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**CITY  
OF  
LONDON**

# MEMBERS' BRIEFING

Produced by the Communications Office

# LORD MAYOR

## **Business and Investment Dinner**

On 1 March, the Lord Mayor welcomed business leaders to the annual Business and Investment Dinner at Mansion House. Principal guests included the Rt. Hon. Greg Clark MP, Secretary of State for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy, and Paul Drechsler, President of the Confederation of British Industry, who, along with the Lord Mayor, spoke on key issues for the business community from the UK's current negotiations with the European Union. Others present at the dinner were representatives of businesses based outside London and outside the financial services sector.

## **Portugal and Spain**

Between 4 – 7 March, the Lord Mayor made his first European visit. The aim was to present a clear and confident message on the future of the City and the UK Financial and Professional Services sector in the face of Brexit, and to highlight the constructive work of the International Regulatory Strategy Group (IRSG) in exploring future free trade models with the EU27. The visit also aimed to deepen partnership with Portugal and Spain in key areas, notably banking and FinTech. The Lord Mayor was accompanied by a business delegation consisting of; Alderman Vincent Keaveny, DLA Piper; Rachel Kent, representing both Hogan Lovells LLP and the IRSG; Karina Robinson, Robinson Hambro Ltd; and Bilal Mahmood, from a FinTech start up, MarketInvoice Ltd. Spending three full days travelling in both Lisbon and Madrid, the Lord Mayor met various senior Government officials and business leaders. In Portugal, he met, the Economy Minister, the Foreign Minister, the State Secretary Assistant and for Finance. In Spain, the Lord Mayor met with; the Europe Minister and Spain's EU Sherpa; the Secretary General for Treasury; the CEO of Santander. Finally he awarded the first Mansion House Scholarship to a recipient from Spain. The Lord Mayor also attended and spoke at a series of business events during his visit, such as a FinTech roundtable hosted by PwC, a Women in Finance event, and delivered his keynote Brexit speech at the Nueva Economía Fórum event. Looking forward, the Lord Mayor will reflect with senior colleagues on the City Corporation's engagement with the EU business community to see whether there is more we could be doing over the coming months to ensure that its broadly sympathetic attitude towards the UK's proposals on mutual market access can be reflected in national negotiating positions for the post-Brexit trade agreement.

## **Saudi Arabia UK CEOs' Forum**

On 8 March, the Lord Mayor hosted a CEO Forum with a trade and investment focus in honour of the Crown Prince Saudi Arabia and his delegation. Participants included the Saudi Minister for Commerce and Investment and his UK counterpart, Secretary of State for International Trade, The Rt. Hon. Liam Fox MP. The opening of the event was followed by a series of panel sessions, three roundtable discussions, and a networking lunch.

## **Prime Minister's Brexit Speech**

On 2 March, The Lord Mayor welcomed the Prime Minister, Theresa May to give a major speech at Mansion House, detailing the Government's vision for Brexit. At this sixth and final 'Road to Brexit' speech, there were several high-profile attendees, including the Chancellor of the Exchequer Philip Hammond, Secretary of State for Exiting the European Union David Davis, and Secretary of State for BEIS Greg Clark. The speech, titled 'Our Future Partnership', set out the Government's five tests for a successful Brexit outcome, and pushed for an agreement that was deeper and broader than any existing free trade agreement.

## **Canadian Breakfast and Roundtable**

The Lord Mayor hosted the Canadian Finance Minister in London for an event at Guildhall on 12 March. After breakfast, there was a public lecture from the Minister, followed by a private roundtable meeting. The main topic of discussion was the recently announced Canadian budget, which focussed on Equality, Growth, Women's Empowerment, Cyber Security and a review of FinTech and Open Banking. This engagement represents the continuous interaction between the City of London and Canada, and acts as a precursor to the Lord Mayor's upcoming visit to Canada in June as well as the Commonwealth Business Forum in April.

## **FinTech Steering Board**

On 14 March the Lord Mayor chaired the inaugural FinTech Steering Board meeting for the Department for International Trade (DIT). The meeting was an opportunity for senior FinTech government officials to engage with Private Sector FinTech specialists on issues such as the content and future of FinTech bridges, and the markets and framework through which the UK's FinTech sector can expand.

## **Understanding Trust in Business**

On 15 March, the Lord Mayor launched a new insight paper, 'Understanding trust in business' on public perceptions of the financial and professional services in the City, at a roundtable event at the Mansion House. UK citizens were asked about their level of trust in financial and professional services, and for recommendations on what businesses can do to increase their trustworthiness. They provided meaningful insights that highlighted five key areas for change, which we hope will prompt action. The insight paper forms part of the City of London Corporation's, 'Business of Trust' initiative, which seeks to improve the trustworthiness of the UK financial and professional services sector and create a lasting legacy of better business trusted by society.

