

CITY ASSOCIATION
BRIEF FOR THE MANAGEMENT BOARD – 25 Feb 13

PAST

Lord Mayor-Elect briefing

The recent strategy to invest influence in achieving a more firm alignment between our annual President with the task in hand has been incredibly successful. As a result of briefing Alderman Roger Gifford, now the Lord Mayor, he invited the City Chairman to contribute 50 words for his Banquet speech – he used 48 of them and now includes “Defence is everyone’s business” at every opportunity.

Ex SHARPE SHOOTER

This was held at the HAC on 17 Oct. Despite the problems in team generation, it was again a great success. The intent remains to encourage guests who attend the Briefing Dinner to get their companies to enter teams. The City Liaison Committee is committed to following a tried and tested system that works well and the chairman agreed to appoint Cdr Kate Pink, FANY, as the exercise director for future exercises.

Lord Mayor’s Show

Under Col Richard Elvidge’s chairmanship, the Lord Mayor’s Show (Military) Committee met at Horse Guards before Christmas. COS LONDIST is keen that the HQ should take greater responsibility for the force elements committed to the Show and work is in hand to ensure that all three regional Service HQs will take this line for future Lord Mayor’s Shows. The opportunity to exploit any recruiting leads will also be put to Capita through HQ LONDIST.

Livery Company Clerks’ briefing

On behalf of the City chairman the secretary briefed the Livery Company Clerks at their annual briefing in November. He has asked the Vice-Chairman of the City Livery Committee to be allowed to do so again this year.

PRESENT

Future Reserves 2020 (FR20) Employer Focus Groups

This is the second example of investing influence with the Lord Mayor, who eagerly accepted the City Chairman’s request to hold an Employer Focus Group in Mansion House in January. There were sufficient respondents to hold two groups and the Lord Mayor subsequently wrote to say that he was keen to assemble another, follow-up group as he wished to address the City institutions on their responsibilities for directing the support of their members for Reserves. This offer has been passed straight to Hd Reserve Forces & Cadets in the MOD, who led one of the two Mansion House Employer Focus Groups.

Cadet units in schools. The Lord Mayor has also written to D Comd LONDIST with an offer to stand behind any new initiative and to add his support and encouragement wherever it might be appropriate. Both City and GL RFCA staffs have been involved in compiling the Brigadier’s response.

Bidding for the next round of support from the Corporation

The City Corporation has now asked (15 Feb) the City Secretary to submit a request for funding to be supported by a range of detail including the allocation of resources for the promotion and retention of Reservists, the recruitment of cadets and other activities, including support for the Lord Mayor’s Show.

FUTURE

City Briefing Dinner

This will take place in the Basinghall Suite in Guildhall on Thursday, 16th May. It will follow the tried and tested formula and the City Secretary will write to 150+ chief executives to ask them to, “recommend one or, perhaps, two people from the Human Resources or Personnel department of your company, aged between 25-35, to attend the City Reserve Forces’ and Cadets’ Association briefing dinner at the Guildhall on Thursday, 24th May. We would like to give them a chance to meet and talk with people of their own age who are in the Reserves or who train Cadets from all three Services. It will give our Volunteer hosts, almost all of whom will have been mobilised for operations, the chance to explain to their peer group what it is that the City’s Reserves are up to “Among Us” in society, particularly at a time of war in Afghanistan.”

Armed Forces flag raising at Guildhall

This will take place on Monday, 24th June, after the election of the Sheriffs at Common Hall. The MOD’s Commemorations and Events Team has been asked to provide a military Band and a Minister or senior officer to join the Lord Mayor as he takes the salute. The London Regiment now has responsibility for the organising the military elements of the parade while audience generation remains the responsibility of the City RFCA with the help of the 3 regional Service HQs. This parade has grown exponentially over the 4 years of its existence – previously it was Veterans’ Day – and is now of sufficient importance to generate interest in the City and the Livery Companies as it takes place immediately after Common Hall.

Lord Mayor’s Defence and Security Lecture

CDS has accepted the Lord Mayor’s invitation to give the 2013 Lord Mayor’s Defence and Security lecture, which will also take place on 24th June. As last year, invitations will go from Mansion House and we hope to be able to include some 150+ names from GL and City RFCAs.