



## Public Relations and Economic Development Sub-Committee

**Date:** THURSDAY, 6 NOVEMBER 2014

**Time:** 12.00 pm

**Venue:** COMMITTEE ROOM - 2ND FLOOR WEST WING, GUILDHALL

**Members:**

|   |                             |
|---|-----------------------------|
| Mark Boleat (Chairman)                  | Oliver Lodge                |
| Deputy Douglas Barrow (Deputy Chairman) | Jeremy Mayhew               |
| Deputy Michael Cassidy                  | Deputy Catherine McGuinness |
| Roger Chadwick                          | Ian Seaton                  |
| Deputy Alex Deane                       | Tom Sleigh                  |
| Simon Duckworth                         | Sir Michael Snyder          |
| Sophie Fernandes                        | Alderman Sir David Wootton  |
| Stuart Fraser                           | Alderman Alan Yarrow        |
| Wendy Hyde                              |                             |

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Lunch will be served in Guildhall Club at 1PM  
**NB: Part of this meeting could be the subject of audio video recording**

**John Barradell**  
Town Clerk and Chief Executive

# AGENDA

## Part 1 - Public Agenda

1. **APOLOGIES**
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 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2014.  

**For Decision**  
(Pages 1 - 4)
4. **CITY OF LONDON CORPORATION: PARTY CONFERENCE ACTIVITIES**  
Report of the Director of Public Relations.  

**For Decision**  
(Pages 5 - 12)
5. **TRANSPARENCY OF LOBBYING, NON-PARTY CAMPAIGNING AND TRADE UNION ADMINISTRATION ACT 2014**  
Report of the Remembrancer.  

**For Information**  
(Pages 13 - 16)
6. **REPUTATION OF THE CITY OF LONDON IN THE MEDIA**  
The Director of Public Relations to be heard.  

**For Information**
7. **POLITICAL AND BUSINESS CONTACT PROGRAMME - EVENTS REPORT**  
Joint report of the Director of Public Relations and the Director of Economic Development.  

**For Information**  
(Pages 17 - 22)
8. **UPDATE AND FORWARD LOOK AT THE CITY OF LONDON'S ECONOMIC RESEARCH PROGRAMME**  
Report of the Director of Economic Development.  

**For Information**  
(Pages 23 - 26)

9. **UPDATE AND FORWARD LOOK ON THE ACTIVITIES OF INTERNATIONAL REGULATORY STRATEGY GROUP (IRSG)**  
Report of the Director of Economic Development.

**For Information**  
(Pages 27 - 32)

10. **REVIEW OF EU ENGAGEMENT STRATEGY**  
The Chairman to be heard.

**For Information**

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

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

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## PUBLIC RELATIONS AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT SUB-COMMITTEE

Thursday, 3 July 2014

Minutes of the meeting of the Public Relations and Economic Development Sub-Committee held at the Guildhall EC2 at 3.15 pm

### Present

#### Members:

|   |                             |
|---|-----------------------------|
| Mark Boleat (Chairman)                  | Oliver Lodge                |
| Deputy Douglas Barrow (Deputy Chairman) | Jeremy Mayhew               |
| Roger Chadwick                          | Deputy Catherine McGuinness |
| Sophie Fernandes                        | Ian Seaton                  |
| Stuart Fraser                           | Alderman Sir David Wootton  |
| Wendy Hyde                              | Alderman Alan Yarrow        |

#### Officers:

|                         |                                  |
|-------------------------|----------------------------------|
| John Barradell          | Town Clerk and Chief Executive   |
| Christopher Braithwaite | Town Clerk's Department          |
| Paul Sizeland           | Director of Economic Development |
| Isabelle Almeida        | Economic Development Office      |
| Tony Halmos             | Director of Public Relations     |
| Greg Williams           | Public Relations                 |

### 1. **APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence were received from Alex Deane, Tom Sleigh and Sir Michael Snyder.

The Town Clerk reported that representatives of Quiller, the City Corporation's Political Affairs consultants, were present at the meeting and the Chairman invited the representatives of Quiller to contribute to the meeting as appropriate.

The Town Clerk reported that briefing notes on the Chairman's recent visits to Shanghai and Paris had been put around the table for Members' information.

### 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 8 May 2014 be approved as a correct record subject to the inclusion of Alderman Alan Yarrow on the list of those present at the meeting, and the inclusion of Sophie Fernandes on the list of those giving their apologies for absence at the meeting.

4. **LONDON BOROUGH AND EUROPEAN ELECTIONS 2014 - RESULTS**

The Committee considered the report of the Director of Public Relations which provided details of the results of London Borough Elections in May 2014, and provided the opportunity to discuss the implications of the results of these Elections and the European Elections in May 2014 on the work of the City Corporation.

Members particularly discussed the implications of Labour's strong performance in Elections in London, the challenges facing the UK in working with the new EU Parliament, the implications of the likely appointment of Jean-Claude Juncker as President of the European Commission, and the potential appointees as the UK's EU Commissioner.

**RESOLVED** – That the Sub-Committee notes the report.

5. **SCOTTISH INDEPENDENCE REFERENDUM - SEPTEMBER 2014 - POTENTIAL IMPLICATIONS FOR THE CITY OF LONDON**

The Sub-Committee discussed the potential implications for the City of London of the upcoming Scottish Independence Referendum, which would take place on 18 September. The City Corporation continued to remain neutral on the issue.

Quiller explained that after gathering some momentum during the spring, polls indicated that the campaign in favour of independence appeared to have stagnated, and it was currently expected that the vote would be in favour of Scotland remaining as part of the UK.

6. **FINANCING EUROPE'S INVESTMENT AND ECONOMIC GROWTH REPORT**

The Sub-Committee considered a report of the Director of Economic Development which introduced a report by John Llewellyn Consulting (initiated by the International Regulatory Strategy Group's (IRSG's) Anglo-French Committee on financing growth and investment in Europe.

The Director of Economic Development explained that the proposals in the report from John Llewellyn appeared to have support from the European Commission, and demonstrated an excellent example of the strong working relationship that had been developed with French colleagues. It was thought that this work would be a useful example of the strong working relationships that can be developed between the UK and other countries.