Contact [Jay Patel](#) on 020 7397 3467

# CHIEF COMMONER

## February Hospitality

In the last week of February, the Chief Commoner attended the Scouts Association Reception in the Crypt, the Annual Food Lecture in Guildhall and dinners given by the Community and Children's Services Committee and The Fishmongers' Company. The Chief also attended the Business and Investment dinner in Mansion House which was preceded by a Reception in the Crypts for the Commonwealth Parliamentary Forum.

## March Hospitality

In March, the Chief was a guest at Tower Ward Club's Civic Luncheon and dinners given by The Saddlers', The Cordwainers' and The Glovers' Companies. She also attended the Spital Sermon and the Freedom Ceremony for the Ambassador of the Philippines.

## Other events

Other events include the visit of the Canadian Minister of Finance, chairing an early evening meeting of the Barbican Centre/Residents Liaison Group, and dinners given by The Freeman's School. The Chief attended the Finance Committee dinner and The Lord Mayor's Banquet to the Livery Masters.

The Chief attended the Bridewell Service in St Brides, Fleet Street, the Private view of Art for Crossrail at Whitechapel Art Gallery, the Reception for Mansion House Scholars, the United Guilds Service in St. Paul's, and a splendid fundraising recital in the Old Bailey given by The Nordic Choir arranged by Sheriff Redcliffe and his wife, Emma.

On 21 March, the Chief was a guest of the Chartered Secretaries and Administrators' Company at their Annual Tuft and Rivers Lecture in Stationers' Hall. This year The Rt. Hon. Lord Willets spoke on the importance of higher education.

In the photo below, the Chief is giving prizes to the young school children at the Christ's Hospital Maths Challenge in the Livery Hall.



The Chief also hosted her final Civic dinner in the parlour, attended 600 Squadron Association AGM at the RAF Club and welcomed the runners and public to Guildhall Yard for the City Landmarks half Marathon. The month ends with the splendid Easter Banquet in Mansion House where the Lord Mayor will welcome Ambassadors and High Commissioners appointed to the Court of St. James's.

It's been a busy month!

# CHAIRMAN OF POLICY & RESOURCES

## **Meeting with Chair of the Home Affairs Select Committee**

On 1 March, the Policy Chairman met with Yvette Cooper MP, Chair of the Home Affairs Select Committee, to discuss the work of the Committee (including a new inquiry into post-Brexit migration policy) and the City Corporation's Brexit interests. The Policy Chairman outlined likely upcoming workstreams which included an inquiry into fraud and online policing.

## **Visit to Warsaw**

From the 4-6 March, the Policy Chairman spent a few days in Warsaw, accompanied by the Special Representative to the EU, Jeremy Browne, where the Prime Minister's recent speech allowed a deeper and more insightful conversation on mutual recognition as a future mechanism for EU/UK trade.

## **House of Commons dinner**

On the Policy Chairman's return from Warsaw, she spoke on 'achieving the best Brexit settlement for all' at a dinner in the House of Commons organised by UBS and the British Swiss Chamber of Commerce, hosted by Jonathan Djanogly MP. With several Swiss diplomats and British MPs present, there was discussion on UK-Switzerland cooperation and what lessons the UK could draw from the Swiss relationship with the EU.

## **IRSG Council**

The IRSG Council meeting was held on 8 March, with participants discussing Brexit, the upcoming Commonwealth Summit and the prospects for a US trade deal on financial services.

## **International Business and Diplomatic Exchange (IBDE) Conference**

The Policy Chairman gave a speech at the International Business and Diplomatic Exchange Conference on 8 March, setting out the positive case for London as a financial centre, through the Brexit process. On 28 March, she will address the Investment Association's Brexit conference, promoting a similar message.

## **Meeting with Competition Counsellor at the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy**

The Policy Chairman met with Tim Figures, Competition Counsellor at the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy, on 20 March. This meeting was set up on the back of a reception for the Professional and Business Services Council, on which the Policy Chairman sit on behalf of the City Corporation, in January. The focus of the meeting was on the voice of professional services in Brexit negotiations and on including a financial services chapter in a future UK-EU free trade agreement.

