



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

Date: TUESDAY, 5 NOVEMBER 2019

Time: 3.00 pm

Venue: COMMITTEE ROOMS

Members: Deputy Catherine McGuinness (Chairman)
Simon Duckworth (Deputy Chairman)
Deputy Keith Bottomley
Tijs Broeke
Dominic Christian
Karina Dostalova
Anne Fairweather
Alderman Prem Goyal
Sheriff Christopher Hayward
Deputy Jamie Ingham Clark
Deputy Edward Lord
Andrew Mayer
Jeremy Mayhew
Alderman William Russell
Deputy Tom Sleigh
Sir Michael Snyder
James Tumbridge
Alderman Sir David Wootton

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John Barradell
Town Clerk and Chief Executive

AGENDA

Part 1 - Public Agenda

1. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**
2. **MEMBERS' DECLARATIONS UNDER THE CODE OF CONDUCT IN RESPECT OF ITEMS ON THE AGENDA**
3. **MINUTES**
To agree the public minutes and summary of the meeting held on 10 October 2019.

For Decision
(Pages 1 - 8)
4. **CORPORATE AFFAIRS UPDATE**
Report of the Director of Communications.

For Information
(Pages 9 - 14)
5. **PARLIAMENTARY TEAM UPDATE**
Report of the Remembrancer.

For Information
(Pages 15 - 20)
6. **INNOVATION & GROWTH MONTHLY UPDATE**
Report of the Director of Innovation and Growth.

For Information
(Pages 21 - 24)
7. **EU ENGAGEMENT**
Report of the Director of Innovation and Growth.

For Information
(Pages 25 - 28)
8. **CPR/LM VISIT TO NEW YORK AND CPR VISIT TO WASHINGTON**
Report of the Director of Innovation and Growth.

For Information
(Pages 29 - 34)
9. **CPR VISIT TO SWITZERLAND**
Report of the Director of Innovation and Growth.

For Information
(Pages 35 - 38)

10. **DRAFT SPORTS & PHYSICAL ACTIVITY STRATEGY 2020-25**

Report of the Town Clerk.

(Appendices have been separately circulated).

For Decision
(Pages 39 - 44)

11. **SOCIAL MOBILITY STRATEGY 2018-28 ANNUAL REPORT**

Report of the Director of City Bridge Trust and Chief Grants Officer.

(Appendices have been separately circulated.)

For Information
(Pages 45 - 48)

12. **DIGITAL SKILLS STRATEGY**

Joint report of the Director of Innovation and Growth and the Director of Community and Children's Services.

(Appendices have been separately circulated.)

For Information
(Pages 49 - 54)

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

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

15. **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

16. **NON-PUBLIC MINUTES**

To agree the non-public minutes of the meeting held on 10 October 2019.

For Decision
(Pages 55 - 56)

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

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

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

Thursday, 10 October 2019

Minutes of the meeting of the Public Relations and Economic Development Sub (Policy & Resources) Committee held at the Guildhall EC2 at 4.00 pm

Present

Members:

Deputy Catherine McGuinness (Chairman)	Sheriff Christopher Hayward
Simon Duckworth (Deputy Chairman)	Deputy Jamie Ingham Clark
Deputy Keith Bottomley	Deputy Edward Lord
Tijs Broeke	Andrew Mayer
Dominic Christian	Jeremy Mayhew
Karina Dostalova	Deputy Tom Sleigh
Anne Fairweather	Alderman Sir David Wootton
Alderman Prem Goyal	

In Attendance:

Deputy Tom Hoffman (Chief Commoner)

Officers:

Alistair MacLellan	- Town Clerk's Department
Bob Roberts	- Director of Communications
Eugenie de Naurois	- Town Clerk's Department – Corporate Affairs
Sam Hutchings	- Town Clerk's Department – Corporate Affairs
Laura Davison	- Town Clerk's Department – Innovation and Growth
Paul Double	- City Remembrancer
Nigel Lefton	- Director of Remembrancer's Affairs
Vic Annells	- Executive Director – Mansion House and Central Criminal Court

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from the Lord Mayor-Elect Alderman William Russell, Sir Michael Snyder and James Tumbridge.

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

There were no declarations.

3. MINUTES

RESOLVED – That the public minutes and summary of the meeting held on 10 September 2019 be approved as a correct record.

4. IG MONTHLY UPDATE

The Sub-Committee received a report of the Director of Innovation and Growth providing Members with highlights of the key activity undertaken by the

Innovation & Growth Directorate (IG) in September 2019, and the following points were made.

- The Director of Innovation and Growth noted that the Global City website was now live and the accompanying promotional brochure, *Working With You: the UK's Global Offer for Financial and Professional Services*, published.
- The Chair welcomed the marketing for Global City and suggested the business cards include the website details on the reverse.
- In response to a question, the Director of Innovation and Growth noted that there had been 5,500 website page views and 12,000 social media interactions since the launch, with translations reaching audiences in Japan, South Korea and China.
- A Member asked how well the objectives of the Global City campaign were being met, as well as reporting on performance measures, and was provided with feedback from external partners and users.
- A Member requested that the Director of Innovation and Growth liaise with the Director of Communications to ensure lessons learned from the Global City website were applied to the City Corporation's own website, and were assured that the Directors of Innovation and Growth, and of Communications, had been working closely together on the site.
- The Director of Innovation and Growth encouraged Members to feedback any comments they received from external stakeholders regarding the Global City website.

RESOLVED, that: -

- The progress of IG workstreams be noted.

5. **CORPORATE AFFAIRS MONTHLY UPDATE**

The Sub-Committee received a report of the Director of Communications providing Members with an update of the Corporate Affairs team's activities in supporting the City Corporation's strategic political engagement and the following comments were made.

- In response to a question, the Director of Communications noted that officers would review forward engagement with stakeholders as part of the Communications Directorate's annual business planning process.

RESOLVED, that: -

- The report be noted.

6. **PARLIAMENTARY MONTHLY UPDATE**

The Sub-Committee received a report of the Remembrancer updating Members on the main elements of the Parliamentary Team's activity in support of the City of London Corporation's political and parliamentary engagement.

RESOLVED, that: -

- The report be noted.

7. **SPORT ENGAGEMENT - PROGRESS UPDATE**

The Sub-Committee received a report of the Director of Communications updating Members on the sport engagement work being undertaken for the City Corporation and the following points were made.

- Members noted that discussions were being held with London Sport regarding a potential awards event in March 2020 to celebrate grassroots sport and business. It was anticipated that the Hospitality Working Party would consider this matter at their next meeting, along with other requests to support sporting events.
- A Member was heard regarding oversight and resource provision for sport across the organisation. The Member noted that the City should have a clear trajectory for sport provision, a plan for developing sport, in support of the City's wider Sports Strategy, and a schedule of funding for the next 12 months should be brought forward that was aimed at promoting sport and sports engagement.
- The Director of Communications advised Members that the current level of funding for sports engagement would be maintained. Moreover, the Director reminded Members that his own remit only extended to sports engagement, rather than sports provision, which properly sat elsewhere within the City of London Corporation.
- The Chair noted that Members would welcome a clear idea of the City of London's overall spend on sport, to both inform the emerging Sports Strategy and to help inform future decision making on both sports provision and sports engagement.

RESOLVED, that: -

- The report be noted.

8. **PARTY CONFERENCES REPORT**

The Sub-Committee received a report of the Director of Communications regarding Party Conferences and the following points were made.

- Members commented that feedback from external stakeholders regarding the City's presence was positive. Members felt that the City-hosted dinners were of appropriate size with a good mix of business

leaders and London local government figures. Member presence also encouraged the gathering of political intelligence at fringe events.

- A Member added that attendance at conference was particularly useful with regards to specific policy areas e.g. Fintech.
- A Member felt that the City's approach to Party Conferences was well organised. Areas for improvement included more specificity on what Members were there at conference to achieve, and how any feedback could be disseminated appropriately and corporately. Members should commit to attending as many events as possible, allied with a more sophisticated approach to grid management.
- A Member requested a breakdown of City conference costs going forward and encouraged the Director of Communications to consider reviewing and refreshing the City's approach to Party Conferences.
- A Member commented that more thought could be given to how the City identified which conference events to attend; how to provide feedback in a productive way; and how personal connectivity of Members could be optimised in a conference context.
- A Member suggested that Member and Officer presence at a conference could be scheduled over a 48-hour period, with staggered attendance. Moreover, officers should consider how best to identify and measure value-for-money indicators.
- A Member noted that the City's Party Conferences programme for 2019 had been strong, but some thought could be given to appropriate officer attendance at some events. Moreover, the City should be more robust on ensuring guest speakers focused on key themes when addressing City events. Lastly, the total numbers of Members and officers attending conference could be reviewed, given that it was common for many MPs and councillors to attend party conference at their own expense.
- A Member noted that, of the four benefits of City attendance at Party Conferences listed within the report, only one of those technically required City presence at conference. He encouraged officers therefore to review whether a similar impact could be achieved by staging events at Guildhall.
- A Member noted that he would welcome a business case detailing the most appropriate City presence at a party conference, built around a core and peripheral agenda i.e. City-led events and targeted City Member/Officer attendance at other conference events.
- A Member noted that clear baselines for conferences should be set that could be reviewed during conference itself.

- A Member suggested that a two-tier system of attendance could be developed and trialled.
- A Member noted that he attended Party Conferences in a business capacity, and his schedule included early morning review meetings with fellow attendees, and an exhaustive attendance schedule at fringe events.
- The Director of Communications thanked Members for their feedback, noting that he had wanted to ensure Members received this interim report at their meeting given its proximity to the Party Conference period. The Director of Communications placed on record his thanks to his staff for their hard work in organising the City's presence at Party Conferences.