A Member explained that he was surprised that there was no direct mention of European Long Term Investment Funds. The Director of Economic Development explained that there was an additional annex to the report from John Llewellyn Consulting which may include information on these Funds, and he would discuss this with the Member following the meeting.

**RESOLVED** – That the Sub-Committee notes the report.

7. **UPDATE AND FORWARD LOOK ON THE ACTIVITIES OF INTERNATIONAL REGULATORY STRATEGY GROUP (IRSG)**

The Sub-Committee considered the report of the Director of Economic Development which provided Members with an update on the work of the IRSG since the Committee's last meeting.

The Chairman commented that the report provided further examples of the excellent working relationship that had been developed with French colleagues.

The Director of Economic Development explained that in addition to the report, a draft consultation response from the IRSG to the Government's balance of competences consultation on "Economic and Monetary Union" had been circulated to the Sub-Committee prior to the meeting for comments. Two Members noted that they had commented on the draft directly to the Director of Economic Development. The final response would be provided to Members of the Sub-Committee.

**RESOLVED** – That the Committee notes the report.

8. **REVIEW OF THE EU ENGAGEMENT STRATEGY**

The Sub-Committee discussed the City Corporation's EU Engagement Strategy. The Chairman explained that this would be a standing item for discussion at all future meetings of the Sub-Committee, but there were no changes required to the Strategy at this point.

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 Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act.

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

There were no questions.

13. **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 urgent items.

**The meeting closed at 3.45 pm**

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Chairman

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| <b>Committee:</b><br>Public Relations and Economic Development Sub-Committee   | <b>Date:</b><br>6 November 2014 |
| <b>Subject:</b> City of London Corporation: Party Conference Activities  | <b>Public</b>                   |
| <b>Report of:</b><br>Director of Public Relations  | <b>For decision</b>             |
| <b><u>Summary</u></b>  |                                 |
| <p>Every autumn the UK political parties hold annual conferences to debate issues, set out policy priorities, and engage with key stakeholders and party activists. The 2014 party conferences provided the City Corporation with an opportunity to engage with the main political parties by promoting its work among a wide range of stakeholders; developing and strengthening the political contacts programme with both local and national politicians; and enhancing internal understanding of the likely policy evolution of the different parties. The City Corporation hosted a high-quality programme of activities at the conferences of the three main parties, including fringe events and policy-focused dinners. Planning has now begun for the 2015 party conferences. In the light of Members' feedback, a number of operational issues are being reviewed by the PR Office to improve the City Corporation's activities in 2015. In particular, it is to be decided whether the City Corporation should continue to host fringe events at the conferences.</p> |                                 |
| <b><u>Recommendation</u></b>   |                                 |
| <p>The Sub-Committee is recommended to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>(i) note the information about the City Corporation's activities in 2014;</li><li>(ii) agree to the general approach set out for the delivery of the City Corporation's activities in 2015; and</li><li>(iii) decide whether fringe event meetings should be included as part of the City Corporation's activities at the 2015 party conferences and throughout the next Parliament.</li></ul>   |                                 |

## **Main Report**

### **Background**

1. The City of London Corporation hosts events at the Liberal Democrat, Labour and Conservative Party conferences every year. This traditionally entails a public fringe event early on the Monday evening, and then a private dinner later on the same evening. These events provide the City Corporation with the opportunity to engage with a wide range of stakeholders.
2. The fringe events are typically attended by around 50-100 people, ranging from policy and industry experts, councillors, MPs and Party members, and have been held on a wide range of topics, including the economy, international affairs, and employment and skills. The panellists are typically

comprised of leading journalists, high-profile MPs, and figures from the think tank and business worlds.

3. The dinners take the form of private discussions, sometimes with a theme with a guest speaker. Attendees include representatives from London Boroughs, MPs, MEPs, government and opposition front benches, London Assembly Members and senior figures from think tanks.

### **Labour Party Conference – Manchester – 22 September**

4. The fringe meeting at Labour conference was organised in conjunction with the New Local Government Network (NLGN), a think tank which focuses primarily on local government issues; it was held in Manchester Town Hall. The fringe's theme was how local government and businesses can work together at a local level to deliver skills.

Title: Economies of skill – the local role in the skills debate  
Chair: Emma Burnell (NLGN)  
Panellists: Cllr Sue Murphy (Deputy Leader, Manchester City Council)  
Kevin Rowan (Head of Organisational Services, TUC)  
Sir Robin Wales (Mayor of Newham)  
Stephen Timms MP (Shadow Employment Minister)  
Mark Boleat (Policy Chairman, City of London Corporation)

Despite producing a thoughtful discussion on devolution, training and employability, the fringe was attended by only 25-30 people. This can be explained in part by the fact that NLGN, which was a good partner, helped to organise the event at short notice, owing to a previous partner think tank's withdrawal at a late stage. Moreover, attendance was affected by the fringe clashing with Labour's main business reception.

5. The dinner at Labour conference – held in Manchester Art Gallery – was organised in partnership with the Social Market Foundation (SMF); it featured as speakers a number of potential candidates for the Labour nomination for Mayor of London. While the dinner venue's acoustics were not particularly good, nor suited to plenary discussion (which was further exasperated by the unilateral decision of the chair to initiate an impromptu question and answer session), the food and overall arrangements for the dinner were successful. Key guests attending the dinner included:

- Diane Abbott MP (MP for Hackney North & Stoke Newington)
- Lord Adonis (Shadow Infrastructure Minister)
- Lord Harris of Haringey (Chair of Police APG)
- Sir Peter Hendy (Transport for London Commissioner)
- Cllr Peter John (Leader of London Borough of Southwark)
- Sadiq Khan MP (Shadow Minister for London)
- Claire Kober (Deputy Chair of London Councils)
- David Lammy (MP for Tottenham)
- Joanne McCartney (Chair of London Assembly Police & Crime Committee)

- Cllr Tony Newton (Leader of London Borough of Croydon)
- Cllr Lib Peck (Leader of London Borough of Lambeth)
- Jules Pipe (Chair of London Councils)
- Professor Tony Travers (Director of LSE London)
- Cllr Richard Watts (Leader of London Borough of Islington)

### **Conservative Party Conference – Birmingham – 29 September**

6. The fringe meeting at Conservative conference was organised in conjunction with the Institute for Economic Affairs (IEA); it was held in the Jury's Inn on Broad Street. The theme was London's competitiveness.

