
Paul Wright	- Remembrancers
Rebecca Muscat	- Town Clerks
Richard Messingham	- Communications

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Tijs Broeke, Sheriff Christopher Hayward 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 17 November 2020 be approved as a correct record.

4. **CORPORATE AFFAIRS UPDATE**

The Sub-Committee received a report of the Director of Communications concerning recent activity of the Corporate Affairs team.

The Head of Corporate Affairs provided a brief introduction to the report outlining the three major current priorities of the Corporate Affairs team; working in response to the pandemic, reporting on developments in the green finance sector, and engagement with London institutions and London Boroughs. It was acknowledged by the Chair and other Members that cross party working and collaboration, which had been positively developed during the pandemic, was especially important to ensure quick recovery of London economy and society.

It was also highlighted that the report had omitted the recent agreement to work with Cumberland Lodge finance summit which would provide an opportunity for representatives in the financial sector to come together to discuss current issues.

A Member felt that the report focused too much on the number of meetings rather than the overall goals and strategy of the engagements and neglected to include details of engagement with London Councils by other Members and Chairs, in addition to the Chair of Policy & Resources. It was agreed that this would be considered for future reports.

RESOLVED, that:-

- The report be noted.

5. **PARLIAMENTARY TEAM UPDATE**

The Sub-Committee received a report of the Remembrancer concerning recent activity of the Parliamentary team. The Remembrancer highlighted that since submitting the report, the Financial Services Bill had passed through its final stages in Parliament which provided interesting discussion of the incorporation of carbon zero emissions and ethical investing.

A Member requested an update as to the status of the Environment Bill. The Sub-Committee were informed that the Bill was yet to be timetabled but was expected to move through the House of Lords shortly.

RESOLVED, that:-

- The report be noted.

6. **IG UPDATE**

The Sub-Committee received a report of the Director of Innovation & Growth concerning recent activity of that department.

The Director of Innovation & Growth provided a short summary of the report highlighting that some key areas were emerging as key building blocks such as the FinTech Review, allowing the financial services industry to become dynamically competitive.

The Chair highlighted that she had been asked to Co-Chair the Professional and Business Services Council (PBSC) and asked for officers to provide an update to the Sub-Committee on this matter in due course.

A Member sought further information concerning the 'Innovation Ambassador' scheme outlined in the report, and the Sub-Committee heard that had been delivered in partnership with KPMG, involving 55 participants from 24 businesses, and initially aimed to be a three day programme but had become a four week part time virtual programme as a result of Covid-19. The Chair added that a great sense of enjoyment and benefit was expressed by those who took part in the programme and that future reporting should more explicitly focus on positive initiatives such as this.

Members expressed interest in the Lugano Convention and requested an update on this work. The Remembrancer stated, that while widely regarded as an important action, and seen as a competitive tool for the UK. The Chair added that this point was often being raised at industry roundtable events.

A Member enquired as to how many Members were able to attend events of these types and how these were appointed. It was clarified that standard practice was to ensure either the Chair, Deputy Chair or either Vice Chair of Policy & Resources attend to represent the City Corporation.

RESOLVED, that:-

- The report be noted.

7. CITY OF LONDON EU STRATEGY

The Sub-Committee received a report of the Director of Innovation & Growth concerning the City Corporation's EU strategy.

The Sub-Committee heard a presentation as to why engagement with the EU was so vital, due to the sheer quantum of exports and the fact that the EU is such an important standards-setter.

The Policy Chair endorsed the City Corporation's work, looking to forge positive relationship and dialogue with the EU and the City Corporation's close working with the International Regulatory Strategy Group (IRSG) and HM Treasury on this matter.

A comment was made on the number of bilateral dialogues between countries and whether more countries should be added, such as Spain or Luxembourg. The Policy Chair explained that these dialogues were ran in partnership with TheCityUK, but that there might be an appetite for practitioner to practitioner dialogue, particularly on areas such as sustainability and asset management.

A Member also raised that the financial services' key asks had not been reflected in the EU-UK Trade and Cooperation Agreement and the City Corporation should continue to make this clear to HM Government. The Director underlined strongly the fundamental need for the City Corporation to continue to engage with the EU and continue to influence at a political and technical level, through the strengthened Brussels Office. This position was endorsed by the Sub-Committee.

RESOLVED, that:-

- The report be noted.

8. INNOVATION & GROWTH UPDATE ON TECH

The Sub-Committee received a report of the Director of Innovation and Growth concerning an update on that department's work on the tech sector.

A Member accounted for the FinTech delegation to Saudi Arabia, on which he had accompanied the Lord Mayor and commented how these trips were a hugely valuable activity.

There was also a short discussion about the term "Financial and Professional Services", where some Members felt that "Financial and Related Professional Services" was a more accurate description. There was also a discussion as to whether "Financial and Technological Services" would be a more suitable option. A Member felt it important that the term also covered the expansive legal sector in some way.

RESOLVED, that:-

- The report be noted.

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

There were no questions.

10. ANY OTHER BUSINESS THAT THE CHAIRMAN CONSIDERS URGENT

There were no urgent items.

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
12

Paragraph
3

12. CULTURE & COMMERCE TASKFORCE

The Sub-Committee received a report of the Cultural & Visitor Development Director about the Culture and Commerce Taskforce.

The Director explained how the Taskforce aimed to collaborate with other London Boroughs and the Greater London Authority, and that, once launched on 9 February, it aimed to gain a wide audience and delivery partners across other London Boroughs.

RESOLVED, that:-

- The report and recommendations of the Culture & Commerce Taskforce be noted.

13. NON-PUBLIC QUESTIONS ON MATTERS RELATING TO THE WORK OF THE SUB-COMMITTEE

There were no questions.

14. 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 3.56 pm

Chairman

Contact Officer: Emma Cunningham
emma.cunnington@cityoflondon.gov.uk

This page is intentionally left blank

Committee(s)	Dated:
Public Relations and Economic Development Sub (Policy & Resources) Committee	11 February 2021
Subject: Update on 2019-20 Mayoral Theme and priorities for 2020-21 Mayoral Theme – Lord Mayor Alderman William Russell	Public
Report of: Andrew Carter, Director of Community & Children's Services Peter Lisley, Assistant Town Clerk & Director of Major Projects Damian Nussbaum, Director of Innovation & Growth Bob Roberts, Director of Communications	For Information
Report author: Bijel Thakrar, Head of Projects & Delivery, Mansion House	

Summary

Following the re-election of The Rt Hon The Lord Mayor, Alderman William Russell this report provides an update on the 2019 – 2020 Mayoral Theme *Global UK – Trade, Innovation and Culture*. It also sets out the 2020 - 2021 Mayoral Theme ***Global UK – The New Future***.

Global UK – The New Future focuses on the changed business, social and economic environment due to COVID-19 and the UK's exit from the European Union, and seeks to connect through Trade, Innovation and Culture.