RESOLVED, that Members: -

- Receive the report

9. **CITY CORPORATION ENGAGEMENT ON VISAS AND IMMIGRATION**

The Sub-Committee received a report of the Director of Innovation and Growth regarding City Corporation engagement on visas and immigration.

RESOLVED, that Members: -

- Receive the report.

10. **REVISED CHINA MARKET STRATEGY**

The Sub-Committee received a report of the Director of Innovation and Growth regarding a revised China Market Strategy.

RESOLVED, that Members: -

- Receive the report.

11. **CITY OF LONDON CORPORATION PARTICIPATION IN WORLD ECONOMIC FORUM (DAVOS), JANUARY 2020**

The Sub-Committee received a report of the Director of Innovation and Growth regarding City of London Corporation participation in the World Economic Forum (Davos) in January 2020 and the following points were made.

- Members noted that City attendance at Davos raised the wider issue of how overall City engagement was monitored. The Director of Innovation and Growth noted that the City's new Customer Relationship Management (CRM) system had gone live which would enable officers across City departments to monitor City engagement more effectively.
- The Executive Director of Mansion House noted that Lord Mayoral engagements were now routinely recorded on City CRM. He acknowledged that there would often be overlap between Lord Mayoral

and Policy Chair engagements, which provided an opportunity to harmonise City engagement if appropriately managed.

- A Member commented that the CRM would only remain fit-for-purpose if it was appropriately maintained.
- The Director of Innovation and Growth agreed to bring an update report on CRM to the Sub-Committee to its December 2019 meeting.
- A Member commented that both the Communications and Innovation and Growth Teams could use the City Surveyor's approach to managing City attendance at MIPIM as an example of best practice.

RESOLVED, that Members: -

- Receive the report.

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

There were no questions.

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

There were no urgent items.

14. **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.

15. **NON-PUBLIC MINUTES**

The non-public minutes and summary of the meeting held on 10 September 2019 were approved.

16. **NON-PUBLIC APPENDIX FOR CHINA STRATEGY**

RESOLVED, that the non-public appendix for the China Strategy be received.

17. **NON-PUBLIC APPENDIX FOR DAVOS STRATEGY REPORT**

RESOLVED, that the non-public appendix for the Davos Strategy Report be received.

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

There were no questions.

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

There was one item of urgent business.

The meeting closed at 5.35 pm

Chairman

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Agenda Item 4

Committee Public Relations and Economic Development Sub (Policy and Resources) Committee	Dated: 05 November 2019
Subject: Corporate Affairs Update	Public
Report of: Bob Roberts, Director of Communications	For Information
Report author: Eugenie de Naurois	

Summary

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

The Corporate Affairs Team coordinates and organises the City Corporation's political engagement and supports both Members and officers in its delivery. The focus of this report is on the activity undertaken by the Policy Chair and the Lord Mayor.

The activities documented in this report focus largely on those led by the Corporate Affairs Team. Activities undertaken in partnership with other teams and/or departments are also included and have been appropriately termed.

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

Members are asked to:

- Note this report.

Main Report

Strategic Objectives

1. To fulfil the objectives set out in the Communications Business Plan set out for the Corporate Affairs Team.

Overview

2. Based on developments in the domestic political and economic landscape and in line with the City Corporation's corporate priorities, the Corporate Affairs Team has focused its activity in the areas of engagement listed below.

Brexit

3. Ahead of the United Kingdom's departure from the European Union, the Corporate Affairs Team:
 - a. Monitored political developments in the UK and EU ahead of the UK's stated departure date of 31st October;
 - b. Organised political engagement opportunities for the Policy Chair and Lord Mayor;
4. The above links to the following Business Plan objectives:
 - a. To have coordinated political engagement activity across the organisation;
 - b. To remain relevant in the policy-making and political sphere.

Domestic Political Engagement

5. The Corporate Affairs Team organises engagement with key political representatives and decision-makers in government at local, regional and national levels and in September and October, this covers the annual party conference season.

Party Conferences

- a. The Policy Chair and Members attended the Conservative Party conference which was in Manchester this year. She attended a private business dinner held by TCUK, where the guest speaker was Bim Afolami MP. The annual 1922 reception then followed, which was attended by a number of cabinet ministers and a keynote speech was given by the Home Secretary Priti Patel MP. The Policy Chair hosted, alongside the Director of the Centre for Policy Studies, a roundtable on the future of financial services after-Brexit. The guest speaker was City Minister John Glen MP. A mix of businesses and trade bodies were present. The City Corporation, The Law Society and the Policy Exchange, hosted an open fringe event on the importance of the Rule of Law. Secretary General Michael Ellis QC MP, The Law Society President Simon Davis and the Australian High Commissioner to the UK, Hon. George Brandis QC, joined the Policy Chair on the panel for a well-attended event. The Policy Chair made use of the Conservative Party's official Business Day, attending various cabinet ministers' panel discussions and engaging with high-level politicians and businesses at the Business Day lunch. The City Corporation's dinner guest speaker was Chris Philp MP, Parliamentary Secretary of State for Justice and Member for Croydon South. The dinner brought together local and national political figures and senior business representatives from the financial and professional services sector.
- b. A member of the Corporate Affairs Team provided a Member briefing for, and attended, the Green Party conference.
- c. The Policy Chair attended the Scottish National Party conference in Aberdeen, where she took part in a panel event convened by TheCityUK and Dods Magazine, entitled Innovating for the Future – Challenges and Opportunities for the financial and related professional services industry. She appeared on the panel with Stewart Hosie MP, Kirsty Blackman MP and Colin Beattie MSP.

Also in Aberdeen, the Policy Chair attended the SNP's private business dinner, where she held conversations with the First Minister, Nicola Sturgeon MSP, and other senior members of the Scottish Government, including the Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Education and Skills, John Swinney MSP and the Cabinet Secretary for Finance, Economy and Fair Work, Derek Mackay MSP.

- d. Reports were circulated to Members after each Party Conference in collaboration with the REM Parliamentary office.
 - e. Following the discussion at the last PRED, Corporate Affairs will bring a report to PRED in early 2020 with suggested proposals to reflect Members' views on Party Conference activity.
 - f. Dinner venues and hotels have been booked for the Liberal Democrat, Labour and Conservative Party conferences in Autumn 2020.
6. The above links to the following Business Plan objectives:
- a. To remain relevant in the policy-making and political sphere;
 - b. To bring stakeholders together to discuss policy issues that affect them, and subsequently deliver on any desired outcome of that discussion.

National engagement

7. The Corporate Affairs Team:

- a. Organised and provided support for the Policy Chair's meetings with Nick Hurd MP, Lord Deben, Nadhim Zahawi MP and Wes Streeting MP.
- b. Provided support for Aldermen speaking at:
 - the Legal Geek conference in London
 - the State Bank of India Diwali reception
- c. Provided support for the Policy Chair speaking at:
 - a presentation to diplomats on the role of the City of London
 - events with the Austrian, Danish, Luxembourg and German Ambassadors
 - the City Corporation's reception and green finance seminar in Brussels
 - an event with Cicero and Chris Woolard of the FCA
 - the International Chamber of Commerce 'Going Global' conference
 - a lecture at the London Business School
- d. Provided support for Deputy Chairs of the Policy and Resources Committee speaking at:
 - a City Property Association seminar on 're-inventing Fleet Street'
 - an APPG for Digital Skills event

8. The above links to the following Business Plan objectives:
- a. To deliver clear, consistent and confident public messaging across the City Corporation;
 - b. To have coordinated political engagement activity across the organisation;
 - c. To remain relevant in the policy-making and political sphere;
 - d. To bring stakeholders together to discuss policy issues that affect them, and subsequently deliver on any desired outcome of that discussion.

International Engagement

9. The Corporate Affairs Team assists the City Corporation's overseas engagements undertaken by the Policy Chair and Lord Mayor. The Corporate Affairs Team has:
 - a. Attended the annual Brussels reception, engaged with MEPs and Embassy representatives, and attended the Corporation's panel event with the GFI.
 - b. Provided support for Aldermen speaking at the IBA Conference in Seoul
 - c. Provided support for the Policy Chair speaking at the City Corporation's reception and green finance seminar in Brussels
10. The above links to the following Business Plan objectives:
 - a. To deliver clear, consistent and confident public messaging across the City Corporation.

London – Local engagement and London promotion

11. The Corporate Affairs Team seeks to maintain and develop the City Corporation's engagement with communities, bodies and authorities across London.
 - a. The Policy Chair had her latest catch-up with Unmesh Desai, who represents the City on the London Assembly, where they talked about key ongoing issues of mutual interest, including an update on Unmesh's work on the Assembly which is of interest to the City of London Corporation.
 - b. Preparations are in place for a number of London Borough visits the Policy Chair is making in coming weeks, including to Harrow, Lewisham and Wandsworth, where she will meet the Borough Leaders and look at what more the City and each borough can do together
 - c. We are in the process of reaching out to the Mayoral candidates to discuss engagement ahead of the London Mayoral Election in May 2020.
12. The above links to the following Business Plan objectives:
 - a. To have coordinated political engagement activity across the organisation;
 - b. To remain relevant in the policy-making and political sphere;
 - c. To bring stakeholders together to discuss policy issues that affect them, and subsequently deliver on any desired outcome of that discussion.

Think-tanks and third-party organisations

13. As part of the City Corporation's engagement with think tanks and other external organisations, the Corporate Affairs Team:
 - a. Organised and attended the Strand Group lecture and dinner event
 - b. Continues to organise the sponsorship of the Margaret Thatcher Lecture organised by the Centre for Policy Studies, to be held in March 2020
 - c. Met with Centre for Cities to look at partnership opportunities
 - d. Finalised the organisation of the upcoming Battle of Ideas Festival, held in the Barbican
 - e. Is reviewing think tank memberships ahead of the next calendar and financial year
14. The above links to the following Business Plan objectives:

- a. To bring stakeholders together to discuss policy issues that affect them, and subsequently deliver on any desired outcome of that discussion.