Title: Keeping London competitive – what needs to be done?  
 Chair: Mark Littlewood (Director General, IEA)  
 Panellists: David Gauke MP (Financial Secretary to the Treasury)  
 Dr Gerard Lyons (Chief Economic Adviser to the Mayor of London)  
 Lord Flight (Director of Metrobank)  
 Mark Boleat (Policy Chairman, City of London Corporation)

The fringe was attended by almost 100 people and produced a wide-ranging discussion including housing, tax, regulation and infrastructure. The Jury's Inn proved a satisfactory venue for the fringe and the IEA a good partner organisation.

7. The dinner at Conservative conference was held in Birmingham Town Hall; it was attended by a wide range of guests from the various strata of Conservative politics. Given the size of the venue, the number of attendees was significantly greater than in previous years. While the food and dinner arrangements proved to be a success and generated a great deal of good will among attendees (witnessed by the number of subsequent favourable communications received by the PR Office), the size of the event was in hindsight too large. Key guests attending the dinner included:

- Harriet Baldwin MP (PPS to Minister for Employment)
- Cllr Victoria Borwick AM (Deputy Mayor of London)
- James Cleverly AM (Chairman of LFEPA)
- Cllr Richard Cornelius (Leader of London Borough of Barnet)
- Mark Field MP (MP for Cities of London & Westminster)
- Lord Flight (Member of House of Lord EU Select Committee)
- Dominic Grieve MP (MP for Beaconsfield)
- Bernard Jenkin MP (Chairman of Public Administration Select Committee)
- Ramsey Jones (Special Adviser to the Prime Minister)
- Sir Edward Lister (Chief of Staff to the Mayor of London)
- Dr Gerard Lyons (Chief Economic Adviser to the Mayor of London)
- Bob Neill MP (Conservative Party Vice Chairman for Local Government)

- Matthew Pencharz (Senior Adviser to the Mayor of London on Environment & Energy)
- Cllr Philippa Roe (Leader of the City of Westminster)
- Alok Sharma MP (Conservative Party Vice Chairman for BME communities)
- Andrew Tyrie MP (Chairman of the Treasury Select Committee)
- Baroness Verma (Energy & Climate Change Minister)
- Veronica Wadley (Senior Adviser to Mayor of London on volunteering & charities)
- Sheridan Westlake (Special Adviser to Eric Pickles)

### **Liberal Democrat Conference – Glasgow – 6 October**

8. The fringe event at Liberal Democrat conference was organised in partnership with CentreForum and took place in the SECC's Boisdale Room. The theme was business policy.

Title: A manifesto for business – what should it include?  
 Chair: Tom Papworth (Associate Director, CentreForum)  
 Panellists: Duncan Hames MP (PPS to the Deputy Prime Minister and Vice Chair of the Liberal Democrat's Manifesto Group)  
 Vicky Pryce (former chief economist, Department for Business, Innovation & Skills)  
 Julia Goldsworthy (former Special Adviser to Danny Alexander MP)  
 Mark Boleat (Policy Chairman, City of London Corporation)

The fringe was attended by around 80 people and produced a good discussion on infrastructure, immigration, tax and European integration. The SECC was an adequate venue (there are limited alternatives) and CentreForum again proved to be a good partner organisation.

9. The dinner at Liberal Democrat conference was held at the Hotel du Vin Glasgow, which worked well as a venue; it featured a discussion focussed on education, skills, Crossrail 2, housing and Europe. Key guests attending the dinner included:
  - Cllr Ruth Dombey (Leader of London Borough of Sutton)
  - Michele Dix (Managing Director of Planning, TfL)
  - Baroness Falkner (Lords Spokesman for Foreign Affairs)
  - Baroness Ludford
  - Maajid Nawaz (PPC for Hampstead & Kilburn)
  - Baroness Northover (Government Spokesperson for Culture, Media & Sport and International Development)
  - Lord Paddick
  - Caroline Pidgeon AM (Leader of London Assembly Liberal Democrat Group)
  - Terry Stacy (Political Adviser to the Liberal Democrat Group on London Councils)
  - Mike Tuffrey (Chair of the London Liberal Democrats)

- Lord Wallace (Government Whip)

## **Budgets**

10. The total cost of the City Corporation's activities at the three party conferences in 2014 was £55,833.00. This compares with approximately £46,000 in 2013; the increase in costs in 2014 is due to the significant increase in the size of and venue hire for the Labour and Conservative dinners. The breakdown of expenditure is as follows:

- Fringe events: £15,904
- Dinners: £16,129
- Accommodation: £9,600
- Conference Passes: £9,100
- Travel: £5,100

## **Role of Fringe Events in Future City Corporation Activities**

11. Feedback from Members who attended one or more conferences suggests that there are doubts about the value-for-money and usefulness of the City Corporation sponsoring and/or hosting fringe meetings at the party conferences in 2015 and subsequently throughout the next Parliament.
12. There are essentially three arguments in favour of fringe meetings: first, they give a public face to the City Corporation's presence at the conferences; second, they provide a forum for debate about City issues which could be filled by rival bodies if the City Corporation were not so doing; and, third they promote the City Corporation's messages on key issues to the respective parties. These arguments are countered by the fact that publicity for City Corporation fringe events tends to be minimal amongst the hundreds of meetings in the listings and the question of whether fringe events are, in fact, the most effective way of promulgating messages to key audiences (even if the meeting is well-attended, which over the years they usually have been).
13. Members are asked to decide whether fringe event meetings should be included as part of the City Corporation's activities at the 2015 party conferences and throughout the next Parliament. Three possible courses of action are available to the City Corporation at each party conference:
- a) Cancel fringe meetings altogether and seek to engage with key audiences primarily through the City Corporation dinner and related activities of the Policy Chairman; or
  - b) Cancel fringe meetings and instead organise a roundtable discussion, for example over a working lunch, on a relevant theme (with similar key speakers as hitherto at the fringes); or
  - c) Continue with the existing model of fringe meetings as part of the existing envelope of City Corporation activities, while reviewing where necessary the theme(s) of fringe meeting to increase attendance.