The theme supports the delivery of a number of the outcomes in the City of London Corporation's Corporate Plan 2018-23, Corporate Strategies and Departmental Business Plan Objectives. *Global UK – The New Future* delivers through:

- Supporting Through the Crisis, Speeding Up the Recovery and Seizing New Opportunities for the Financial & Professional Services (FPS) sector across the City, London and the UK to ensure a strong and resilient economy emerges and continues into the future
- Growing trade and investment opportunities, promoting Free Trade Agreements and restoring and building confidence in investment for the City London and the UK
- Championing innovation to scale up our offer in Fintech and Green Finance within a sustainable and green City
- Promoting a rich and vibrant cultural and creative economy, showcasing the City, London and the UK as a great place to learn, work and visit.

Recommendation

Members are asked to note the progress on the 2019-2020 Mayoral Theme and note the priorities for the 2020 – 2021 theme as set out in this report.

Main Report

Background

1. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Lord Mayor's theme was updated to reflect the changing external environment. As a result, the Lord Mayor is committed to 'Supporting (businesses) through the crisis, Speeding up recovery and Seizing the opportunities of the new future'.
2. In support of the FPS sector across the City, London and the UK, the Lord Mayor convened a COVID-19 Recovery Group with senior executives from FPS organisations to discuss the challenges and opportunities faced by the sector. The meetings provided invaluable insights on what City firms were doing in response to the crisis and were joined by the Permanent Secretary for the Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS) and the Director General of the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS).
3. In supporting businesses and strengthening international engagement, the Lord Mayor and the Chair of Policy & Resources (CPR) have led a Virtual Engagement Programme (VEP). Through the VEP they have engaged with key FPS firms in the UK and abroad to understand how our strategic partners were responding to COVID-19 and to assess the UK's competitive strengths. Holding over one hundred bilateral meetings with businesses, regulators and government across the UK and globally, this programme emphasised the importance of these relationships both in the UK and overseas.

Trade

4. The Lord Mayor has conducted several virtual visits to key markets including USA, China, Germany, Japan, Singapore, Australia, Switzerland, India and Saudi Arabia. In December 2020, the Lord Mayor undertook a physical visit to Qatar, the first since March 2020 focusing on inward investment and green finance.
5. The Lord Mayor's USA and Saudi Arabia virtual visits resulted in progress around investment into Fintech – including venture capital investment – as a result of the US visit and engagement with Lord Grimstone and the Department of International Trade (DIT) following the Saudi Arabia visit.
6. In October 2020 the Lord Mayor spoke alongside UK Chancellor at the UK-India Investing for Growth Forum as part of the 10th UK-India Economic and Financial Dialogue. The impact of this resulted in the City Corporation being cited several times in the Joint Statement from by the Chancellor of the Exchequer and the Finance Minister of India.
7. Developing UK partnerships for trade, the Lord Mayor continues to build long term partnerships with key FPS centres across the UK, and has undertaken visits to both Manchester and Leeds focused on Fintech in North, and the Lord Mayor recently met with the Scottish Investment Bank.
8. In September 2020, the Lord Mayor was re-appointed to the Board of Trade (BoT) at a critical juncture for UK trade policy negotiations. The Lord Mayor attended the first

BoT in October and has subsequently met with Tony Abbott, Advisor to the BoT, and the Minister for Trade. The Lord Mayor has been appointed to support workstreams on Industrial Revival, Green Trade Strategy, Digital and Data and Commonwealth Trade. The City Corporation will provide input into these workstreams via Innovation & Growth.

Innovation

9. In November, the Lord Mayor hosted the Green Horizon Summit in collaboration with Mark Carney and the Green Finance Institute to promote sustainable finance, the journey to COP26 and secure commitments from financial institutions towards a net zero economy.
10. The Summit was a global gathering of over 100 political leaders, financial regulators, CEOs and green finance practitioners, hosted by the Green Finance Institute and City of London Corporation, supported by the World Economic Forum. Headline speakers included HRH Prince of Wales, Mark Carney (UN Special Envoy for Climate Action and Finance), Chancellor of the Exchequer, Secretary of State for Business and COP26 President, Managing Director of the International Monetary Fund and the President of the European Central Bank.
11. The Summit had an audience of over 300,000 people from over 90 countries and social media views of over one million, the Summit provided an opportunity for private financiers and policymakers to discuss the role of green finance in driving post-COVID-19 growth on the road to COP26 and demonstrated the UK's leading role in sustainable finance.
12. The Lord Mayor continues to support the progress of the Independent Review of UK Fintech commissioned by HM Treasury, helping to establish the next steps for Fintech in the UK, to ensure London remains a global leader.

Culture

13. In promoting a rich and vibrant cultural and creative economy, the Lord Mayor is showcasing the City, London and the UK as a great place to live, learn, work and visit through his domestic and international engagement.
14. In October the Lord Mayor launched the Culture and Commerce Taskforce, convening senior leaders, across a range of sectors, to identify the ways in which culture and commerce can work together to support the regrowth of the creative sector and strengthen the City's competitiveness. Members are focusing on five workstreams including space and infrastructure, skills and talent, digital innovation, skills, business investment and international trade. The Taskforce will report in February with a set of innovative recommendations. The report will inform and be informed by the City Corporation's Recovery Taskforce.
15. A successful virtual Fusion Cities Conference was held in October 2020 and run in two global time zones attracting a large number of international partners across business, academia and culture, including the World Economic Forum. This was the second of a three-year cycle of events. The first provided the vision for fusion skills, the event in 2020 focused on delivering systematic change and the third in 2021 will look at accessibility of fusion skills for all.

16. In showcasing the value of culture, the Lord Mayor has also hosted three Cultural Conversations, in partnership with the Genesis Foundation, which have focused on a range of themes and included high-profile panellists, reaching virtual audiences of over five hundred at each event.
17. As part of the focus on culture, the Lord Mayor will continue to support the Prison Voluntary Sector in growing their outreach, ensuring this sector can thrive following the crisis. Working in partnership with the charity Clinks, the Lord Mayor is supporting the establishment of a Voluntary Sector Coordinator role to provide management of third sector activities and initiatives within prisons. In partnership with the Corbett Network and others, the Lord Mayor is convening several companies across sectors to work with prisons and rehabilitation charities to employ returning citizens.

Future Priorities

18. *Global UK - The New Future* will advance in the first quarter of 2021:
- Supporting, Speeding and Seizing the recovery: Support for the Reopening of the City in Spring/Summer 2021. In a range of recent business engagement by the Lord Mayor, it has become increasingly clear that there is a route through the COVID-19 pandemic (subject to HMG's trajectory) to the 're-opening' of The City in its widest sense, around Spring/Summer 2021. Making the most of this moment is essential to boost confidence in the return of normality for workers, visitors and residents; and in the unique cluster of firms and business activities that define the Square Mile, to both local and global stakeholders.
 - Trade: Contribute to the workstreams for the Board of Trade and increase physical domestic and international trade visits (subject to COVID-19 restrictions)
 - Innovation: Build momentum on the road to COP26 and secure commitments from financial institutions towards a net zero economy.