Priorities for the next quarter

15. Priorities for the Corporate Affairs team over the next four months are:
 - a. Reviewing think tank memberships and looking at partnership opportunities
 - b. Monitoring the political environment and preparing for a General Election, with associated engagement opportunities
 - c. Organising the final wave of London Borough meetings for the Policy Chair, with the aim of having organised engagement with all 32 boroughs by the end of 2019. There are seven boroughs remaining to visit.
 - d. Continuing to effectively communicate **(a)** Brexit messaging and associated risks/opportunities and **(b)** the London Fundamentals messaging, to key political stakeholders
 - e. Continuing with the sports engagement programme which is the subject of a separate report to this Committee, every quarter.

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Committee(s)	Dated:
Public Relations and Economic Development Sub-Committee	5 November 2019
Subject: Parliamentary Team Update	Public
Report of: Paul Double, City Remembrancer	For Information
Report author: Bruce Hunt, Parliamentary Briefings Manager	

This report 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. An oral update will be provided at the meeting on the Government's Brexit parliamentary programme.

This report is written with reference to the top line parliamentary objectives and deliverables of the Remembrancer's Office Departmental Business Plan 2019-20. For the Committee's reference, these are set out in the appendix.

This report covers the period since the last meeting of the Public Relations and Economic Development Sub Committee on 10 October.

Recommendation

Members are asked to note the report.

Main Report

The Queen's Speech

1. An overview of The Queen's Speech on 14 October was sent to Members, highlighting those Bills likely to be of principal interest to the City Corporation.

Party Conferences

2. A member of the Parliamentary Team attended the SNP Conference in Aberdeen. His report was incorporated with the Policy Chair's reflections and Corporate Affairs' commentary and sent to Members following the end of the conference.

Brexit legislation (Objective 1)

3. The Queen's Speech contained a number of Brexit related Bills. Although they are yet to be introduced in the new Parliamentary Sessions, several of them – Trade Bill, Agriculture Bill, Fisheries Bill, Immigration Bill – appear to be the same as Bills which were stalled in the last Parliamentary Session.
4. For the first time since the Falklands War in 1982, Parliament took the rare move to sit on a Saturday in order to debate the Prime Minister's revised deal. Following the debate, MPs supported a motion tabled by independent Conservative Sir Oliver Letwin to withhold approval for the revised deal until legislation implementing it has been passed. The withholding of approval compelled the Prime Minister to send a letter to Brussels requesting a three-month Brexit delay under the terms of the so-called Benn Act.

5. When Parliament returned on the following Monday, the Speaker refused to allow a second 'meaningful vote' on the Government's deal, which, it was argued, had received conditional approval when the motion had proceeded 'on the nod' and without division after the Letwin amendment had been passed. The Government subsequently introduced the EU (Withdrawal Agreement) Bill, the passing of which before 31 October would satisfy the need for a 'meaningful vote' and the Letwin amendment. However, while Parliament then voted in favour of the Withdrawal Agreement Bill at Second Reading, it refused to approve the Government's timetable motion for the Bill, leading the Government to 'pause' it.
6. The EU27 has agreed to extend the Brexit deadline until 31 January 2020, with the option of leaving earlier if a deal is agreed, while the Prime Minister has indicated his desire for a General Election to resolve the parliamentary deadlock. To trigger an election, however, under the Fixed Term Parliament Act the Government would need the support of two thirds of MPs in Parliament for such a move. Other techniques to trigger an election in the absence of such support are a vote of no confidence (including one called by the Government itself, though this would be an extreme step of self-criticism for any government to take) or specific legislation to provide for an election, which would also require Parliament's agreement.

City Corporation legislation (Objective 2)

7. Lord Tope, who has agreed to sponsor the City's Emissions Reduction (Local Authorities in London) Bill, was drawn 15th in the House of Lords Private Members' Bill Ballot and (subject to any intervening general election) will receive parliamentary time for debate. He formally introduced the Bill on 22 October and is awaiting a date for Second Reading. The text of the Bill, which has now been printed, can be found at www.services.parliament.uk/bills.
8. Following the decision of the Court on 25 April that the City Corporation's three wholesale markets should be relocated, work on a private bill relating to the relocation of the City Corporation's markets is being further developed. The Remembrancer wrote to relevant MPs, All-Party Parliamentary Groups, Committees, and GLA Assembly Members to draw their attention to the public consultation. The Remembrancer and Director of the Markets Consolidation Programme met with the Chair of the Markets All-Party Parliamentary Group (who agreed to promote the Bill) to discuss procedural aspects of the City Corporation's plans.

Parliamentary and Government inquiries (Objective 3)

9. Working with colleagues in Innovation & Growth the Office is preparing submissions to several select committee inquiries, including UK-China trade (International Trade Committee), the UK's strategic engagement in Africa (Foreign Affairs Committee), and prosperity, peace and development in sub-Saharan Africa (Lords International Relations Committee).
10. Following a written submission to the EFRA Committee on puppy smuggling, the City Corporation was invited to give oral evidence to the Committee. The team helped to prepare Rob Quest from Markets & Consumer Protection for the oral hearing which took place on 22 October.
11. In cooperation with IG, GSMD, the Barbican and other stakeholders, a response to the Immigration White Paper consultation is being prepared.

Responding to issues raised in Parliament (Objective 4)

12. The Office will respond to new Bills announced in The Queen's Speech as they are introduced in Parliament. Those likely to be of interest include:

- **Private International Law (Implementation of Agreements) Bill**
The Bill's aim is to maintain the UK's role as a world leader in delivering justice across borders on civil and family justice issues. It will implement international conventions relating to cross-border commercial contracts and family law in domestic legislation.
- **Sentencing Bill**
The Bill will change the point at which prisoners are automatically released from halfway to two-thirds of their sentence for those serving 4 or more years. It will extend the circumstances where the starting point for murder sentencing is a whole life order. It will also strengthen community orders.
- **Foreign National Offenders Bill**
The Bill aims to disrupt the activities of organised criminal networks which facilitate the illegal return of foreign national offenders. It will increase the maximum penalty for foreign national offenders who return to the UK.
- **Animal Welfare**
The Speech referred to proposals to improve the welfare of animals in agriculture and in the wild and to increase maximum sentences for animal cruelty from six months to five years, though this measure would be implemented under the Animal Welfare Act 2006, rather than new legislation.
- **Environment Bill**
The Bill will establish a new Office for Environmental Protection. Measures will be designed to improve air and water quality, tackle plastic pollution and restore habitats. Legislation will also create new legally-binding environmental improvement targets. A briefing from the City Corporation on its air quality initiatives was sent to MPs ahead of the Bill's scheduled Second Reading on 28 October.
- **Extradition (Provisional Arrest) Bill**
This Bill will give police officers powers to arrest individuals who are wanted by "trusted international partners". In the event that the UK no longer had access to the European Arrest Warrant after leaving the EU, the Bill would replicate the immediate power of arrest currently available in respect of persons wanted by EU Member States when a European Arrest Warrant has been issued.
- **Police Protections Bill**
The Bill will place a Police Covenant on a statutory footing, in support of police officers, and allow special constables to join the Police Federation.
- **Serious Violence Bill**
The Bill will place a new duty on public sector bodies, in fields such as local government, education, social services, youth offending, and health and probation, to work collaboratively, and share data and information, in order to tackle crime. Combatting serious violence will become a specific priority for Community Safety Partnerships, which include local police, fire and probation services, as well as local

authorities and wider public services. The Government's intention is that an emphasis should be placed on intervention with young people.

Enhancing Parliamentary engagement (Objective 5)

13. The Office organised a breakfast reception for the All-Party Parliamentary Group for Digital Skills which took place on 23 October. The Group aims to emphasise the urgency of upskilling the work force in digital skills to enhance the UK's productivity, competitiveness and social mobility. The meeting was addressed by the Lord Mayor, Deputy Tom Sleigh, APPG Chair Julie Elliott MP and Chris Green MP, vice-chair of the Group and a Parliamentary Private Secretary in the Department of Education. Guests at the event included other parliamentarians, the APPG's sponsors – BT, City and Guilds, Google, and The Education Technology Association – and industry representatives.
14. The Office arranged a reception on 21 October in the House of Commons to discuss the Lord Mayor's role in supporting commercial diplomacy, allowing him to look back on his year as an ambassador for UK financial and professional services. The reception, jointly organised with the Industry and Parliament Trust, drew guests from the Lord Mayor's business delegations, business stakeholders, policy and parliament. Asia and the Pacific Minister Heather Wheeler also spoke, highlighting where the Government perceived international trade opportunities to lie.

GLA and the devolved institutions (Objective 6)

15. Caroline Russell (Green), the chair of the GLA's Environment Committee, has accepted a meeting to brief her on the City Corporation's environmental initiatives, including the Emissions Reduction Bill. This is currently scheduled for 1 November.

Key priorities over the next month

16. To ensure Lord Tope is fully briefed ahead of the second reading of the City's Emissions Reductions Bill;
17. To assess new Bills as they are introduced into Parliament for their impacts on the City Corporation;
18. To continue work in support of the markets' relocation programme and the introduction of a private bill;
19. To organise a roundtable meeting between the Policy Chair and the SNP Westminster Group to discuss global trade in financial services, which is likely to take place in December;
20. To find another date for the private roundtable with the International Trade Committee to discuss UK-US-China trade, which was due to take place on 22 October and which was postponed following the scheduling of the European Union (Withdrawal Agreement) Bill's Second Reading for the same day.