## Framework for Party Conference Activities in 2015

14. Preparations are already well underway for the 2015 party conference seasons with plans for the City Corporation's activities already put in place (subject to the decision of your Sub-Committee on paragraph 13). These party conferences will be particularly important given they will be the first conferences after the 2015 General Election and may include the election of new party leaderships. The Liberal Democrat conference is being held in Bournemouth. The current plan is to hold the City Corporation's events in the Royal Bath Hotel. The Labour Party is holding its conference in Brighton. The current plan is to use the Old Ship Hotel for a fringe meeting and the Hotel du Vin for the dinner. The Conservative Party is holding its conference in Manchester. The current plan is to use Manchester Town Hall for the fringe meeting and Manchester Art Gallery for the dinner.
15. It is proposed to review the number of attendees at City Corporation dinners at all three conferences; the objective of this review will be to facilitate the best possible policy discussion and political contact for Members, especially further to engage with the City Corporation's key audiences of London politicians, policymakers, opinion formers and business leaders. In particular, it is also proposed that the City Corporation will no longer seek to co-organise a dinner with a think-tank at Labour Party conference; instead, as with the Liberal Democrat and Conservative conferences, the PR Office will organise this and issue invitations. In addition, it is proposed, as part of the Policy Chairman's political contact programme, to organise a small, high-level roundtable dinner on the Sunday night at each party conference which a key stakeholder from the respective party would be invited to attend.
16. Members play a pivotal role as representatives and hosts at the City Corporation's party conference activities, though this is balanced by the continuing desire that expenditure on activities is as cost-effective as possible. In 2014 attendance was open to all Members of the PR-ED Sub-Committee, while, as in previous years, other Members attending party conferences in other capacities were also welcome to attend the dinners. Considerable effort continues to be made to minimise the number of officers attending the party conferences on behalf of the City Corporation. At present, three/four officers from the PR Office attend each of the party conferences; any reduction in the number of officers attending would have a significant impact on the City Corporation's ability to deliver its programme of activities. In addition, one officer from the Remembrancer's Office attends in order to monitor the conferences, including fringe events. The Town Clerk and Remembrancer typically attend at least two of the conferences.
17. In response to concerns about the cost of Members' travel, it is proposed to change the way in which such travel is booked. In recent times the price differential between booking advance tickets at a fixed time and an open ticket has widened considerably. The PR Office always aims to ask if individual Members can specify a time: sometimes they can, often they cannot, at least initially, when cheapest tickets with a fixed time are still available. It is

recommended that the City Corporation will only pay for an advanced (1st class) ticket, with a fixed time, and that individual Members book their own travel on this basis and reclaim the cost through an expenses claim. In both instances, any available discount travel cards should be used to further reduce costs. If, at the last minute, the timings have to change for a justifiable reason, then the City Corporation would also pay any costs arising for a booking change.

18. It is proposed to continue to eschew a number of other activities which are available to City of London Corporation at the party conferences because they do not present sufficient value-for-money or adequate means to engage with key audiences. Such activities include:
- a) *Exhibition stands.* A number of organisations choose to have a stand in the exhibition space, though the numbers so doing has recently declined significantly due to the prohibitive cost and negligible benefits (the City Corporation has never had a stand).
  - b) *Sponsorship of a Reception.* A variety of receptions take place during the party conferences for which there are sponsorship opportunities. The City Corporation has chosen not to sponsor or organise receptions due to the associated high costs and desire instead to promote discussion on policy issues relevant to London.
  - c) *Advertising.* The Party Conferences offer a variety of opportunities to advertise in both online and printed publications. This again carries high costs.

## **Conclusion**

19. The party conferences remain a vital and effective way of engaging with a wide range of stakeholders, including leading politicians and decision makers. The 2014 party conference season was broadly successful for the City of London Corporation, thanks to the opportunities offered by both the fringe events and dinners to engage with these stakeholders.

## **Contact:**

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|--|------------------------|
| <b>Committee:</b>  | <b>Date:</b>           |
| Public Relations and Economic Development Sub-Committee  | 6 November 2014        |
| <b>Subject:</b><br>Transparency of Lobbying, Non-party Campaigning and Trade Union Administration Act 2014 | <b>Public</b>          |
| <b>Report of:</b><br>City Remembrancer   | <b>For Information</b> |

### Summary

This report provides an overview of those parts of the Transparency of Lobbying, Non-party Campaigning and Trade Union Administration Act 2014 that are relevant to the City of London Corporation.

The Act establishes a statutory register of consultant lobbyists. Only those who are paid to lobby Ministers or Permanent Secretaries on behalf of a third party as part of a commercial enterprise are required to register. In-house lobbyists are not affected. As a result, the City Corporation will not have to register, and thereby will not be placed alongside commercial lobbying firms. The City Corporation may, however, appear in the register as a client of any consultant lobbyist it engages.

The Act imposes spending limits on polling, media activity and support, and public events, when these activities can be viewed as intended to promote the electoral success of one or more political parties. Spending over £20,000 on such activities would require the City Corporation to register as a 'non-party campaigner' with the Electoral Commission alongside overtly partisan campaigning organisations, such as trade unions and pressure groups. This could compromise the City Corporation's political neutrality.

The City's interest arises from the nature of some of its events. On the basis of discussions with the Electoral Commission, it seems unlikely that the City will be required to register with the Commission, because City events are demonstrably not organised with the intention to promote or oppose the electoral success of any political party.

#### **Recommendation**

- Members are invited to note the contents of this report.

### **Main Report**

#### **Statutory Register of Lobbyists**

1. The Act provides for a statutory register of consultant lobbyists, defined as an individual or firm that "in the course of a business and in return for payment" makes written or oral communications on behalf of another person to Ministers or Permanent Secretaries. Firms and individuals that satisfy this definition are required to place their names on the register alongside their

clients and any voluntary code of conduct to which they are signatories. The Act creates an offence of carrying on the business of consultant lobbying without registering, or providing inaccurate or incomplete information. The registrar is empowered to impose civil penalties for minor breaches and instigate criminal proceedings for more serious breaches.