Corporate and Strategic Implications

19. *Global UK - The New Future* will continue to drive the City Corporation's vision of a '*vibrant and thriving City, supporting a diverse and sustainable London within a globally-successful UK*' and its aim to '*contribute to a flourishing society, shape outstanding environments and support a thriving economy*'. The Theme will continue to support the delivery outcomes 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 10 and 11 within the Corporate Plan.
20. The Mayoral Theme and its activities will continue to link to the following existing strategies within the City Corporation: Innovation and Growth Regional Strategy; Cultural Strategy; Culture Mile Strategy; Visitor Destination Strategy; Education, Culture & Creative Learning and Skills Strategy; Responsible Business Strategy; Social Mobility Strategy; Sport and Physical Activity Strategy; Bridging Divides Strategy, Climate Action Strategy, City Bridge Trust and Towards a Sustainable Future Strategy.

Financial and Resourcing Implications

21. Existing departmental budgets will be used to deliver the activities outlined in this Mayoral Theme.

Bijel Thakrar

Head of Projects & Delivery, Mansion House

E: bijel.thakrar@cityoflondon.gov.uk

Committee	Dated:
Public Relations & Economic Development Sub-Committee	11 February 2021
Subject: IG monthly update – February	Public
Report of: Damian Nussbaum, Director of Innovation & Growth	For Information
Report author: Emily Bryan, Executive Officer, Innovation & Growth	

Summary

The following report provides Members with highlights of the key activity undertaken by the Innovation & Growth Directorate (IG) in January 2021. The activities covered documented in this report focus largely on those lead by the IG team. Activities undertaken in partnership with other teams and departments are also included and have been appropriately termed. Each area of activity is linked back to the objectives outlined in the IG Business Plan.

Recommendation

Members are asked to:

- Note the progress of IG workstreams.

Main Report

The highlights are structured around our four core objectives:

Innovative Ecosystem

1. The UK-India Sustainable Finance Forum met for the first time. The Indian government revealed they have adopted several actions we recommended, including developing a sustainable finance strategy and expediting work on a local taxonomy. We will continue to progress practical actions with UK and Indian govts ahead of the G7 (D10) and COP26 later in the year.
2. The innovation team launched its report on the Innovation Ambassadors pilot programme. The report outlines the four-week virtual legal innovation programme, the teams' challenge-led solutions and next steps. Read the report: <https://www.theglobalcity.uk/resources/innovation-ambassadors>.

World Class Business Environment

3. The newly established taxonomy subgroup of the IRSG ESG workstream met in January. Members discussed what the UK would have to do to translate the current EU taxonomy into UK law. There was agreement that, in the short term, the IRSG ask should be for HMT to adopt as far as possible the EU taxonomy

and to share with HMT the IRSG's understanding of the issues that need to be addressed to make it work in practice.

4. Research has launched our major competitiveness report "Our global offer to business: London and the UK's competitive strengths in a challenging world". We benchmark the UK's offer to financial and professional services against other business centres such as the US, Singapore, or Hong Kong. London and the UK perform consistently well with the strongest overall competitive offer. The UK's world-leading competitiveness is built on longstanding strengths accelerated by a commitment to innovation. But the research also highlights opportunities and areas for improvement. Please find all report findings on The Global City website (theglobalcity.uk/competitiveness) and share widely with your networks.
5. 550 people signed up to the above launch event, the report's findings were picked up by many media outlets including the Financial Times. We also had more than 800-page visits on our Global City website over one weekend, with people spending a longer-than-average 4 minutes and 12 seconds on the report pages.
6. The IRSG has produced a paper for key areas of focus in financial services for the UK's presidency of the G7 this year, entitled, '[Financial services priorities for the UK's G7 presidency](#)'. It advocates four areas of focus: global regulatory coherence for pandemic recovery; leadership on climate agenda ahead of COP26; digital policy continuity, including digital taxation; and alignment with G20 global policy priorities. The recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic, climate change and digital agenda will all be central to the UK's presidency and the IRSG recognises the importance of the UK of demonstrating global leadership on these vital issues by fostering international cooperation. With this financial services roadmap for UK's G7 presidency, the IRSG aims to ensure that the presidency tackles the most pressing challenges for the global economy.
7. As notified at the September PRED, HM Treasury and BEIS have commissioned CoLC to lead an independent taskforce. The taskforce aims to boost socio-economic diversity at senior levels across UK financial and professional services. This taskforce has been led by evidence. Research authored by the Bridge Group, shows that employees from lower socio-economic backgrounds progress 25% slower than peers, with no link to performance. These employees are exhausted by efforts to conform to dominant cultures, impacting individual performance.
8. The taskforce will be led by a Strategy Steering Group; Catherine McGuinness, and three Co-Chairs: Alderman Vincent Keaveny, Sandra Wallace and Andy Haldane. The first Strategy Steering Group meeting was held on 19th January, with representatives from BEIS and HM Treasury in attendance. The group advised on taskforce appointments and discussed the desired impact, outputs and metrics of the taskforce. There are three workstreams of the taskforce, supported by delivery partners, PwC, Deloitte, MyKindaFuture.

9. The first taskforce meeting will be on 10th May 2021, attended by Lord Grimstone (Minister for Investment jointly at DIT and BEIS). 30 senior level individuals will be recruited onto the taskforce, drawn from nearly 80 written expressions of interest.

Future work

10. As part of our focus on future international competitiveness of key City sectors, we plan on working on a report on the Future of the London Market. Our framework partner would be Aon to give a global/US perspective, but we would also look to bring in views from HMT, Lloyd's, a major underwriting firm, trade bodies and parliament. Themes are likely to include the protection gap, the role of data, climate and sustainability, London's standing as an international hub, the domestic commercial insurance agenda, and skills and diversity. The target audience of this report would be current and future global investors in and clients of the London Market, as well as policymakers and regulators. The report would not explicitly lobby on regulation or legislation, but rather present arguments and collateral for the continued significance, relevance and re-invention of the London Market, benefitting the City, the UK and the world.

**Emily Bryan | Executive Officer
Innovation and Growth**

emily.bryan@cityoflondon.gov.uk | 020 7332 3600

This page is intentionally left blank

Committee(s): Public Relations and Economic Development Sub-Committee	Date(s): 11 February 2021
Subject: Corporate Affairs Update	Public
Report of: Bob Roberts, Director of Communications	For Information
Report author: Richard Messingham, Head of Corporate Affairs	

Summary

This report provides an update of the Corporate Affairs Team's activities in supporting the City of London Corporation's strategic political engagement.

Since the last report in January the focus has continued to be on responding to the worsening COVID 19 pandemic and the impact of lockdown on the City and the wider business sector. We have urged the Government to keep the public health measures under evidence-based review, calling for support for businesses and cultural institutions as well as ensuring we are doing all we can to speed the recovery. Much of this activity has involved working closely with London stakeholders including the GLA, London Councils and the 32 London Boroughs.

Following the UK's departure from the EU single market at the end of 2020, much of the activity detailed in the report has been focussed on engaging with the Government and political stakeholders to ensure the financial and professional services sector is able to shape the UK's new regulatory regime. Looking ahead to the rest of 2021, the Corporate Affairs Team has been focussed on preparing for the year's key inter-governmental events – the UK's Presidency of the G7 and the UN Climate Change Summit (COP26) in Glasgow in November.