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Appendix: Parliamentary Team Objectives

1. Propose amendments or new clauses to Brexit-related legislation to reflect City Corporation views and report on the progress of such legislation to Members.
2. Draft and secure the passage through Parliament of City 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 City 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.

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Committee	Dated:
Public Relations & Economic Development Sub-Committee	5 November 2019
Subject: IG monthly update – November	Public
Report of: Damian Nussbaum, Director of Innovation & Growth	For Information
Report author: Emily Howell, Executive Officer, Innovation & Growth	

Summary

The following report provides Members with highlights of the key activity undertaken by the Innovation & Growth Directorate (IG) in MONTH 2019. 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. For brevity, we have not included activities listed elsewhere eg visit to the US.

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. We joined Mark Florman, Chair of the Sustainable Development Capital Initiative (SDCI), to meet Nick Dyer, Director General for Economic Development and International at the Department for International Development (DfID). SDCI is the City's response to advancing transparency and mobilising increased capital flows in support of the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). We discussed with Nick how SDCI would show up at the UK-Africa Investment Summit in January 2020 and how SDCI can further collaborate with DfID in 2020.

World Class Business Environment

2. The IRSG Executive Board met to discuss the current state of play of the Brexit negotiations and to consider the implications of the most recent UK government's proposals on Brexit. The Board also approved a proposal by the IRSG Data workstream for a project on the global regulatory landscape.

3. The Chair of Policy and Resources has written to c.50 Banking and Asset Management firms, requesting their engagement in a collaborative piece of research on Social Mobility. We already have commitment from Santander and the Bank of England and have expressions of interest from 10 other firms. In partnership with the Bridge Group, the research aims to explore the link between job performance and career progression and retention, in relation to socio-economic background. Are high achievers from lower socio-economic backgrounds progressing at a slower rate than average achievers from more privileged backgrounds? If so, this insight can inform discussions around productivity and competitiveness. The Skills Policy team welcomes introductions to banking and asset management firms who may wish to collaborate.
4. The Skills team continued to monitor Section 106, a planning policy which ensures developers of City sites (currently 23 in total) to recruit locally for construction jobs and develop a workforce that builds the Square Mile – as well as funding our policy work. Headlines from 2018-19 show the benefit for Londoners: 750 jobs; 30 apprenticeships; 24 jobs in new hotels; and £40m of contracts for local SMEs.
5. The City of London Corporation sponsored Legal Design Geek – a series of workshops aimed at increasing innovative thinking amongst the legal sector and introducing new technologies to improve the delivery of legal products and services. We partnered with Simmons Wavelength to deliver a workshop to the 250 attendees. Sir David Wootton spoke at the main Legal Geek conference on the importance of law firms investing in technology and innovation to ensure that the sector remains fit for future. This helps underpin the position and reputation of the City as a legal centre.
6. The research team produced a new infographic on job changes in the City, London and Great Britain based on the latest release of the Business Register and Employment Survey (BRES), which provides the most in-depth and robust information on employment and sectoral composition changes. The City saw employment growth to a new high of 522K in September 2018, the date of the survey, and at a time when up to 10,000 financial services jobs were expected to leave the UK, according to EY. City growth was slower than in 2017 at 2%, but still higher than London at 0.2% and GB at 0.7% – both of which were also considerably slower than previous years. In terms of KPIs for the infographic, our posts from the City of London main account on LinkedIn accumulated an above industry average engagement rate of 3.74% (average is 1% according to LinkedIn and this includes the number of likes, shares, and retweets), our posts on Twitter had a potential reach of 100,000 people and our mailing campaign had an open rate of 36.5%, above the 21.6% industry average.

Partnerships and Engagement

7. In partnership with the Chartered Institute of Securities and Investment and Investment2020, 62 students from CoLC academies will have the opportunity to undertake a 'Fundamentals of Financial Services' course, followed by a year of employability support. This programme for year 12 and 13 students aims to

increase knowledge and interest in financial services, as well as introducing students to employers through a series of workshops and work experience opportunities. The Skills Policy team welcomes introductions to employers who may wish to support this programme.

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Committee(s): Public Relations & Economic Development Sub-Committee	Date: 5 November 2019
Subject: EU engagement – Brussels Annual Reception	Public
Report of: Damian Nussbaum, Director of Innovation & Growth	For Information
Report author: Sarah Murray, Head of Regulation, Innovation & Growth	

Summary

The City of London Corporation has recently hosted a number of high-profile events in Brussels to promote the City's core messages regarding its relationship with the EU, with a specific focus on sustainable finance. Only eight months after the appointment of Nick Collier as Managing Director of the City's Brussels office, the impact of the City's increased presence is paying dividends. The recent Annual Brussels Reception and associated activities demonstrates the impact of the City's step change in its engagement in Europe.

Recommendation(s)

Members are asked to:

- Note the report; and
- Consider mechanisms for increasing member involvement in the City's engagement in Brussels.

Main Report

Background

1. The vision, mission and offer of the City's increased engagement in a post-Brexit EU are;
 - **Vision:** To promote the City's global competitiveness in financial and professional services (FPS) through meaningful engagement to drive City positioning and influence in the EU policy landscape as a third country.
 - **Mission:** The City Corporation is seen as a credible partner, whom stakeholders turn to as a centre of knowledge. We are subsequently able to leverage this position to focus on our strategic priorities.
 - **Offer:** The City Corporation is seen as constructive, collaborative, credible and connected. We act as an effective channel of communication between Brussels and London, acting as a hub for the UK industry voice in Brussels and providing a platform for partners to promote City messaging.
2. Nick Collier took up post as Managing Director of the City's Office in Brussels in March 2019. Since then and with the assistance of a strengthened team in Brussels, the City's engagement in Brussels has seen a significant step change.

Current Position

3. In addition to an ongoing engagement programme with senior European Commission officials, MEPs and representatives of key member states, the City's Office in Brussels now has an extensive programme of events touching on a wide range of policy areas. These include operational risk, Capital Markets Union, green finance, AI, and Women in Finance. This monthly events programme – generally in partnership with other organisations or showcasing thought leadership pieces – has positioned the City's Office in Brussels as a credible source of insight and knowledge into UK positions regarding financial services.
4. On 15 October the Chair of Policy and Resources, accompanied by Tom Sleight and Alison Gowman¹, were in Brussels to host the Annual Brussels Reception. Compared to previous editions and comparable industry events in Brussels, the event attracted a large high-level audience, with around 300 key stakeholders and guests including the Japanese Ambassador to the EU as well as several MEPs and senior industry representatives. Showcasing the world class cultural offering of the City of London, the event featured the Lumen Quartet from the Guildhall School of Music. This event provided the City with a key opportunity to connect with our stakeholders at this important time.
5. In addition, the Policy Chair had a programme of high-level meetings and productive engagement opportunities including a private lunch with third country Ambassadors (US, Canada, Australia, Japan, Singapore and Switzerland) which provided an invaluable opportunity to exchange ideas on areas of common interest such as green finance, and to hear about their experiences of engaging with the EU as a third country.
6. The City Office in Brussels also hosted a breakfast event on green finance with Rhian-Mari Thomas, CEO of the Green Finance Institute (GFI), which was attended by more than 70 representatives from industry, other EU government representatives and staff from the EU institutions. The event facilitated a lively discussion on this important topic. In particular, it highlighted the UK's thought leadership through the GFI and showed how the UK and EU can work together on green finance issues.
7. The City's Office in Brussels also arranged a bilateral programme of meetings for Rhian Mari Thomas which included engagement with the European Commission lead on green finance.
8. This year's clear theme of sustainable finance, which flowed from the keynote speech of Paul Tang MEP at the Annual Brussels Reception through to the breakfast roundtable with the GFI, helped to reinforce our key messages around green finance, as well as providing an opportunity to speak to a positive, forward-looking agenda at such a politically sensitive time.
9. Indeed, the step change in the level of attendance achieved at these events and seniority of meetings arranged for the Policy Chair demonstrates the impact of the

¹ Who had a separate programme of meetings at the Philanthropy House and the King Baudouin Foundation.

increased presence of the City in Brussels. These events took place on the eve of the European Summit which was due to consider a possible deal on the terms of the UK's departure from the EU. The presence of the Policy Chair and senior Members, and the associated high-level engagement, helped to reinforce the strong networks that Nick Collier and the team at the City Office in Brussels have built, especially amongst the third country representatives.

Forward look: 2020

10. The formula of a large, high-profile reception with a linked thematic seminar and programme of high-level meetings maximised the impact of the policy chair's time in Brussels – to be replicated in 2020.
11. The thematic focus on topics of shared interest to be pursued in future editions. Themes which speak to key EU priorities such as impact investment, fintech and tackling economic crime – to be explored in 2020.

Conclusion

12. The step change in the level of attendance achieved at these events and seniority of meetings arranged for the Chair of Policy and Resources demonstrates the impact of the increased presence of the City in Brussels, notably at a very delicate juncture.
13. Members' support and engagement in Brussels can greatly enhance the voice of the City. Having a series of side events creates greater opportunities for meaningful member engagement.

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Committee(s): Public Relations & Economic Development Sub-Committee	Date(s): 5 November 2019
Subject: Joint Lord Mayor and Chair of Policy & Resources visit to New York City	Public
Report of: Damian Nussbaum, Director of Innovation & Growth	For Information
Report author: Lisa Dimon, Head of Americas & Banking, Innovation & Growth	

Summary

The Chair of Policy & Resources and Lord Mayor’s joint visit to New York provided the opportunity to test the impact of combined engagement. The aim was to maximise impact by majoring on both policy and regulatory issues, and trade promotion. This was achieved through the seniority and breadth of engagement – from Citi, JPMorgan, Blackrock and Bloomberg through to significant venture capital (VC) firms.

Recommendation

Members are asked to note the following visit report.