2. If the City Corporation were to enter the statutory register of lobbyists, it would be placed in the same category as commercial lobbying firms. This would misrepresent the nature of its activities.
3. The Act includes a number of exemptions to the definition of 'consultant lobbyist'. An individual or firm carries on the business of consultant lobbying only if the lobbying is carried out in return for payment and the person is VAT registered. Employees who make lobbying communications in the course of the business of their employer are specifically exempted. Those who make relevant communications with government only incidentally as part of a mainly non-lobbying business are also exempted. As a result of these exemptions, the provisions do not apply to the City Corporation. Officers of the Corporation also benefit from the specific exemption granted to employees.

### **Non-Party Campaigning**

4. As a result of the Act, any organisation that intends to spend more than £20,000 in England on party political campaigning during the 12 months before a general election, or 4 months before a European election, will be required to register with the Electoral Commission as a 'non-party campaigner'. Spending that can count towards this threshold includes spending on polling, media activity and support, public events and rallies and the publication of material.
5. Exceeding the £20,000 threshold would require the City Corporation to register with the Electoral Commission as a 'non-party campaigner' alongside overtly partisan campaigning organisations such as trade unions and pressure groups. This would compromise the party political neutrality of the City Corporation, and should be avoided.
6. During the regulated period before an election, spending on an event will count towards the £20,000 registration threshold if it is **both** a public event **and** if the event in question could be reasonably viewed as intended to influence the voting intentions of members of the public for or against one or more parties or candidates.
7. Although prominent politicians speak at the City's set-piece events, such as the Lord Mayor's Banquet, it is clear that the City Corporation does not organise its set-piece events with the intention of influencing the voting intentions of the electorate. Where an event occurs in close proximity to a European or general election, or a particularly partisan speaker is invited, the Electoral Commission has advised that speakers be reminded of the constraints placed on the City by the legislation, and asked to confine their

speech to matters such as government policy, rather than their party's election pledges.

8. Most other public affairs events organised by the City Corporation at which politicians speak are unlikely to be regulated. The only exceptions are events on issues that have a high profile in the election campaign or are unusually controversial, especially when the event is within a few months of a regulated election. In these cases, the Electoral Commission has advised that the events are unlikely to be regulated providing that invitations to feature in the event are extended to all political parties, unless there are impartial reasons to exclude them, such as a party's record in previous elections or polling. It would also be possible to secure compliance by holding several comparable events within the regulated period, each featuring a speaker from a different political party, and treating these events as a series. In both cases, invitations should be extended to speakers of comparable calibre, or the parties should be asked to decide for themselves who to send.

### **Consultees**

9. The Comptroller and City Solicitor has been consulted in the preparation of this report. The Director of Public Relations and the City Bridge Trust Chief Grants Officer have also been consulted.

### **Conclusion**

10. If the City Corporation were to enter the statutory register of lobbyists, it would be placed in the same category as commercial lobbying firms, which would misrepresent the nature of the City Corporation's activities. However, owing to exemptions contained within the Act, the City Corporation will not be required to enter the register.
11. The Act imposes spending limits on polling, media activity and support, and public events, when these activities can be viewed as intended to promote the electoral success of one or more political parties. Spending over £20,000 on such activities would require the City Corporation to register as a 'non-party campaigner' with the Electoral Commission, alongside overtly partisan campaigning organisations, such as trade unions and pressure groups. This could compromise the City Corporation's political neutrality.
12. Provided the actions indicated in paragraphs 7 and 8 above are taken the City Corporation should be able to continue its existing programmes. Overall, compliance with the legislation should be relatively straightforward.

### **Contact:**

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# Agenda Item 7

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|---|---------------------------------|
| <b>Committee:</b><br>Public Relations and Economic Development Sub-Committee  | <b>Date:</b><br>6 November 2014 |
| <b>Subject:</b> Political and Business Contact Programme – Events Report  | <b>Public</b>                   |
| <b>Report of:</b><br>Director of Public Relations & Director of Economic Development  | <b>For information</b>          |
| <b><u>Summary</u></b>   |                                 |
| <p>The Public Relations Office and Economic Development Office are together responsible for delivering the City Corporation’s political and business contact programmes. As part of these programmes, roundtables – usually hosted by the Chairman – are regularly held with key politicians and business leaders, invariably under the Chatham House Rule. Details of these events, including attendees and topics of discussion, are provided in this report.</p> |                                 |
| <b><u>Recommendation</u></b>  |                                 |
| <p>The Sub-Committee is asked to note the information in this report.</p>   |                                 |

## **Main Report**

1. The Public Relations Office and Economic Development Office maintain, on behalf of the City of London Corporation, relationships with a range of politicians and businesses. One key element of the political and business contact programmes is for the Chairman of the Policy and Resources Committee to host roundtables – breakfasts, lunches and dinners – with members of HM Government and Opposition, overseas governments and international institutions, and business leaders.
2. The attached annexe outlines details of the roundtables that have taken place since September 2014. Invariably these roundtables are held under the Chatham House Rule. Within this constraint, this report seeks to update your Committee on the roundtables which have taken place, specifically the attendees (with other City Corporation hosts named) and topics of discussion.