The activities documented in this report focus largely on those led by the Corporate Affairs Team, but they are delivered with the support of several teams across the Corporation for which we are grateful. Each area of activity is linked back to the objectives outlined in the Communications Business Plan. The timeframe of this report spans the period lapsed between the previous and current meetings of this Sub Committee.

Recommendation(s)

Members are asked to note this report.

Main Report

Domestic Political Engagement

Ministerial and opposition spokespeople engagement

1. The Corporate Affairs Team has delivered the following activity to engage and build relationships with ministers, opposition spokespeople and their advisers during this period:
 - a. Worked with colleagues in the Innovation and Growth team to write the City Corporation's submission ahead of the Budget in March.
 - b. Arranged a letter to the City Minister about the negotiations with the EU on the Memorandum of Understanding.
 - c. Helped with the joint lobbying effort with neighbouring boroughs on the amount of the discretionary grant funding received from the Government.
 - d. Organised letters of congratulations following new ministerial and peerage appointments.
 - e. Sent a letter to Chair of the Northern Research Group of MPs, Jake Berry, suggesting a meeting on the financial and professional services sector's role in facilitating levelling-up across the UK.
 - f. Invited the City Minister to attend the forthcoming launch of the RegTech report and worked with the Regulatory Affairs team on political engagement on it.
 - g. Engaged with the Skills Minister, Digital Minister and their opposition party shadows on the relevant recommendations of the Benchmarking report.
 - h. Continued preparations for political engagement on the Total Tax report and the Report of the Culture and Commerce Commission.
 - i. Collated briefing for the Policy Chair and Lord Mayor's meeting with Lord Grimstone.
 - j. Supported the Regulatory Affairs team with their preparations for the launch of the Trade Ecosystem report, where the keynote speaker is Trade Minister Greg Hands MP.
 - k. Continued discussions with think tanks including Onward and the Institute for Government on partnerships for forthcoming events.
 - l. Continued with preparations for the City Corporation's involvement at the autumn party conferences and considered options for City Corporation events at the 2021 spring conferences.
2. Following the decision of the Policy and Resources Committee to accept the recommendations of the Tackling Racism Taskforce to remove and re-site statues within the Guildhall associated with slavery, the Chair of Policy and Resources has written to Robert Jenrick, the Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government and Oliver Dowden, Secretary of State for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport to brief them on the reasons for the decision.

London engagement

3. The Corporate Affairs Team seeks to actively maintain and develop the Corporation's engagement with political stakeholders, think tanks and other bodies across London. As part of this work, the team have:
 - a. Met regularly with Nickie Aiken, Member of Parliament for the Cities of London and Westminster
 - b. Grow and build on relations with Leaders and political advisers across the 32 London Boroughs, supporting the Chair of Policy and Resources in this engagement. Recent engagement included recent meetings with the Leaders of Barnet, Bexley, Camden, RBKC, Brent, Bromley, Lambeth, Hackney and Islington. Meetings with other Borough leaders will take place in the coming weeks and months
 - c. Provided briefing for the Policy Chair for her pan-London COVID meetings, including the London Transition Board, London Recovery Board, the London COVID Business Forum and the Business Reopening Strategy Group.
 - d. Ensure close working relationship with the GLA and London Councils, ensuring that they are appropriately updated on the City Corporation's work.
 - e. Organised a letter to pan-London political stakeholders highlighting the wider recommendations of the Tackling Racism Taskforce Report.
 - f. Continued to provide additional communications advice to officers and the operational working group established to manage the removal and re-siting of unsuitable statues identified by the P&R report.
 - g. Continued to engage and support the COLC and Guy Fox Publishing project to commission a Children's book on the City of London
 - h. Provided support to the Superintendent of Epping Forrest on political engagement with Stella Creasy MP regarding anti-social behaviour in Epping Forrest
 - i. The chair of the Hampstead Heath, Highgate Wood & Queen's Park committee corresponded with political stakeholders relating to charges for use of the Hampstead Heath ponds

Sport

4. The Sport Engagement Manager continues to oversee research work being carried out by partners into the impact of the pandemic on sport and leisure in the City and the importance of this provision to any recovery. He is also managing the research project led by Ernst and Young looking into the potential economic and soft power benefits to the UK of hosting major sport events. It is hoped the findings will be presented to Members at the next meeting of the Sub-Committee.
5. Plans for future sport related celebrations are also being developed, including events at Guildhall. However, it is recognised that there may be some potential for disruption this year owing to the pandemic. Other potential areas of sport related work for the Sport Engagement Manager to oversee this year are being developed, including the role of sport and physical activity in the City's recovery plans. A full update will be provided to Members on these proposals and future sport engagement activity at the next meeting of this Sub-Committee.

Priorities for the next quarter

6. Priorities for the Corporate Affairs Team over the next four months are:
 - a. Continuing a plan of engagement for the Policy Chair and Lord Mayor with key Ministers, political spokespeople, devolved and regional government leaders across all parties.
 - b. Supporting the Policy Chair in her engagement with London Government - Mayor and borough leaders - focussing on speeding London's recovery.
 - c. To consider opportunities for physical events when possible at the 2021 Autumn Party Conferences.
 - d. Support the Corporation with political intelligence and relationship building as the UK changes its formal relationship with the EU and moves to increase its engagement with international rule setting organisations such as the WTO and in anticipation of the UK's role as Chair of the G7 in 2021.

Corporate & Strategic Implications

7. Engaging with political stakeholders, organising events associated with the party-political conferences and working with the thinktanks and other third-party organisations to produce events and associated policy reports provides an opportunity for the Corporation to engage with key audiences on important global, national and local government issues and to demonstrate the Corporation's involvement in relevant debates. Sponsorship and political engagement would also help deliver outcomes 2 – 10 of the 2018-23 Corporate Plan.

Implications

8. The Corporate Affairs Team has an established budget for all party conference and engagement related activity. Any think-tank memberships and sponsorship of ad-hoc policy projects are currently funded via the Policy Initiatives Fund according to decisions of the Policy and Resources Committee.

Appendices

None

Richard Messingham
Head of Corporate Affairs

T: 07592 329093

E: richard.messingham@cityoflondon.gov.uk

Committee(s): Public Relations and Economic Development Sub (Policy & Resources) Committee	Dated: 11/02/2021
Subject: Public Relations and Economic Development Sub (Policy & Resources) six-month media update	Public
Which outcomes in the City Corporation's Corporate Plan does this proposal aim to impact directly?	[insert relevant number(s) from Corporate Plan outcomes listed below]
Does this proposal require extra revenue and/or capital spending?	N
If so, how much?	
What is the source of Funding?	
Has this Funding Source been agreed with the Chamberlain's Department?	
Report of: Bob Roberts, Director of Communications	For Information
Report author: Aisha Musad, Media Office Assistant	

City's Corporate Plan

Contribute to a flourishing society

1. *People are safe and feel safe.*
2. *People enjoy good health and wellbeing.*
3. *People have equal opportunities to enrich their lives and reach their full potential.*
4. *Communities are cohesive and have the facilities they need.*

Support a thriving economy

5. *Businesses are trusted and socially and environmentally responsible.*
6. *We have the world's best legal and regulatory framework and access to global markets.*
7. *We are a global hub for innovation in finance and professional services, commerce and culture.*
8. *We have access to the skills and talent we need.*

Shape outstanding environments

9. *We are digitally and physically well-connected and responsive.*
10. *We inspire enterprise, excellence, creativity and collaboration.*
11. *We have clean air, land and water and a thriving and sustainable natural environment.*
12. *Our spaces are secure, resilient and well-maintained*

Summary

This report summarises the media output from the City of London Corporation's Media Team between July and December 2020.