Main Report

Background

1. The joint visit of the Policy Chair and Lord Mayor to New York City took place on 7 October 2019. The Policy Chair followed the New York City programme with a visit to Washington D.C. as part of the City Corporation’s regular engagement with the US.
2. The New York City visit began with a roundtable breakfast event with financial services executives hosted by British American Business. The discussion focused on the future UK-US trade relationship. Attendees noted the need to embrace innovation whilst ensuring we have the right safeguards.
3. The Policy Chair and Lord Mayor then went to meet Bloomberg. The conversation covered a number of key topics including future infrastructure projects across the City; ensuring regular communication with European employees in the City; possible collaborative engagement on climate finance; and the potential value of creating a global renminbi working group.
4. A meeting with Citi followed and saw Citi express their support of London and the UK whilst acknowledging the challenges of Brexit. ESG (environmental, social and governance) was also raised as Citi are involved in the Poseidon Principles

(a global framework for responsible ship finance) and encouraged the City Corporation to get involved.

5. Blackrock then hosted the Corporation for a lunch meeting. Blackrock were keen to understand the different City Corporation ESG initiatives and possible collaboration opportunities around Conference of the Parties (COP26). It was noted that there is a global issue regarding the numerous and differing regulatory frameworks, standards and reporting mechanisms for ESG and that global standards were needed. Again, it was acknowledged that global interest and awareness of ESG is increasing and Blackrock has launched new ESG orientated products. The Policy Chair also offered to share information on the Corporation's social mobility work.
6. The final bilateral meeting was with JP Morgan. JP Morgan also expressed their support for the UK and London (particularly recognising the UK's talent pool and the strength of the UK's core fundamentals). However, the challenges of Brexit were also strongly acknowledged, as well the need for the UK to remain competitive and attractive going forward (particularly regarding regulation). The impact of AI, cloud and digital transformation on the financial services sector was a key topic of conversation including the need for regulators to remain forward thinking and adaptive. The value of cross-sector business engagement in the UK on key topics such policy, innovation, skills and trade was also highlighted.
7. The joint visit closed with the City Corporation co-hosting a VC-focused roundtable discussion with Her Majesty's Trade Commissioner, Antony Phillipson. The roundtable formed part of the City Corporation's new VC focused campaign and the discussion centred around East Coast VCs interest in, and views on, the UK's FinTech sector. Attendees again noted the attractiveness of the UK's talent pool but referenced the need for local partners when looking to invest in the UK.

Conclusion

8. The draw of engaging with both senior City Corporation officials was evident in the calibre and seniority of the meetings secured for the visit. These bilaterals were of significant value to us and facilitated engagement on both regulatory and policy issues, as well as trade, investment and innovation focused areas, and provided a platform to discuss concerns and opportunities for future collaboration across key themes such as sustainability and innovation.
9. The joint visit was deemed a success and will act as a template for a second joint visit in May 2020 (as agreed at the recent MVAC, PRED and Policy & Resources Committee meetings). The Policy Chair and Lord Mayor will also continue regular individual visits to the US.

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Committee(s)	Dated:
Public Relations & Economic Development Sub-Committee	5 November 2019
Subject: Chair of Policy & Resources visit to Washington D.C.	Public
Report of: Damian Nussbaum, Director of Innovation & Growth	For Information
Report author: Duncan Richardson, Head of Global Trade Policy, Innovation & Growth	

Summary

The Policy Chair's visit to Washington DC focused on trade and regulatory convergence, and reinforced the appetite for progress on trade, balanced with a need to push forward in parallel on regulatory convergence.

Recommendation(s)

Members are asked to note the report.

Main Report

Background

1. The Policy Chair's visit to Washington D.C. took place on 8-9 October 2019 and was preceded by the joint visit of the Policy Chair and Lord Mayor to New York.
2. Trade was the principal topic of conversation for the Policy Chair's visit to Washington DC. Likely priorities will be China, USMCA (the United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement) and Japan. There is also interest, albeit to a lesser degree, in the restoration rather than reform of the WTO and the US-EU relationship.
3. USMCA's renegotiation and nascent UK-US discussions have engendered ambition to explore what more free trade agreements (FTA) can achieve. Yet, given the differing political contexts, applying learnings from USMCA's passage to a future UK-US deal would be premature. As on previous visits, our US counterparts were quick to highlight the length of time required to negotiate FTAs; the deep political sensitivities; and the importance of achieving clarity on the UK-EU relationship in the first instance.
4. Nonetheless, the US was ready to engage with the UK on potential future trade and commercial relationships, although the UK should not expect existing US objectives in this regard to shift. Moreover, conversations also recognised

opportunities to deliver marginal gains in services at a regulatory level outside an FTA framework.

5. There is, however, underlying recognition that the US and UK could set new precedents in trade. The US would be open to engagement on how to improve the USMCA text and, as always, a sense of industry priorities. Achieving increased business mobility for UK and US professionals is a recognised area for potential focus. Securing enhanced reciprocal visa access could potentially be achievable but is unlikely to form part of any FTA.
6. The US-UK Financial Regulatory Working Group continued to be warmly received. This is combined with a real desire to move the group from Brexit mitigation work to the future UK-US framework. Given the current openness of respective regimes, and the deep levels of integration that already exist in transatlantic FPS, interlocutors suggested the group provide a focus for aligning UK-US interests in the international arena alongside work on bilateral market access issues. In terms of the specific areas of focus, there is a need to think asymmetrically and consider engagement with relevant departments (e.g. the Department of Justice in relation to anti-money laundering or Know Your Customer). There may also be value in deepening understanding of other US regulatory dialogues.
7. Regarding potential future regulatory alignment between the US and the UK, ESG remains a controversial policy area in the US. Despite limited consensus on approach, there is shared understanding that shifting consumer demands make this a multi-billion-dollar market opportunity, and that a monolithic big-government approach to regulating activity should thus be avoided. To date, the US federal government has taken a hands-off approach, creating a framework allowing the sector to innovate while falling short of inherent incentivisation. This somewhat differs to the EU's taxonomy approach. There is an emerging sense that the UK and US could find common ground on governance models or disclosure requirements.
8. US officials look forward to the UK-US Financial Innovation Partnership sponsoring thinking on crypto assets. Government-to-business discussions will consider prudential issues, but there is hope that thinking on innovation could be carried into the Financial Regulatory Working Group.
9. Finally, the US will remain focused on market fragmentation issues and recognises that this will form a plank of the Saudi G20 agenda. The US has yet to firm up its G7 programme – though we noted the US signing up to inclusive growth commitments in Biarritz – and would welcome dialogue on the issues to advance across respective US and UK presidencies.

Conclusion

10. This was a fruitful series of meetings with very senior trade and regulatory officials. The City of London is regarded as enhancing an important agenda. Findings from this trip will contribute to ongoing HM Government workstreams on future UK priorities in trade and regulation.

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Committee(s)	Dated:
Public Relations & Economic Development Sub-Committee	10 October 2019
Subject: Policy Chair Visit to Switzerland, 4-5 September	Public
Report of: Damian Nussbaum, Director of Innovation & Growth	For Information
Report author: William Elliott, Head of Trade and Investment Strategy	

Summary

The Chair of Policy and Resources visited Basel, Berne and Zurich on 4-5 September. The City Corporation also hosted Federal Councillor Guy Parmelin at the Trade Dinner on 5 September. The main issues were:

- **Multilateral:** intelligence on global financial stability; Brexit impact; future global regulation; and fintech challenges.
- **Bilateral:** Switzerland's equivalence difficulties with the EU; future UK-Swiss free trade agreement (FTA) and the role of financial services; and City-Switzerland common cause as similarly positioned financial centres.

Recommendation

Members are requested to note the following visit report.

Main Report

Multilateral:

1. In Basel at the Bank of International Settlements, the Policy Chair met the Deputy Secretary-General of the Financial Stability Board (FSB) and the new Secretary General of the Basel Committee on Banking Supervision. She also covered multilateral issues in depth with the CEO of the Swiss Financial Market Supervisory Authority (FINMA), the unified Swiss regulator. Key points:
 - All were interested in probing the Policy Chair's views on the politics and on the economic impact of Brexit, but there was consensus that Brexit would not pose wider systemic risks to financial stability. There had been more concern a year ago, but the Bank of England, HM Treasury and EU bodies had provided reassurance.
 - Both the FSB and Basel Committee noted that their central mandate was to implement reforms agreed at an intergovernmental level after the 2008 financial crisis, and monitor adherence. They (and the CEO of FINMA) emphasised that refreshing that mandate would require political direction.
 - The exception to this was fintech, where there was pressure to consider the impact of new technologies. While crypto currency was still niche, 'solid coin' digital currencies such as Libra would require multilateral responses. Global cyber standards were also needed.

- The UK, through the FCA, had long been regarded as the unchallenged global leader in innovative fintech regulation. It was hoped that this would continue, despite the distractions of Brexit.
- Global financial regulation and standard-setting were under pressure, as other multinational rules-based systems. Yet beneath the rhetoric, regulators were acting responsibly and were bound into the system.
- Now was probably not the time for eye-catching new initiatives on financial regulation; good ideas could be shot down for bad ('political') reasons.
- The Policy Chair offered City support in helping the Basel bodies engage more strongly with business. London was an obvious and convenient centre of global business expertise - a place not only to seek UK views, but also those of US, China and EU.