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Annex: CPR Roundtable List

| Date         | Event  | Guests  | Topics of Discussion  |
|--------------|--|---|---|
| 20 Oct, 2014 | <b>Dinner with Mary Creagh MP, Shadow Secretary of State for Transport</b>           | Catherine McGuinness; Michael Welbank.<br><br>The dinner was attended by representatives from a broad range of City financial and professional services firms and trade associations.   | The topics that were discussed during the roundtable were wide-ranging, including airport capacity, London infrastructure, roads, regional devolution, ports and maritime transport and housing.  |
| 6 Oct, 2014  | <b>Speech by Manuel Valls, Prime Minister of France</b>                              | Lord Mayor Locum Tenens.<br><br>Approximately 150 guests attended, drawn mostly from the business delegation accompanying the Prime Minister. The Ambassadors of Brazil, Russia and South Korea were in attendance; Parliamentarians present included Lord Mandelson. | The City of London Corporation was approached by the French Embassy to host a keynote speech by Manuel Valls on France's economic policy and reform programme. During the question and answer session, issues raised included France's '35 hour week', deregulation and non-bank finance. |
| 3 Oct, 2014  | <b>Breakfast with the Ambassador of the United States of America, Matthew Barzun</b> | The breakfast was attended by representatives from a broad range of City financial and professional services firms and trade associations.  | A number of issues affecting the financial industry were addressed, including TTIP; capital sanctions in Russia; possible SEC Commission proposals on capital markets; reforms to the Dodd-Frank legislation in the US; and the Scottish referendum.                                      |
| 2 Oct, 2014  | <b>Speech by Matteo Renzi, Prime Minister of Italy</b>                               | Lord Mayor Locum Tenens.<br><br>Approximately 150 guests attended, including representatives from a large number of Italian firms with offices in London. Both the British Ambassador to Italy and the Italian Ambassador in London were also in attendance.          | The City of London Corporation was invited to host a keynote speech on economic policy by the Prime Minister of Italy, Matteo Renzi. Issues raised included long-term finance, the need for Europe-wide reform and a focus on delivering jobs and growth.                                 |

Annex: CPR Roundtable List

|                     |  |   |   |
|---------------------|--|---|---|
| 24<br>Sept,<br>2014 | <b>Roundtable discussion with the China Securities Regulatory Commission (CSRC)</b>                    | The discussion was attended by members of the CSRC delegation and representatives of City firms with a strong interest in China.  | A number of issues affecting the offshore RMB market were discussed, including establishing mutual fund recognition between the mainland, Hong Kong and beyond; developing the RQDII programme; expanding the Hong Kong-Shanghai Stock Connect to other bourses; merging the QFII and RQFII programmes; exaggerated onshore bond ratings; and the possibility of CNH and CNY valuations diverging as a result of the impending Stock Connect. |
| 16<br>Sept,<br>2014 | <b>Foreign institutional investments in India: ongoing challenge and new possibilities</b>             | The dinner was attended by representatives of City financial and professional services firms with a strong interest in India.   | Recent changes to the Indian economy were discussed. In particular, the following issues were raised: structural reforms; investor perceptions; comparative performance with other emerging markets; goods and services tax; international benchmarking; infrastructure; and KYC requirements.  |
| 9<br>Sept,<br>2014  | <b>Roundtable Dinner with Eric Pickles MP, Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government</b> | Alderman Alan Yarrow; Deputy Michael Cassidy; Roger Chadwick; Alastair Moss.<br><br>The dinner was attended by representatives from a broad range of City financial and professional services firms and trade associations. | The topics that were discussed during the roundtable were housing; the Wolfson Prize; Section 106 Agreements; enterprise zones; cities policy; the role of UKTI; broadband; the tri-borough structure; and accessibility.   |



Annex: CPR Roundtable List

|                    |  |  |  |
|--------------------|--|--|--|
| 9<br>Sept,<br>2014 | <b>Roundtable breakfast with David Hanson MP, Shadow Immigration Minister</b>                              | Alderman Alan Yarrow.<br><br>The discussion was attended by members of the Economic Development Office's migration working group.                | The topics that were discussed during the roundtable were immigration and free movement of people within the EU; the net migration target; international students; the advantages and disadvantages of whether a UK equivalent of the US ESTA could be introduced; gang-masters legislation; and the tech and education sectors. |
| 2<br>Sept,<br>2014 | <b>Policy Exchange Conference: The Future of the City - Supporting Communities or Driving Inequalities</b> | Jeremy Mayhew.<br><br>The dinner was attended by a mixture of representatives from City businesses, trade associations, journalism and academia. | The topics that were discussed during the roundtable were the City of London Academies; the John Cass School; diversity, London government; prevailing interest rates; business commercial hubs; and social investment and CSR within organisations.   |

**Future Roundtables:**

|              |   |
|--------------|---|
| 28 Oct, 2014 | Breakfast roundtable with Immigration Minister James Brokenshire MP   |
| 28 Oct, 2014 | Dinner with Conservative Mainstream Group (Alistair Burt MP, Mark Field MP, Damian Green MP, and Dominic Grieve MP) |
| 29 Oct, 2014 | Breakfast discussion with Shadow Pensions Minister Gregg McClymont MP   |
| 29 Oct, 2014 | Lunch and City Police Tour with Shadow Home Affairs Team (Yvette Cooper MP, Jack Dromey MP, Steve Reed MP)          |
| 31 Oct, 2014 | Roundtable with the Governor of Tokyo   |
| 3 Nov, 2014  | Dinner after Annual Brussels Reception  |
| 14 Nov, 2014 | Advisory Council for China Dinner   |
| 20 Nov, 2014 | Lunch with Shadow Minister without Portfolio Lord Wood  |
| 25 Nov, 2014 | Lunch with Labour Parliamentary Candidates (Jointly with Industry and Parliament Trust)                             |
| 1 Dec, 2014  | Dinner with Business Minister Matt Hancock MP (Jointly with Politeia)   |
| 4 Dec, 2014  | Lunch with Conservative Parliamentary Candidates (Jointly with Industry and Parliament Trust)                       |
| 19 Jan, 2015 | Lunch with Liberal Democrat Parliamentary Candidates (Jointly with Industry and Parliament Trust)                   |
| 20 Jan, 2015 | Dinner after Open Europe Conference   |

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# Agenda Item 8

|  |                        |
|--|------------------------|
| <b>Committee:</b>  | <b>Date:</b>           |
| Public Relations and Economic Development Sub-Committee  | 6 November 2014        |
| <b>Subject:</b><br>Update and forward look at the City of London's Economic Research Programme   | <b>Public</b>          |
| <b>Report of:</b> Director of Economic Development   | <b>For Information</b> |
| <b>Summary</b><br><br>This summary report provides Members with an update to the City of London's Economic Research Programme, including recently published and upcoming work.<br><br><b>Recommendation:</b><br><br>Members are asked to note the report |                        |

## Main Report


### Background


This paper provides an update for the sub-Committee on the current activities and priorities for the research programme, spanning those pieces commissioned, published and underway in 2014, as well as areas under current consideration.