It shows there have been 1,583 articles relating to the City of London Corporation in national and local newspapers with the advertising value equivalent of £6,269,360. This is up £1,020,514 from the previous six months.

We have also tried to add some qualitative analysis of the media coverage in this report.

Recommendation(s)

Members are asked to note the contents of this report.

Main Report

Background

1. The Weekly Media Summary produced every Friday measures and records the main print, broadcast and digital media output of the Media Team. It is distributed to Members and senior officers.
2. This report collates and summarises the findings of the Weekly Media Summary from July 2020 to December 2020.

Current Position

Print

3. There have been over 1,583 articles relating to the City of London Corporation in national, regional and local newspapers in the six months covered by the report.
4. Advertising Value Equivalent (equivalent if we paid for coverage) is £6,269,360 (this excludes radio, TV broadcasting and international print coverage).
5. Additionally, there have been at least 163 articles in international media which are not collated by our cuttings agency.

Broadcast

6. There have been at least 14 pieces of broadcast media coverage including *BBC London News*, *BBC Radio 4 news*, *BBC Radio 5 news* and *BBC Radio 4's Today Programme*.

Digital

7. The corporate Twitter feed now has 50,489k followers - Up by 1,198 in the last six months.
8. Our corporate Facebook pages have 94,728 followers- Up 5,016 in the last six months.
9. Our corporate LinkedIn page now has 21,855 followers. By comparison, the Greater London Authority has 18,700 and Westminster has 13,625 followers.
10. The most visited page on the corporate website between July and December 2020 was Hampstead Heath with 221,936 views.

Options

11. None.

Proposals

12. None.

Key Data

13. See current position.

Subject and Qualitative Analysis:

14. COVID-19

The majority of coverage achieved was around COVID-19. Both internationally and nationally, the Lord Mayor and Policy Chair were frequently quoted and interviewed in major media such as the *Financial Times*, *City A.M.*, *Reuters*, *Financial News*, *BBC Radio*, *Yahoo News!*, *The New York Times*, *Bloomberg*, *Evening Standard*, *CNN*, *City Matters*, *Guardian*, *The Times*, *The Sunday Times*, *The Daily Telegraph*, *The i*, *Property Week*, and *The Sun*.

Property Week ran an opinion piece from the Chair of the Planning and Transportation Committee, on the City's adaptability and resilience through the COVID-19 pandemic. The Planning Chair was also interviewed by *EGI* further highlighting the continuing resilience of the City in attracting developers and investors.

Qualitative analysis: Coverage was factual and neutral in tone, with generally straight reporting of the City Corporation's positions on major issues such as return to the workplace and in communicating government guidelines to the public and key stakeholders.

However, the tone was largely downbeat about the City's immediate future due to the restrictions requiring people to work from home.

15. UK-EU relations

Widespread coverage of Policy Chair Catherine McGuinness' response to the UK-EU trade deal, including in *The Daily Telegraph*, *Wall Street Journal*, *Evening Standard*, *Yahoo! Finance*, *Le Monde*, *L'Echo*, *El Confidencial*, *Le Temps*, *Reuters*, *FE News*, *Yahoo! News*, *City Matters*, *Asia Times*, *Asia insurance Post*, *Head Topics Singapore*, *One America News Network*, *Morning Star*.

The coverage in both domestic and international media carried the City Corporation's position, with interviews and statements from the Policy Chair issued at key moments during the negotiations

Qualitative analysis: Coverage was factual in tone but negative regarding the outlook for City after exiting the European Union.

Much of the coverage reflected the fact that financial services had not carried as much influence in the negotiations as other sectors.

16. Climate Action strategy

Coverage on the Climate Action Strategy and the City of London Corporation's commitment to achieve net zero carbon emissions across the City was included in a number of national, London and trade media outlets including the *Financial Times*, *Bloomberg*, *City A.M*, *Financial News*, *Business Green*, *City Matters*, *Private Equity News*, *FutureNetZero* and *London Loves Business*.

Qualitative analysis: Coverage was positive in tone with media reporting the City Corporation's aim to reduce net carbon emissions in the Square Mile to zero by 2040, a decade ahead of Government targets. However, the scale of the coverage was less than we would have hoped for given the importance of the strategy.

17. Tackling Racism Taskforce

- a. Coverage on the City of London Corporation's launch of a three-month consultative exercise on cultural landmarks with historic links to racism and slavery was included in a number of national, international and London media outlets including *BBC London News*, *Evening Standard*, *The Times*, *Daily Mirror*, *LBC News*, *BBC News*, *Daily Mail*, *CNN*, *The Independent*, *The i*, *Financial News*, *Londonist*, *MyLondon*, *New York Times*, *Reuters*, *Financial News*, *City A.M* and *City Matters*. Andrien Meyers and Caroline Addy, Co-Chairs of the City Corporation's Tackling Racism Taskforce, were quoted in some of the coverage.
- b. *The Times*, *BBC News* and *Daily Mail* reported that the Sir John Cass's Foundation Primary School, the City of London Corporation's maintained school, changing its name to The Aldgate School. Caroline Addy, Co-Chair of the Tackling Racism Taskforce, was quoted.
- c. Coverage was included in *The Independent* and *Londonist* in a piece looking at the City of London Corporation's research paper, *Black and Asian Women in the City of London 1600-1860*. Co-Chair of the City of London Corporation's Tackling Racism Taskforce, Caroline Addy, was quoted.
- d. Andrien Meyers, Co-Chair of the City of London Corporation's Tackling Racism Taskforce was quoted in the *Financial Times* about the City of London Corporation's support for the Charter for Black Talent in Finance and the Professions, which aims to drive up representation of black people in senior positions in the finance and professional services sectors.

Qualitative analysis: Coverage was neutral in tone with balanced reporting – often placed in the context of the national debate around landmarks with links to slavery. Although mainly neutral in tone, the coverage has sent the message we are taking strong action on tackling racism and boosting diversity and inclusivity. This message has been disseminated to a very wide audience.

Note that coverage analysis of the January 20201 decision by the Policy and Resources Committee to remove and re-site statues of two prominent figures in the City of London with links to the Transatlantic slave trade will be provided in the next report to this committee.

17. London Recharged

Media coverage of the City of London Corporation's 'London Recharged' report featured in a front-page *Financial Times* story and an editorial in the same outlet. Further coverage in *Sky News*, *Bloomberg*, *The Sun*, *Evening Standard*, *Sunday Telegraph*, *City A.M.*, *Financial News* and many online outlets. The Policy Chair also wrote in *City A.M.* about the report.