Bilateral

2. In meetings and over a dinner hosted by the Ambassador, the Policy Chair met among others the Swiss regulator, chief trade negotiator, Banking Association, Ministries of Finance and Economics, Swiss Central Bank, the *economiesuisse* trade body and SIX Group, which provides Switzerland's financial trading infrastructure. Key points:
 - The recent EU withdrawal of equivalence for trading in Swiss shares had been clearly political, not technical. In the event, disruption had been minimised thanks to decisive political leadership at the Federal level.
 - But more importantly, the overall message was that Brexit was changing the Swiss-EU relationship, that the Swiss 'patchwork' of historic equivalence-based deals would be now squeezed, that equivalence was a political instrument and that temporary fixes would be used as levers as well.
 - There was satisfaction that the post-Brexit Trade Continuity Agreement with the UK had been negotiated so quickly and painlessly. This encouraged optimism – at least at a technical level - that a UK-Swiss FTA could be agreed quickly, with ambitious provisions on financial services.
 - The convergences of interest were many – both UK and Switzerland had large financial and professional services (FPS) sectors, both were outward-looking (trading) rather than domestically focussed, both relied on global investors, both had a liberal outlook, well-respected regulation and a strong innovation sector.
 - The Policy Chair and others praised the *economiesuisse*-City UK paper on future trade in FPS, in particular the emphasis on mutual recognition, an outcomes-based approach, regulatory co-operation and dispute resolution - all floated by the IRSG.
 - The Policy Chair offered to help establish a trade body-FPS business group to shadow the HM Treasury-led Economic and Financial Dialogue. This proposal was welcomed.
 - All looked forward to a deepening of the partnership; Switzerland and the City were already well-aligned for the above reasons. UK-Swiss progress in establishing new principles for FPS regulation around mutual recognition could set the tone for EU-Swiss and EU-UK future arrangements, lead global innovation and create an influential new block in intentional fora.

International Trade Dinner on 5 September

3. Federal Councillor Guy Parmelin (the leading economic/trade Minister) attended and sat with the Policy and Liz Truss, Secretary of State for International Trade. The Policy Chair – and business – took the opportunity to discuss UK-Swiss FTA and mutual recognition with both him and the secretary of state during the dinner.

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Committees	Date
Public Relations and Economic Development Sub-Committee (for information)	5 November 2019
Planning and Transportation Committee (for information)	5 November 2019
Culture Heritage and Libraries Committee (for information)	11 November 2019
Hampstead Heath, Highgate Wood and Queens Park Committee (for information)	13 November 2019
Education Board (for information)	14 November 2019
Epping Forrest and Commons Committee (for information)	18 November 2019
Health and Wellbeing Board (for information)	22 November 2019
Streets and Walkways Sub (Planning and Transportation) Committee (for information)	3 December 2019
Open Spaces and City Gardens Committee (for information)	9 December 2019
Community and Children’s Services Committee (for information)	13 December 2019
Hampstead Heath Consultative Committee (for information)	27 January 2020
Subject The City of London Corporation’s DRAFT Sport and Physical Activity Strategy for 2020-25	
Report of Kate Smith – Head of Corporate Strategy and Performance	Public
Report Author Sufina Ahmad – Corporate Strategy Manager	For information

Summary

The Corporate Strategy and Performance Team (CSPT) was asked to develop a Sport and Physical Activity Strategy for the City of London Corporation following a decision in December 2018 at Policy and Resources Committee to invest in sport engagement work. Elected Members reviewed a previous version of the Sport and Physical Activity strategy for 2019-23 at nine Committees and a Members’ Breakfast Briefing held between April 2019 and July 2019. Members provided extensive comments, including raising a motion at Court (included at Appendix One), and asked that a new draft be shared at Committees and at a Members’ Breakfast for their feedback, and hopefully, endorsement. The new draft, which incorporates all the comments raised, can be found at Appendix Two.

The vision for the strategy is: *To champion and maximise the social, economic and health benefits of sport and physical activity to individuals, communities, businesses and public bodies we work with across the Square Mile, London and beyond.* The key outcomes and activities include the City Corporation working with others to deliver successful major sporting events for London and the UK, sport engagement activities that strengthen community cohesion, and work that ensures people have

access to and participate in sport and physical activity. The strategy aligns to our Corporate Plan for 2018-23, specifically outcomes 2, 3, 4, 7 and 10. Once the strategy has been shared with all of the Committees listed on page one for their feedback and comments, these will be incorporated in to a proposed final version, which will be presented to Policy and Resources Committee in February 2020 for their approval.

Recommendations

This Committee is asked to:

- i. Review the draft version of the Sport and Physical Activity Strategy – and provide their feedback on it which officers will then incorporate as directed.
- ii. Consider whether or not they will endorse the strategy, subject to the changes requested being made.
- iii. Consider and advise if a budget should be set aside and a brief agreed for an expert to review the commercial prospects of existing assets and how best to promote participation and access.

Main Report

Background

1. In December 2018, Policy and Resources Committee approved a paper setting out a strategic approach to sport engagement activities by the City Corporation, which included the decision to invest in a Sports Engagement Manager, based in the Corporate Affairs Team. Consequently, it was felt that the City Corporation would benefit from a strategy document on sport and physical activity. The CSPT was asked to develop this strategy, which it did through desk-based research and meetings with the following internal and external colleagues:
 - a) Sam Hutchings – Town Clerk’s
 - b) Eugenie de Naurois – Town Clerk’s
 - c) Nick Bodger – Town Clerk’s
 - d) Paul Double – Remembrancer’s
 - e) Daniel McGrady – Community and Children’s Services
 - f) Andrea Laurice – Built Environment
 - g) Gerry Kiefer – Open Spaces
 - h) Xenia Koumi – Community and Children’s Services
 - i) Sam Bedford – Community and Children’s Services
 - j) Simon Cribbens – Community and Children’s Services
 - k) Greg Knight – Community and Children’s Services
 - l) Steve Garrett – Sport England
 - m) Emily Neilan – London Sport.

Current Position

2. The strategy was shared with elected Members at the following Committees for comment:
 - Health and Wellbeing Board (HWB), April 2019
 - Hampstead Heath Consultative Committee (HHCC), April 2019

- Community and Children’s Services (CCS) Committee, May 2019
- Epping Forest and Commons Committee (EF&C), May 2019
- Education Board (EB), May 2019
- Planning and Transportation Committee (P&T) (via email to chairman and deputy chairman), May 2019
- Streets and Walkways (Planning and Transportation) Sub-Committee (S&WSC), May 2019
- Hampstead Heath, Highgate Wood and Queen’s Park (HHHWQP) Committee, June 2019
- Public Relations and Economic Development (PRED) Sub-Committee, to take place on 2 July 2019.

Two additional informal opportunities to comment were requested and arranged:

- A meeting with Richard Sumray, a co-opted Member of HHCC and chair of the Sports Advisory Group, the chairman of HHCC and of HHHWQP and the chairman of EF&C, June 2019; and
- Informal Members’ Breakfast Briefing, on 28 June 2019, for which this pack has been produced so that comments to date and officers’ resultant proposals can be viewed in the round for further comment.

3. Members made substantial comments and have asked that it be presented to all Committees again. A motion was also raised at the Court of Common Council in September 2019. This can be found at Appendix One.
4. The new version incorporates all of the changes and additions suggested and is presented in this paper at Appendix Two, as well as incorporating feedback shared at a Members’ Breakfast Briefing held on 18 October 2019. The main changes to the draft relate to the vision and outcomes and the period of the strategy (2020-25). Information on the sport and physical activity related assets owned and operated by the City Corporation has also been included in the draft, as well as adding in information on the oversight and responsibility for the strategy.
5. For the purpose of this strategy, the City Corporation has defined sport and physical activity as follows:
Sport relates to any and all individual or team sports and physical activity is any bodily movement that requires the expenditure of low, moderate or high levels of energy. This can include activities such as walking, dancing, playing and other recreational pursuits. Exercise is a sub-category of physical activity, and it is defined as something that is planned, structured and repetitive, and aims to improve or maintain one or more components of physical fitness.
6. The City Corporation’s vision for the strategy is: *To champion and maximise the social, economic and health benefits of sport and physical activity to individuals, communities, businesses and public bodies we work with across the Square Mile, London and beyond.* The City Corporation will work with relevant local, regional and central governments, infrastructure bodies including Sport England and London and Partners, national governing bodies for sport, businesses, civil society organisations, including charities, and individuals and communities directly to deliver the work outlined in the strategy.

7. The three key outcomes the City Corporation aims to achieve are:
 - a) People enjoy good health and wellbeing through participating in accessible and high-quality sport and physical activity.
 - b) High profile and inclusive mass participation events strengthen community bonds and encourage more sport and physical activity.
 - c) London and the UK's economy and attractiveness as a place to live, work and visit is boosted through major sporting events.
8. The City Corporation will achieve these outcomes by building on our existing work and supporting the development and delivery of bids for major sporting events that benefit communities and the economy in London and the UK, alongside events, campaigns and activities that encourage individuals and communities to access and participate in sport and physical activities, including those activities that bring communities together positively.

Governance and implementation

9. Members have asked that a Sport and Physical Activity Working Party made up of elected Members is set up to oversee the successful implementation of this strategy. The Working Party would be supplied with information on progress against the strategy from relevant officers within the organisation. It is suggested that elected Members from the following Committees are represented on the Working Party:
 - Community and Children's Services Committee
 - Culture, Heritage and Libraries Committee
 - Epping Forest and Commons Committee
 - Education Board
 - Hampstead Heath Consultative Committee
 - Hampstead Heath, Highgate Wood and Queen's Park Committee
 - Health and Wellbeing Board
 - Hospitality Working Party of the Policy and Resources Committee
 - Planning and Transportation Committee
 - Policy and Resources Committee
 - Public Relations and Economic Development Sub-Committee
 - Streets and Walkways (Planning and Transportation) Sub-Committee.
10. The discussions of the Working Party could include, but not be limited to: approving the action plan for the strategy; ensuring that the strategy is reflected within the relevant departmental business plans and management plans; reviewing the effectiveness and impact of existing and planned activities and linking these to qualitative and quantitative success measures for each activity; investigating the best possible activities and use of assets and resources in pursuit of the outcomes in this strategy; and ensuring activities are delivered within the resources available – monitoring impact and spend to inform resource allocation.