## Research priorities for 2014 / 2015


Published  Underway  Under consideration 

### **City Industries and Economic Statistics**


**The Impact of Firm Migration on the City of London (TBR)** - an analysis of the data on firm migration, looking at businesses moving into, out of and within the City by geography and business characteristics, considering also business clusters in neighbouring boroughs, including Tech City. January 2014 

**The Economic Outlook for Central London (Oxford Economics)** - a set of statistics highlighting key characteristics of central London's economy, commissioned to support Central London Forward's work on the London Growth Deal. March 2014 

**The Economic Outlook for the City of London (Oxford Economics)** - a set of statistics highlighting key characteristics of the City of London's economy. April 2014 


**London's Finances and Revenues (Cebr)** – a detailed exploration of London's revenues and expenditure at an overall and granular borough level, to provide a final report and dataset. November 2014 


**Total Tax Contribution of UK Financial Services - Seventh Edition (PwC)** – annual update of the components of tax contribution of financial services to government tax receipts. December 2014 


**The Changing Face of the City (internal)** – briefing paper on key City economic statistics around jobs and businesses in the Square Mile. 


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### **Competitiveness and Infrastructure**

**The Economic Impact of Short Term Airport Capacity Options (York Aviation)** - this work reviews the potential impact of the ways in which London's air capacity could be increased in the short term. Co-funded with London First. February 2014 

**The Future of London's Power Supply (Steve Jones Associates and South East Economics)** - an outline piece mapping the challenges London faces in meeting the power needs of its businesses in the mid- to long- term, providing input into the GLA's long term infrastructure plan for London. April 2014 

**Agile Occupiers in the City of London (Ramidus)** – an examination of the characteristics of serviced office providers and users in the Square Mile. October 2014 

**Shaping the City to meet the Changing Workforce Needs** - looking at how the City's infrastructure needs to adapt to the changing workforce and office requirements over the next ten years. Joint commission with the City Property Association as a piece for MIPIM next year. March 2015 

**The Impact of Crossrail on the City (internal)** – briefing paper reviewing published impact studies on the impact of Crossrail on the City. 

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## **The EU and Regulation**

### **Implications of a Financial Transactions Tax for the European Regulatory Reform Agenda**

(Deloitte) - a technical review of the ways in which the design of the FTT in its current form will interact with the wider EU reform agenda and impact on the extent to which it can achieve its intended aims. January 2014

### **The Effects of a Financial Transaction Tax on European Households' Savings**

(London Economics) - a data-focused piece quantifying the economic impact of the FTT on household wealth in five different EU member states. February 2014

**EU Structural Reform: The Impact on Banking Services** (tbc) – an examination of the EU's structural reform agenda and impacts across the EU member states – under review as an area as part of the IRSG's new Structural Reform workstream.

**The Value Of Financial Services in EU Supply Chains** (tbc) – a potential piece demonstrating the value of financial services to different sectors in EU countries, being scoped to support the European Financial Centres Roundtable.

## **International Markets**

- **The Impact of Global Regulatory Change on India's Financial Markets** (tbc) - a review of the intersection between extraterritoriality impacts of US and EU regulation and India's financial sector reform.

- **Trends in Currency Use for Global Payments in the Global Payments System** (tbc) – a review of changing use by geography of the euro, dollar and RMB for global trade payments. Under consideration to support the Anglo French Committee.

- **The Role of UK Maritime Services Internationally** (tbc) - a focus on UK maritime services and international trade, also looking at links with specific global business and shipping hubs.

## **Community and Corporate Responsibility**

**Best Practice in Promoting Employee Health and Wellbeing in the City of London** (University of Salford and Cavill Associates) - a review of best practice internationally in workplace initiatives to support the health of employees, drawing on innovative examples in the City. March 2014.

**New Specialist Sources of Capital for the Social Investment Market** (The Social Investment Consultancy and London Economics) - an overview of the profile of potential investor groups, including pension funds, corporate foundations, and university endowment funds. This work is being carried out as part of the Social Investment Research Council's activities, commissioned jointly with Big Society Capital, the Cabinet Office, the Big Lottery Fund and Citi. April 2014.

**Cultural Innovation and Entrepreneurship in London** (Culture Label) - a short piece outlining models of cultural accelerators that could work in London, in particular looking at the intersection between culture and tech. May 2014

**Marketing Social Investments – an outline of the UK Financial Promotion Regime** (Bates Wells Braithwaite) - a short piece mapping barriers and opportunities for regulatory reform, commissioned as part of the Social Investment Research Council's activities. June 2014

**The Economic Impact of the City Arts and Culture Cluster 2014** (BOP) - a short update of the economic impact statistics and methodology for the City's arts and culture activities, and an analysis of the impact of the cultural hub development strategy. November 2014

**Mapping Private and Public Healthcare Provision in the City** (BDRC) – a piece mapping private and public health services available for City workers, access to provision, and a gap analysis as to how well this is meeting the needs of workers without private health provision. Jointly commissioned with Community and Children's Services. February 2015

**London's Potential as a Global Financial Hub for Social Investment** (tbc) - a paper to evaluate the potential for London to become a social investment hub, benchmarked against other international financial centres, highlighting areas of strength and opportunities for improvement and further development.

**Skills Development in Tech Incubators – Employability Implications** (tbc) – a possible paper being considered, that would examine the skills being developed in London's tech incubators and look at the implications for job opportunities in London's tech sector, as a growth area, and wider employability programmes.

**Poverty and Deprivation in London – Key Statistics** (internal) – briefing paper reviewing key statistics and indices around deprivation, with a focus on the differences between inner and outer London boroughs.

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|  |                        |
|--|------------------------|
| <b>Committees:</b>   | <b>Date:</b>           |
| Public Relations and Economic Development Sub-Committee  | 6 November 2014        |
| <b>Subject:</b><br>Update and forward look on the activities of International Regulatory Strategy Group (IRSG)   | <b>Public</b>          |
| <b>Report of:</b> Director of Economic Development   | <b>For Information</b> |
| <p><b>Summary</b></p> <p>The report provides Members with an update on the work of the International Regulatory Strategy Group (IRSG) since the last meeting of the Public Relations and Economic Development Sub-Committee in May.</p> <p><b>Recommendation:</b></p> <p>Members are asked to note the report.</p> |                        |

## **Main Report**

### **Background**

1. This paper provides an update on recent IRSG activity and sets out the anticipated areas of activity over the coming months.
2. An interim report was circulated on 8 September.