Qualitative analysis: Overwhelmingly positive coverage in the *Financial Times* spread across different parts of the newspaper, including an editorial describing it as a “vibrant vision of the City of London’s future”.

19. Planning and Transportation:

City AM reported the number of planning applications in the City of London in November exceeded pre-pandemic levels, showing investor confidence in the district. Chair of the Planning and Transportation Committee, Alastair Moss, was quoted. Further coverage in *City Matters*, *Building Design*, *Construction Enquirer* and *Building*.

The *Evening Standard*, *City A.M*, *City Matters* and *MSN* reported on how the City of London Corporation is relaxing elements of the al fresco dining policy, in an attempt to help hospitality venues through the winter. Chair of the Planning and Transportation Committee, Alastair Moss, and Chairman of the Licensing Committee, Sophie Fernandes, were quoted.

City A.M, *Estates Gazette*, *City Matters*, *Logistics Today* and The World News Monitor reported on the City Corporation partnering with Amazon Logistics to transform part of an underused carpark into the Square Mile’s first Last Mile Logistics Hub. Planning and Transportation Chair Alastair Moss was quoted.

The *Financial Times* wrote an article about the City of London Corporation’s creation of a virtual reality map of the Square Mile. Chair of the Planning and Transportation Committee, Alastair Moss, was quoted. Further coverage achieved in *Estates Gazette*, *City Matters* and *PlaceTech*.

The Times mentioned the City of London Corporation in relation to a decision by London's mayor Sadiq Khan to block plans for the 1,000ft (305m) Tulip tower proposed for Bury Street. Further widespread coverage including *City A.M*, *BBC News*, *Guardian*, *Daily Mirror*, *Telegraph*, *Times (£)*, *ITV News*, *Daily Mail*, *Evening Standard*, *Daily Mirror*, *Metro*, *Financial News (£)*, and *Bloomberg*.

Qualitative analysis: Largely positive coverage with a focus on innovative measures taken, such as the Amazon Last Mile Logistics Hub and virtual reality planning tool.

Data showing that planning applications had returned to their pre-pandemic peak was well received given it ran contrary to the short-term negativity about the City office market. There was some criticism of the decision to grant approval to the Tulip following the Mayor of London rejecting the scheme, prior to the public inquiry starting.

20. Education

Extensive coverage was achieved in national, London and local media on reports that four A-Level students from Newham Collegiate Sixth Form won places at Ivy League universities and scholarships worth £1 million. The school is part of the City of London Academies Trust. Coverage was included in *The Times*, *BBC Radio London*, *Financial Times*, *Daily Mail*, *Metro*, *Daily Express*, *The Sun*, *Evening Standard*, *Newham Recorder*, *BBC London News* and *ITV London News*.

Coverage of the successes of A-Level and BTEC students from the City of London Academies Trust were further celebrated in a number of media outlets including *Good Morning Britain*, *The Sun*, *The Guardian*, *The Daily Telegraph* and *New Statesman*.

The *Evening Standard* and *City A.M.* reported on the City of London Corporation providing Square Mile schoolchildren with food vouchers during half-term break. The Policy Chair was quoted.

Qualitative analysis: Coverage on exam results was positive, with a strong focus on individual ‘success story’ case studies. Reporting often positioned the City of London Academies Trust schools as a vehicle for social mobility for young Londoners. This included four teenagers from Newham Collegiate Sixth Form Centre who achieved offers from Ivy League universities and scholarships worth £1 million (*The Times*), and a City of London Academy Highbury Grove pupil who was one of a handful of youngsters from low-income backgrounds to receive a Rothschild and Co bursary which will pay for her degree expenses (*Islington Tribune*).

21. Open Spaces:

a. Reopening Hampstead Heath

News on the reopening of Hampstead Heath’s swimming facilities following COVID-19-enforced closure appeared in over 650 media outlets across the UK and globally, including *The Guardian*, *LBC News*, *ITV*, *Sky News*, *Daily Mail*, *Evening Standard*, *New York Times Post* and *Swimmers Daily*. Anne Fairweather, Chair of the City Corporation’s Hampstead Heath Management Committee, was interviewed and quoted in most of the coverage.

Qualitative analysis: Coverage was overwhelmingly positive and included wide reporting of measures put in place by the City Corporation to protect swimmers. This included limiting numbers, staggered sessions, deep cleaning, a new online-booking system and specialist training for lifeguards. *The Guardian* reported one swimmer as saying they felt “really safe”.

b. New swimming charges at Hampstead Heath

Coverage of the introduction of compulsory charges at Hampstead Heath swimming ponds was featured in national and local media outlets including *BBC Radio London*, *Telegraph*, *Yahoo News!*, *Evening Standard* ITV London and *Ham & High*.

Qualitative analysis: Although reporting was generally balanced, coverage was usually negative and carried criticism from campaigning swimming groups opposed to the charges. This included claims of a negative impact on vulnerable, low-income and LGBT+ swimmers (various); of a "coronavirus cash grab" (*Daily Telegraph*); and that the City Corporation was "killing our culture" (*Evening Standard*).

c. Finsbury Circus opens

The Londonist and *Horticulture Week* reported on the reopening of London's first public park, Finsbury Circus Gardens, after over a decade of closure due to Crossrail. A story about the winner of an architecture design competition to generate proposals for the space was also covered in a number of London and trade media including *City A.M*, *Architects Journal*, *Estates Gazette*, *BD online*, *Building News*, *Building*, *Horticulture Week*. and *City Matters*.

Qualitative analysis: Coverage was positive, with reporting focusing on the City Corporation's vision for a biodiverse, 21st century park which respects the historic nature of the site.

d. Illegal fungi foraging

Extensive coverage about recent prosecutions at Epping Forest for illegal fungi foraging was included in national, London and regional media outlets including *The Telegraph*, *The Times*, *The Metro*, *BBC London*, *Daily Mirror*, *The Sun*, *City Matters*, *Epping Forest Guardian* and *the Yorkshire Post*. Chairman on the Epping Forest and Commons Committee, Graeme Doshi-Smith, was quoted in most of the coverage.

Qualitative analysis: Coverage was positive, presenting the City Corporation as an effective conservator of the ancient woodland and its complex biodiversity.

e. Visitor numbers on Epping Forest

BBC Radio Essex ran an interview with Jeremy Dagley, Head of Conservation at Epping Forest, to discuss the news that Epping Forest saw a 250% increase visitor numbers during the COVID-19 lockdown. Further coverage was included in *Horticulture Week*.

Qualitative analysis: Coverage was positive, showcasing Epping Forest as an important site for Londoners' physical and mental health during the pandemic.

f. Awards

Horticulture Week and *Newham Recorder* reported that the City Corporation won seven awards in this year's 'London in Bloom' Awards. Chairman of the City of London Corporation's Open Spaces and City Gardens Committee, Oliver Sells QC, was quoted in both pieces.