11. This strategy will be delivered through the following departments:
- **Town Clerk's Department** – Corporate Affairs, Media, Committee and Member Services, Cultural Services and Events teams.
 - **Department of Community and Children's Services** – Strategic Education, Skills and Cultural Learning Unit, Commissioning, Public Health and Community Engagement teams.
 - **Remembrancer's Department** – Events Team.
 - **Department of Built Environment** – Strategic Transportation team.
 - **Open Spaces Department** – Central Management and site-specific teams.

Corporate and Strategic Implications

12. Corporate and Strategic Implications:

This strategy will support the following outcomes and associated high-level activities within the City Corporation's Corporate Plan for 2018-23:

Outcome 2: People enjoy good health and wellbeing

Outcome 3: People have equal opportunities to enrich their lives and reach their full potential.

Outcome 4: Communities are cohesive and have the facilities they need.

Outcome 7: We are a global hub for innovation in financial and professional services, commerce and culture.

Outcome 10: We inspire enterprise, excellence, creativity and collaboration.

This strategy also supports the work outlined in the following corporate strategies: Joint Health and Wellbeing, Social Wellbeing, Mental Health, Education, Visitor Destination, Corporate Volunteering and Transport.

13. Security Implications: The City Corporation will ensure that security needs are met when delivering major sporting events, involving Health and Safety, Security and City of London Police colleagues as needed.
14. Financial and Resourcing Implications: Existing officer resource and budgets, including the Hospitality Working Group budget, will be used to deliver the activities outlined in this strategy, including the maintenance of our facilities and the level to which the organisation expects to maintain this. However, decisions need to be made on how funding and resourcing will be prioritised, including if an existing or a new budget should be set aside and a brief agreed for an expert to review the commercial prospects of existing assets and how best to promote participation and access
15. Equalities Implications: All activities will need to comply with the priorities set out in the City Corporation's Equalities and Inclusion Action Plan, ensuring that the diverse needs of individuals and communities this work is aimed at are met.
16. Legal Implications: Any legal agreements or partnerships that the City Corporation considers or enters in to, particularly as part of major sporting events, will need to be signed off by the Comptroller and City Solicitor's department – ensuring that early steer and sign off is sought wherever possible.

Conclusion

17. This Committee is asked to review the Sport and Physical Activity Strategy for 2020-25 and provide their comments and feedback. It is also hoped that this committee will endorse the strategy, subject to the specified changes being made. Please note that once the draft strategy has been reviewed by all of the committees listed on page one, and the relevant changes incorporated, a new proposed final version of the strategy will be shared with Policy and Resources Committee in February 2020 for their approval.

Appendices

Appendix One – Motion raised at the Court of Common Council

Appendix Two – Proposed Final Draft Version of Sport and Physical Activity Strategy, 2019-23.

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Meeting	Date
Public Relations and Economic Development Sub Committee (for information)	5 November 2019
Community and Children’s Services Committee (for information)	7 November 2019
Education Board (for information)	14 November 2019
Policy and Resources Committee (for decision)	21 November 2019
Establishment Committee (for information)	10 December 2019
Subject Social Mobility Strategy, 2018-28 – Annual Report	
Report of The Director of City Bridge Trust and Chief Grants Officer	
Report Author Sufina Ahmad – Corporate Strategy Manager	For Information

Summary

This paper presents the first annual report at **Appendix One** for the City of London Corporation’s Social Mobility Strategy for 2018-28, which was approved by Policy and Resources Committee in September 2018. The report outlines the progress the City Corporation has made in the last 12 months in relation to our vision that *‘People enjoy a society where individuals from all socio-economic backgrounds can flourish and reach their full potential’*. The report is primarily aimed at officers and elected Members, but detail in the report can be used for external-facing communications.

The report offers detail on 16 key highlights from the last year, including: the London Careers Festival attended by 5,000 young people with 175 organisations participating; the use of £100,000 to deliver summer enrichment pilots in 2019 in Islington engaging over 100 young people; the City Corporation’s Living Wage Campaign which reached over five million people; and the City Corporation’s ranking of 56 out of a published Top 75 in the 2019 Social Mobility Employer Index.

Recommendations

Members of the Public Relations & Economic Development Sub Committee, Community and Children’s Services, Education Board and Establishment Committee are asked to:

- i. Endorse the Social Mobility Strategy Annual Report and provide guidance on how it should be shared with all Members.
- ii. Continue to prioritise the Social Mobility Strategy going forward.

Members of the Policy and Resources Committee are asked to:

- iii. Approve the Social Mobility Strategy Annual Report and provide guidance on how it should be shared with all Members.
- iv. Continue to prioritise the Social Mobility Strategy going forward.

Main Report

Background

1. The Social Mobility Strategy 2018-28 was approved in September 2018 by Policy and Resources Committee. The strategy focusses on a vision to *'People enjoy a society where individuals from all socio-economic backgrounds can flourish and reach their full potential'*. This is split into four strategic outcomes:
 - a) Everyone can develop the skills and talent they need to thrive.
 - b) Opportunity is accessed more evenly and equally across society.
 - c) Businesses and organisations are representative and trusted.
 - d) We role model and enable social mobility in the way we operate as an organisation and employer.

The first three outcome areas primarily relate to the external-facing work the City Corporation does with its key stakeholders in the Square Mile, the City, London and the UK, across the public, private, charitable and community sectors. The fourth outcome focuses on the City Corporation as an organisation and employer.

2. The delivery of the strategy has been overseen by the Social Mobility Implementation Group, which is chaired by the Director of City Bridge Trust and Chief Grants Officer, as the Senior Responsible Officer for the strategy. The Group meets quarterly and is made up of officers from: Corporate Strategy and Performance Team (CSPT), Corporate Philanthropy and Volunteering, City Bridge Trust (CBT), Department of Community and Children's Services (DCCS), Strategic Education, Skills and Culture Unit, Human Resources (HR) and the Town Clerk and Chief Executive's Office. The implementation of the strategy is facilitated through the CSPT who provide organisational oversight to maximise the City Corporation's collective impacts on social mobility; programme management; and ensure there is a clear corporate narrative on social mobility.

Current Position

3. The strategy has been supported by a comprehensive 12-month action plan, which started in January 2019. A total of 81 activities were identified across the aforementioned four strategic outcomes. Of these, 10% are complete, 84% are on-track/ongoing, 2% are delayed and 4% are not on track – mitigations are in place for activities that are delayed or not on track. Going forward, there are plans in place to develop the next annual action plan from January 2020.
4. The annual report is primarily aimed at officers and elected Members and highlights in more detail 16 activities, including the following four case studies:
 - a) **London Careers Festival:** The City Corporation ran in partnership with 175 organisations, including businesses, institutional employers, Livery Companies and other educational partners, the inaugural London Careers Festival benefitting over 5,000 children and young people from over 130 schools, sixth-form colleges and youth groups.

- b) **Summer Enrichment Pilots:** £100,000 of funding was aimed at children and young people in Islington from lower socio-economic backgrounds, including at the City of London Academy Highbury Grove, to tackle summer learning loss, summer hunger and summer enrichment during the 2019 summer holidays. Over 100 young people were engaged with the four programmes that were run by three different providers.
- c) **Living Wage Campaign:** The City Corporation won a Living Wage Industry Award for its advertising campaign promoting the Living Wage, reaching five million people and resulting in 14 enquiries from non-accredited employers about becoming Living Wage accredited.
- d) **Social Mobility Employer Index:** The City Corporation will receive confirmation of its ranking on 3 October, but have provisionally been informed that the organisation is ranked 56-60, and were particularly commended for the organisation's work with young people, its encouragement of its supply chain to consider social mobility and the way in which we offer higher level apprenticeships.

Options

5. Social mobility continues to be of high importance both at the City Corporation and amongst the key external stakeholders that the organisation engages with regularly across central and local government, the private and business sectors, the education sector and parts of the charitable and community sector. Despite this the UK continues to be ranked as one of the lowest performing countries for relative income and social mobility by the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD). There remains much to do in order to not only level the playing field, but to make it fairer too, thus ensuring everyone can participate, compete and succeed. It is recommended that the City Corporation continues to demonstrate its commitment to this strategy over the next 12-months by:
 - a) Fully implementing the strategy's performance framework
 - b) Testing the feasibility of a multi-generational and longitudinal study
 - c) Embedding a corporate approach to our external communications, influencing and thought leadership activities on social mobility
 - d) Developing an advocacy offer that ensures social mobility remains a priority across local, regional and central Government.
 - e) Identifying and developing new activities that we can deliver in this space mindful of our distinctive position alongside ensuring the continuation of ongoing activities in so far as they continue to be relevant and have impact

Proposals

6. To deliver on the ambitions mentioned in paragraph five, the actions related to the delivery of this strategy must be included within the 2020/21 business plans for CBT, Town Clerk's Communications, Town Clerk's Human Resources, Town Clerk's Culture, Town Clerk's Corporate & Member Services, Innovation and Growth and DCCS.

Corporate and Strategic Implications

7. The strategy supports the City Corporation's Corporate Plan for 2018-28, in terms of its vision for a *'vibrant and thriving City, supporting a diverse and sustainable London within a globally successful UK'* and our strategic aims to *contribute to a flourishing society and support a thriving economy*. It specifically relates to the following outcomes in the Plan:
 - **Outcome 3:** People have equal opportunities to enrich their lives and reach their full potential.
 - **Outcome 5:** Businesses are trusted and socially and environmentally responsible.
 - **Outcome 8:** We have access to the skills and talent we need.
8. This strategy also links to the City Corporation's strategies on: Responsible Business, Housing, Education, Employability, Health and Wellbeing, Bridging Divides, Equality, Diversity and Inclusion, Skills, Philanthropy, Volunteering, Culture, Culture and Creative Learning, Culture Mile and Culture Mile Learning.