### **Capital Markets Union**

3. In his political guidelines for the incoming European Commission, Jean-Claude Juncker (Commission President Elect) proposed a Capital Markets Union (CMU) to develop and integrate European capital markets. The IRSG has agreed a set of principles to feed into the debate on the development of a CMU. It believes that these principles should underpin the development of a more balanced European financial system to better support business investment and economic growth.
4. These principles represent the high-level views of a cross-sectoral group of financial institutions and their advisers about how a CMU might best be developed.
5. They are set out below:
  - a. Dynamic and innovative capital markets can facilitate sustainable economic growth
  - b. A Capital Markets Union should include all 28 Member States

- c. The global competitiveness of the EU's financial sector should be maintained
  - d. Financial stability, investor protection and market integrity are essential elements of sustainable capital markets
  - e. Europe can benefit from innovation and new technologies
  - f. Non-legislative and market-based solutions approaches should be used wherever possible
  - g. Capital markets development can work in tandem with other policy priorities
6. A more detailed briefing paper has been sent out to key decision makers and further more granular work is now being developed.

### **Finance for Jobs and Growth in Europe**

- 7. The objective of this workstream is to make a positive, powerful and evidence-based case for the benefits that long-term investment can bring to Europe.
- 8. The group's first meeting was held on 9 September. This meeting agreed the terms of reference and a work programme for the group. The main output will be a piece of collateral to deploy during engagement with UK and EU policymakers as well as key influencers in EU Member States. It will be a follow-up report to two existing pieces of work - Finance for Jobs and Growth in Europe and Financing Europe's Investment and Economic Growth. It will be launched in March/ April 2015.
- 9. The European Commission's recent Communication on long-term finance sets out Commission priorities in this area and indicates a receptiveness to well-developed policy proposals.

### **Engaging with the new European Parliament and the new Commission**

- 10. The City Office in Brussels has held introductory meetings with over a dozen UK MEPs, including most of those on the ECON Committee, to explain the role of the City and the work of the City Office in Brussels. A programme of introductory meetings with non-UK MEPs and their assistants in ECON is underway. The IRSG hosted a drinks reception in Strasbourg for ECON MEPs on 21 October, chaired by Neena Gill.
- 11. The upcoming Annual Reception in Brussels on 3 November will be another opportunity to introduce the City of London to new MEPs. During his visit to Brussels, the Chairman will also meet the leaders of the Socialists and Liberal groups in the European Parliament.

### **Member State Dialogues**

#### **Anglo-French Dialogue**

- 12. The next meeting of the Anglo French Committee will be held in the City on 14 November. The Committee will continue discussions on trends in currencies for



global trade and payments as well as exchanging views on Capital Markets Union, bank structural reform, benchmarks and FTT. The Committee will also consider further joint activity, and under IRSG auspices, in promoting ideas in long term finance (jobs and growth) and for increased engagement with the European Parliament and new Commission, in particular with regards to possibly organising a joint event in the European Parliament.

### Anglo-Italian Dialogue

13. The first meeting of the Anglo-Italian dialogue will be held in Rome on 23/24 October. Mark Garvin, JP Morgan and IRSG Council member, will lead the UK side, which will include the Policy Chairman and other IRSG Council members. Following preparatory work over the past few months, the principal themes will be around long term finance, infrastructure funding and SME finance.

### City/IFSC Ireland Dialogue

14. Following a preparatory visit to Dublin on 1 October, ideas for the proposed Irish dialogue, styled the City/IFSC Ireland Financial Services dialogue, are being considered. These include the possibility of a pilot phase which could focus on a specific theme eg RMB workshop, Fintech related event or access to finance. These suggestions will be refined and feature as part of the visit to Dublin by the Lord Mayor and Policy Chairman on 15/16 December. There have been a number of expressions of interest in participating in this dialogue from IRSG Council members.

### IRSG Workstreams Update

#### Structural reform of the banking sector

15. A new working group has been formed and has held two meetings to date. A high level position, backed by all present, was agreed. The group believes that the current EU proposal is too broad and does not sit well with a jobs and growth agenda and, in particular, the Commission President's wish for a Capital Markets Union and an economic agenda which would encourage a greater shift of business from bank lending to greater use of capital markets. Bearing this in mind the IRSG should not oppose a proprietary trading ban provided it is well defined and does not hamper the growth agenda.

16. A possible piece of supporting research is also under consideration.

17. There is common recognition that the IRSG should hold back on direct lobbying within Europe until the European Commission has been officially appointed.

#### Benchmarks

18. Following a scoping exercise over the summer, a working group has been established under the leadership of Steven Travers, London Stock Exchange and IRSG Executive member.

19. It was concluded that the time is right to try to influence the outcome of this regulation. Though the discussions are heading in the right direction under the Italian Presidency in the Council there is still work to be done. The Italians are looking to reach a political agreement in the Council by the end of the year.
20. The group agreed to focus its work on three horizontal themes; scope of application, proportionality and the 3rd country regime.
21. A position paper is being drafted and an event in Brussels to provide MEP assistants with information and meetings with financial attachés are being planned.

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## ANNEX

### **List of MEPs met by City Office in Brussels**

*Vicky Ford (UK, ECR)*

*Kay Swinburne (UK, ECR)*

*David Campbell Bannerman (UK, ECR)*

*Ashley Fox (UK, ECR)*

*Julie Girling (UK, ECR)*

*Catherine Bearder (UK, ALDE)*

*Anneliese Dodds, (UK, S&D)*

*Neena Gill (UK, S&D)*

*Jude Kirton-Darling (UK, S&D)*

*Richard Corbett (UK, S&D)*

*Catherine Stihler (UK, S&D)*

*Seb Dance (UK, S&D)*

*Steven Woolfe (UK, EFDD)*

*Hugues Bayet (Belgium, S&D)*

*Mady Delvaux (Luxembourg, S&D)*

*Markus Ferber (Germany, EPP)*

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