Coverage was also included in *Ham & High*, *Newham Recorder*, *City Matters*, *Epping Forest Guardian*, *Windsor Observer* and *Slough Observer* about the City's parks and green spaces that have been awarded Green Flag Award status, recognising them as some of the best managed open spaces in the world.

Qualitative analysis: Coverage was positive, positioning the City Corporation as a major green spaces provider in London and South East England.

22. City Bridge Trust:

Widespread coverage was received in London and trade media including interviews on BBC Radio London on a City Bridge Trust grant to Islington-based Octopus Community Network to tackle food poverty, and on the funder's work with The Prince's Trust. Regular coverage in local media such as the Islington Gazette, East London Advertiser, Sutton & Croydon Guardian and South London Press included stories on grants to Access Sport, to deliver inclusive sport, and Reaching Higher, to boost the life prospects of vulnerable young people.

City Bridge Trust has taken a leading role in helping charities and communities through Covid-19 through more flexible funding, small grants to existing grantees and over £15 million allocated to the London Community Response Fund (LCRF). This work was widely reported, including a double-page interview with the City Bridge Trust Committee Chairman in Charity Times and coverage in Gay Star News – one of the leading LGBT media outlets – of £1 million funding for LGBT charities through the LCRF.

Qualitative analysis: Grant-based coverage was positive, with media interventions aligned to priorities outlined in City Bridge Trust's Bridging Divides funding strategy.

Media coverage on the London Community Response Fund showcased the organisation's role in supporting charities during the pandemic.

23. Overseas visits:

There was UK national, London and widespread international coverage of the Lord Mayor's virtual visits to international markets including Australia, Japan and North America.

Qualitative analysis: Coverage was factual focusing on trade ties in areas such as green finance and fintech, with a focus on how the UK is trying to strengthen links with other markets as it exited the European Union. The City's relationship with China attracted some criticism in the context of Hong Kong and human rights.

24. Freedom of the City

Coverage was included in *BBC TV London*, *BBC Radio London*, *Evening Standard* and *City Matters* about the Freedom of the City of London for four members of frontline staff and the Chief Executive of St. Barts Hospital, in recognition of their work during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Qualitative analysis: Coverage was positive, carrying a tribute from the Lord Mayor and the City Corporation to the St Bart's staff and all NHS key workers.

25. Arts and Culture

Evening Standard, *City Matters*, *The Stage* and *Broadway World* reported on Guildhall Art Gallery's exhibition, Noël Coward: Art & Style, which profiles the personal style of the celebrated playwright, actor, singer, composer and director. Chair of the City of London Corporation's Culture, Heritage and Libraries Committee, Wendy Hyde, and Principal Curator of Guildhall Art Gallery, Liz Scott, were quoted in some of the coverage.

Qualitative analysis: Coverage was positive, providing Guildhall Art Gallery with London and national prominence.

26. Lord Mayor's Show

Coverage about the announcement of the cancellation of the Lord Mayor's Show was featured in several London-based and national media outlets, including *Evening Standard*, *The Daily Telegraph*, *Metro*, *City A.M.*, *City Matters*, *Financial News*, *LBC* and *Bloomberg News*. The Lord Mayor, Policy Chair, Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Lord Mayor's Show Ltd and Pageantmaster of the Lord Mayor's Show were frequently quoted.

Qualitative analysis: Coverage was neutral and carried important public safety messaging.

Other coverage achieved:

27. Foster Lane Centre

Marianne Fredricks, Chair of the City of London Corporation Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Committee was interviewed on *BBC Radio 4's The Patch*, as part of a documentary on the YHA hostel in St Pauls. The programme had also been previewed in *The Guardian*.

Qualitative analysis: Reporting was balanced and neutral, bringing the City Corporation's efforts support for the Square Mile's homeless population to a national audience.

Conclusion

28. Members are asked to note the contents of this report.

Appendices

None

Aisha Musad

Media Officer Assistant, Town Clerks Department

T: 020 7332 3328

E: aisha.musad@cityoflondon.gov.uk

Committee(s)	Dated:
Public Relations and Economic Development Sub-Committee	11 February 2021
Subject: Parliamentary Team Update	Public
Report of: Paul Double, City Remembrancer	For Information
Report author: William Stark, Parliamentary Engagement Officer	

Summary

This summary updates Members on the main elements of the Parliamentary Team's activity in support of the City of London Corporation's political and Parliamentary engagement since the last update in January 2021. Given continued national Coronavirus restrictions, Parliament continues to sit using a mix of virtual and in-person proceedings, with much reduced physical presence at the Palace of Westminster. Owing to limited virtual participation facilities, Westminster Hall debates and Private Members' Bill Friday sittings in the Commons and Lords have been suspended.

The summary is written with reference to the top line Parliamentary objectives and deliverables of the Remembrancer's Office. For the Committee's reference, these are set out in the appendix.

Recommendation

Members are recommended to note the report.

Main Report

Legislation Pertaining to the UK's Future EU Relationship (Objective 1)

1. Legislation in several areas is particularly affected by the UK's departure from the EU, examples include:

Trade Bill – At the time of writing, the Bill is shuttling between Commons and Lords. Currently, disagreements remain over the extent of parliamentary scrutiny of trade deals and whether trade deals should be curtailed where a court has determined that a state has committed genocide.

Financial Services Bill – This framework Bill's objective is to ensure that the UK's regulatory framework continues to function effectively for the UK after leaving the EU. The Office provided a Second Reading briefing to a number of MPs in the Commons and a separate briefing to Peers for the recent Second Reading in the Lords. The Office facilitated the Policy Chair's oral evidence session to the Public Bill Committee.

Corporation legislation (Objective 2)

2. The Emissions Reduction (Local Authorities in London) Bill, which had its First Reading in the Lords on 13 January 2020, still awaits a date for Second Reading following the disruption to parliamentary business caused by the pandemic. The Bill creates discretionary powers for London's local authorities to control emissions from combustion plants where the air quality in their area exceeds World Health Organization Guidelines and they choose to declare their area an 'air quality improvement area'. Following the suspension of proceedings on the Environment Bill as noted in the following paragraph, the possibility of progressing the Private Members Bill in the Lords has been investigated. At the time of writing this possibility has been terminated owing to a decision not to hold Friday Private Members' Bill sessions. The situation is being monitored.
3. Consideration of the Environment Bill has been postponed to the next parliamentary session, following a carry-over motion in the Commons. The delay has been attributed to pressures on the parliamentary timetable and changes to parliamentary procedure as a result of the pandemic. In liaison with London Councils, the Chair of the Policy and Resources Committee and the Chair of the Port Health and Environmental Services Committee, the Office is planning to table new clauses to the Bill in the Lords, mirroring the provisions of the Emissions Reduction (Local Authorities in London) Bill if the Lords' Private Members' Bill referred to in the previous paragraph cannot progress.
4. Work continues in respect of the Private Bill required to enable the relocation of the Corporation's wholesale markets to the new site at Dagenham Dock. Substantial support is being given to the programme directorate in collating and building the evidence basis and support for a bill promotion.