Health Implications

9. This strategy does consider the impact of poor social mobility on an individual's health and wellbeing.

Public Sector Equality Duty Implications

10. In July 2019, it was agreed that social mobility would be added as a consideration to the City Corporation's Equality Impact Assessment.

Resource Implications

11. Most activities identified in the strategy are delivered as part of departmental budgets.

Conclusion

12. The annual report at Appendix One summarises in detail the work that has been completed in the last year to deliver the City Corporation's Social Mobility Strategy for 2018-28 and recommends that it remains a strategic priority going forward. This Committee is asked to either support, or approve, the strategy's annual report and the priorities that have been set out going forward.

Appendices

Appendix One – Social Mobility Strategy, 2018-28 – Annual Report

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Meeting	Date
Public Relations and Economic Development Sub Committee (for information)	5 November 2019
Community and Children’s Services Committee (for information)	7 November 2019
Education Board (for information)	14 November 2019
City Bridge Trust Committee (for information)	14 November 2019
Policy and Resources Committee (for decision)	21 November 2019
Subject	
Digital Skills Strategy, 2018-23 – Annual Report	
Report of	
Damian Nussbaum – Director of Innovation and Growth Andrew Carter – Director of Community and Children’s Services	Public
Report Author	
Jessica Walsh – Digital Skills Strategy Officer Sufina Ahmad – Corporate Strategy Manager	For Information

Summary

This paper presents the first annual report at Appendix One for the City of London Corporation’s Digital Skills Strategy for 2018-23, which was approved by Policy and Resources Committee in September 2018. The report outlines the progress the City Corporation has made in the last 12 months in relation to the vision that *‘People and businesses, across the City, London and beyond, are equipped to take advantage of digital technologies and innovations to help themselves and their economies thrive’*. The report is primarily aimed at officers and elected Members, but detail in the report can be used for external-facing communications.

The key highlights from the report include:

- a) The City Corporation’s support to establish future.now (formerly known as the UK Coalition for Digital Intelligence), a coalition of 25 cross-sectoral organisations aiming *‘...to motivate people and businesses across the UK to boost their digital skills to thrive in the digital age’*.
- b) The City No. 3 Digital Workshops which resulted in the creation of an app, a poster and video aimed at helping special educational needs and disabled (SEND) children to stay safe online.
- c) The development of the Catalyst funding stream by City Bridge Trust and other charitable funders, committing £2.1m to the charitable sector to fund and champion the digital skills agenda, by embedding digital skills in organisations and scaling up digital programmes that improve services and resilience amongst not-for-profits.

Recommendations

Members of the Public Relations and Economic Development Sub Committee, Community and Children’s Services, Education Board and City Bridge Trust Committee are asked to:

- i. Endorse the Digital Skills Strategy Annual Report and provide guidance on how it should be shared with all Members.
- ii. Continue to prioritise the Digital Skills Strategy going forward.

Members of the Policy and Resources Committee are asked to:

- iii. Approve the Digital Skills Strategy Annual Report and provide guidance on how it should be shared with all Members.
- iv. Continue to prioritise the Digital Skills Strategy going forward.

Main Report

Background

1. The Digital Skills Strategy 2018-23 was approved in September 2018 by Policy and Resources Committee. The strategy focusses on three priority areas of Digital Competitiveness, Digital Creativity and Digital Citizenship, in order to achieve its vision that: *'People and businesses, across the City, London and beyond, are equipped to take advantage of digital technologies and innovations to help themselves and their economies thrive.'*
2. The delivery of the strategy has been overseen by the Digital Skills Group, which is made up of officers from the Department for Community and Children's Services (DCCS), including the Multi Academy Trust, Innovation and Growth (IG), Culture Mile Learning (CML), Town Clerk's (TC) and City Bridge Trust (CBT) and is chaired by the Director of IG and the Director of Community and Children's Services, as joint Senior Responsible Officers for the strategy. Dedicated officer support has also come in the form of a Digital Skills Strategy Officer (DSSO), who started in post on a 12-month fixed-term contract in March 2019.
3. Furthermore, the strategy was designed to align to the Rt. Hon. Lord Mayor Peter Estlin's 2018/19 Mayoralty Theme – Shaping Tomorrow's City Today. The programme focused on promoting innovation and technology, championing digital skills and addressing digital and social inclusion. This has meant that the delivery of the strategy has been supported by the Lord Mayor's Programme Board and his office too.

Current Position

4. Year one of the strategy has been supported by a comprehensive 12-month action plan, which identified 89 activities. Of these 61.8% are complete, and the rest are ongoing activities. The annual report is primarily aimed at officers and elected Members and highlights in more detail 14 of these activities, including:
 - a) **future.now:** In partnership with cross-sectoral organisations, including Accenture, BT, the Digital Skills Partnership, Lloyds Banking Group and 21 others, the City Corporation has set up future.now (previously referred to as the UK Coalition for Digital intelligence) - a UK-wide cross-sectoral coalition that wants *'...to motivate people and businesses across the UK to boost their digital skills to thrive in the digital age'*.

- b) **Digital Workshops:** The City No. 3 Digital Workshops resulted in the creation of an app, a poster and video aimed at helping special educational needs and disabled (SEND) children to stay safe online. They will also present their work at the launch of future.now.
 - c) **The Catalyst Fund:** City Bridge Trust and other charitable funders set up The Catalyst Fund committing £2.1m to the charitable sector to fund and champion the digital skills agenda, by embedding digital skills in organisations and scaling up digital programmes that improve services and resilience amongst not-for-profits.
5. The first-year action plan was created in March 2019 in line with the DSSO role, which means the next plan would begin in March 2020. As a result of lessons learnt it is recommended that the next action plan runs for 18-months from March 2020 until September 2021, resulting in the next report at the three-year mark.

Options

6. Digital skills will remain of strategic importance to the competitiveness and economic productivity of the UK, especially given their importance in ensuring that individuals and communities have the digital skills they need and are not left behind. In the coming 18-months, it is recommended that the City Corporation continues to commit to this agenda by:
- a) Providing in-kind support to **future.now** as it transitions into being an external-facing entity, following its launch on 10 October 2019.
 - b) Ensuring that the organisation's **new IT contract**, which is currently being procured, delivers social value activities that support the delivery of the digital skills strategy.
 - c) Establishing an informal partnership with **Microsoft** to collaborate on activities and projects that serve the strategy.
 - d) Fostering and embedding lifelong learning that is focussed on digital skills in community engagement work through coffee mornings with **Toynbee Hall**.
 - e) Working with Barbican and community libraries on the delivery of their current and future digital skills enhancement projects.
 - f) Fully implementing the strategy's **performance framework**.
 - g) Identify and develop **new activities** that we can deliver in this space, as well as **building on other successes** from this year, including the various digital skills and fusion skills curriculum pilots in the City Family of Schools.

Proposals

7. To deliver on the ambitions mentioned in paragraph six, it is proposed that this strategy remains a priority within the business plans for DCCS, IG, CML, TC and CBT. In the main these activities can be delivered through existing resources.
8. The in-kind support that has been offered for future.now includes:

- a) **Innovation and Growth:** Project Director consultancy for 36 days in 2019/20 financial year.
- b) **Town Clerk's:** Six days project support for 6-months, providing administrative support required for room and event bookings.
- c) **Mansion House:** The Mansion House can provide up to two free uses of meeting/event space in 2020 (post purdah) for the future.now coalition. Each booking request will be assessed on an individual basis and is subject to the Lord Mayor's programme and availability of meeting/event space at the time of booking. Additional costs such as catering and staffing will need to be funded by the future.now coalition.
- d) **Remembrancer's:** In kind venue support for four events and comprising two uses of Basinghall Suite and two uses of the Livery Hall. Ad hoc use of Committee Rooms and North Wing Meeting rooms will also be offered when available.
- e) **Governance:** A City Corporation representative will be part of the future.now Board. Attendance at other future.now activities can be organised via the Directors of Innovation and Growth and Community and Children's Services as the Senior Responsible Officers for the Digital Skills Strategy, 2018-23.

Corporate and Strategic Implications

- 9. This strategy supports the City Corporation to fulfil its vision, as outlined in its Corporate Plan for 2018-23, for a *'vibrant and thriving City, supporting a diverse and sustainable London within a globally-successful UK'*. The strategy supports all three aims that are outlined in the Plan of *contributing to a flourishing society, shaping outstanding environments and supporting a thriving economy*, and nine of the 12 outcomes that are listed as part of these aims.
- 10. It also links to our strategies on: Employability, Education, Skills, Cultural and Creative Learning, Bridging Divides (City Bridge Trust's five-year strategy), Philanthropy, Social Mobility, Culture, Culture Mile and Culture Mile Learning.

Health Implications

- 11. This strategy focuses on digital inclusion and recognises that a lack of digital skills can result in individuals experiencing poor physical and emotional wellbeing outcomes.

Security Implications

- 12. The strategy prioritises cyber security – with a particular focus on ensuring that businesses and individuals practise cyber safety successfully. This is also a priority for future.now.

Public Sector Equality Duty Implications

13. None identified – however the work of future.now, as well as the activities prioritised in paragraph six are likely to target those with protected characteristics and/or those experiencing inequalities and disadvantage.

Resource Implications

14. Plans are in place to ensure that an extension is not required for the post of DSSO, which is due to end in March 2020.

Conclusion

15. This annual report summarises in detail the work that has been completed in the last year by the organisation to deliver the City Corporation's Digital Skills Strategy for 2018-23 and recommends that it remains a strategic priority going forward.

Appendices

Appendix One – Digital Skills Strategy, 2018-23 – Annual Report

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