Parliamentary and Government Inquiries (Objective 3)

5. The Office has submitted the following pieces of written evidence to Select Committees since the last report:
 - to the International Trade Committee's inquiry into Digital Trade and Data.
 - to the Lords EU Services Sub-Committee's inquiry into the future EU-UK relationship in trade in services.
 - to the Lords EU Good Sub-Committee's inquiry into the future EU-UK relationship in trade in goods. The short submission highlighted port health concerns regarding increases in checks on goods and training of new staff.
 - A submission to the APPG on the Night Time Economy, setting out the City Corporation's approach to the night time economy, and measures to support local hospitality businesses during the pandemic.
6. Assistant Commissioner for Economic and Cybercrime at the City of London Police Angela McLaren gave evidence to the Treasury Select Committee as part of their inquiry into economic crime. The session focused predominantly on fraud, with Assistant Commissioner McLaren responding to questions on the

implementation of the Government's economic crime plan, the performance of Action Fraud and the implementation of recommendations made in the Craig Mackey report. Further written evidence is likely to be provided to the Committee in due course.

7. Managing Director of the City's Brussels Office, Nick Collier, and Chief Executive of TheCityUK Miles Celic gave evidence to the Lords EU Services Committee as part of its inquiry into trade in services in the context of the EU-UK Trade and Cooperation Agreement. The session covered a number of issues, from the preparedness of the sector for the end of transition, to the financial services MoU under negotiation. Peers were particularly interested in the panel's views on equivalence.

Responding to Issues Raised in Parliament and Enhancing Parliamentary Engagement (Objectives 4 and 5)

8. The Office contacted a number of parliamentary stakeholders to promote the release of the 13th edition of the Total Tax Contribution (TTC) report. An embargoed copy of the report was provided to relevant committee chairs, with the report distributed to a wider group of parliamentarians upon publication. The report's findings will be used regularly in parliamentary briefings to highlight the contribution of the FS sector to the UK's economy and tax income.
9. MPs were provided with a full briefing ahead of a general debate on Global Britain. The briefing covered a wide range of areas, including trade, international regulatory coherence, climate leadership and the City Corporation's contribution to the UK's soft power.
10. Selected Peers were provided with a briefing ahead of the Second Reading of the National Security and Investment Bill. The briefing set out the City Corporation's general position on the Bill and signposted briefing materials prepared by a range of City stakeholders for the assistance of contributors.
11. Peers were provided with a briefing ahead of the Second Reading of the Financial Services Bill. The briefing set out the City Corporation's position on the Bill and relayed more general City views as reported in briefing materials prepared by City stakeholders.
12. City MP Nickie Aiken received a response to her written question on the impact of the end of the transition period on port health authorities. The question was tabled following concerns raised with her by the Office in consultation with Port Health.
13. Former Lord Mayor Lord Mountevans was provided with a briefing on the role of the Armed Forces in supporting Global Britain ahead of a debate on the matter. The briefing noted the City Corporation's long association and support for the Armed Forces and proposals for the Lord Mayor to engage with HMS Queen Elizabeth as part of his overseas visits programme.

14. The Office prepared other briefings for MPs and peers since the last report:
 - to Peers ahead of a question on the UK's ambitions for its presidency of the G7. The briefing reflected a recent IRSG paper considering financial services priorities for the UK's G7 presidency.
 - to Peers ahead of a question on the Government's tree planting. The briefing set out the City Corporation's tree custodian role at Burnham Beeches, Epping Forest, in the City and elsewhere and set out the need for the consideration of habitats, climate and biodiversity goals in tree planting targets. The City Corporation's views on the role of wood pasture and slow-growing, long-lived landscape trees in sequestering carbon were raised by Baroness Walmsley.
15. The Team arranged an introductory meeting between City Police Authority Board Chairman James Thomson and City MP Nickie Aiken. Mrs Aiken expressed an interest in visiting the City Police when circumstances allow and has offered to help support the issues of concern to the force in Parliament.
16. The Office contacted a number of parliamentary stakeholders to promote the release of the first in a series of reports on the UK-US Regulatory Relationship. The report was well received by members of the British American Parliamentary Group and led to the proposal of the City Corporation supporting an APPG on Financial Markets and Services webinar on a US-UK Trade deal later in the year. A meeting has been arranged for March to discuss this proposal.
17. The Office collaborated with colleagues in IG to identify key parliamentary stakeholder as part of the promotion of the IRSG's recent report on FS priorities for the UK's G7 presidency this year.
18. The Team met with the secretariat of the China APPG to discuss priorities for the coming year.
19. The Office is in correspondence with the SNP Westminster office to organise a roundtable this month regarding civic leadership and green finance in the transition to net zero.

GLA and the Devolved Institutions (Objective 6)

20. The Office prepared a briefing for the Policy Chair ahead of her appearance before the London Assembly's EU Exit Working Group to discuss the City's reaction to the EU-UK Trade and Cooperation Agreement. The session discussed the scope of the TCA, what it meant for services, and the importance of the UK and EU forging a strong working relationship to address issues of shared concern in the future.
21. The Office joined a meeting between officers from the City Corporation's Climate Action Strategy programme and London Assembly Member Nicky Gavron (Lab) to discuss the scope of the programme with regard to planning,

open spaces and the build environment. The meeting followed on from the informal briefing session held with the Policy Chair and the London Assembly's Environment Committee on the Climate Action Strategy.

Key priorities over the next month

22. The Chancellor will deliver his Budget statement on 3 March and, working with Corporate Affairs, the Team will issue a Public Policy Bulletin to Members and Officers summarising the key announcements.
23. Submissions from the City Corporation will be drawn up for the Treasury Committee's inquiry into the future of financial services, the HCLG Committee's inquiry into planning, the Lords International Agreements Sub Committee's inquiry into UK Accession to the CPTPP and the EFRA Committee's inquiry into moving animals across borders.
24. Work will continue in support of the markets' relocation programme and the introduction of a private bill. Work on the Lords' Private Members Bill will re-engaged if the opportunity arises.
25. The Office will work to support the case for UK access to the Lugano Convention and other rule of law issues relevant to the City in liaison with the International Law Committee and the related professional bodies.
26. While social distancing guidelines remain in place, preventing face-to-face meetings, engagement with parliamentary stakeholders will remain predominantly online.

The Parliamentary Team
City Remembrancer's Office
11 February 2020

Appendix: Parliamentary Team Objectives

1. Propose amendments or new clauses to Brexit-related legislation to reflect Corporation views and report on the progress of such legislation to Members.
2. Draft and secure the passage through Parliament of Corporation legislation, with a particular focus on securing legislation on relocating the City's markets and gaining support for the provisions included in a Private Member's Bill on air quality.
3. Make submissions to Parliamentary committee inquiries into relevant Corporation issues in collaboration with the Economic Development Office (now Innovation and Growth) and other Departments.
4. Respond to any issues or concerns raised in Parliament in either debates or tabled questions through briefing relevant MPs and Peers.
5. Enhance Parliamentary engagement through direct contact with members of both Houses on key issues and with relevant All-Party Parliamentary Groups.
6. Enhance engagement with the Greater London Assembly and the devolved institutions on matters of interest to the City through briefings and submissions to relevant inquiries.