# PARLIAMENTARY / GLA

## The Commonwealth

With the Summit in London now only a matter of weeks away, MPs took the opportunity to air their views on the future of the Commonwealth. Richard Graham (Con), familiar to the City as Chairman of the All Party Parliamentary China Group and one of the Prime Minister's Trade Envoys, argued there was much to be positive about - "What the Commonwealth needs to do is ensure that it is looking firmly forward, surprising us with its constant reinvention, giving the younger generation responsibility and, above all, looking confidently towards a bigger, better future." Graham welcomed the commitment shown to the forthcoming Summit by India and noted that Prime Minister Modi will be the first Head of the Indian Government to attend Commonwealth Heads of Government meeting in 13 years. Similarly, former Commonwealth Minister Sir Hugo Swire said attendance by the incoming President of South Africa was a positive step. While Graham said he did not feel a future Commonwealth-wide free trade agreement was practical, he asserted there was potential for greater intra-Commonwealth trade if non-tariff barriers were addressed. Highlighting the role of the Commonwealth Enterprise and Investment Council (CWEIC), with which the City Corporation is partnering to deliver the Commonwealth Business Forum that forms part of the Summit, Graham said, "We have the opportunity to help steer the Commonwealth in a more business-friendly direction that will advance free trade."

## Social Enterprise

City Bridge Trust (CBT) Committee Chairman Alderman Gowman spoke in the House of Commons on 'The role of the Charitable and Social Enterprise Sectors in London'. Other speakers at the All Party Parliamentary Group on London's event were James Banks (London Funders), Sioned Churchill (Trust for London), and Simon Boyle (Beyond Food Foundation). In a theme strongly endorsed by other speakers, Alderman Gowman emphasised the importance of cross-sectoral partnerships and explained that CBT's new strategy, 'Bridging Divides', was designed to improve those connections. She invited those present to approach CBT with suggestions for collaboration across sectors. Banks praised the way in which sectors had partnered following the Grenfell Tower disaster, but noted that poverty data used by the Government was often out of date compared to data held by charities. Churchill pointed to rising poverty in outer boroughs and the need to focus on housing, employment and living standards. Boyle explained that enterprising charities could find it difficult to raise funding for new ideas. He agreed with other speakers that the voluntary sector was often insufficiently business-like. He called for a simplified route for social enterprises to participate in large commissioning projects, particularly where the scale of the project prevents meaningful engagement.

## Progress of Brexit Negotiations

The Exiting the European Union Committee took evidence on the UK's future relationship with the EU. David Campbell-Bannerman MEP (Con) discussed how the EU's agreement with Canada might be adapted to suit the UK's needs. This "SuperCanada model", Campbell-Bannerman said, would expand Chapter 21 of CETA, which provided a "basis" for financial services but "does not go nearly as far as we need it to go." He explained the mechanism by which the Canada deal could be expanded by reference to the IRSG report on mutual recognition. Campbell-Bannerman noted the growing acceptance that financial services were important for the EU economy and "not just the UK." There was still a "battle" to be had over equivalence. Asked how the current differences could be resolved, the MEP said that the UK, after consulting "Mark Hoban and his team, on what the best way forward is," would have to argue its case during the negotiations. Labour's Seema Malhotra noted that reliance on equivalence would result in uncertainty for the sector, with the possibility that terms could be withdrawn at short notice in the future, making long-term planning "impossible, or at best difficult" for City firms.

## Money Laundering

Summoned to the Chamber to answer an Urgent Question, the Minister for Economic Crime, Ben Wallace, thanked the Chancellor for the opportunity to explain the "long list" of things that Government had been doing to tackle dirty money and money laundering in the UK. This included a 'Magnitsky' amendment to the Sanctions and Anti-Money Laundering Bill, which would make it possible to confiscate assets from individuals found guilty of gross human rights abuse. Wallace also highlighted that the Home Office was exploring the potential to widen the scope of other areas, in addition to tax evasion, where "failure to prevent" may apply in economic crime. Conservative Vicky Ford (Chelmsford) intervened to add a positive note to the discussion, highlighting that the UK was "one of the most transparent jurisdictions in the world" for financial services, which were a "key contributor" to the economy. Suggesting that money laundering was "rife" in the UK, risked "talking Britain down," she said. The Minister agreed with Ford, pointing out that the UK had recently moved from 10th to 8th on Transparency International's register of least corrupt places in the world.

Contact [James Edwards](#) on ext. 1202

### Security

Between 5.30am on 15 April and 8pm on 18 April, there will be a number of restrictions in place associated with the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting (CHOGM), a great deal of which is taking place at the Guildhall. The West Wing Reception will not be in use as it will be dedicated to arrival, accreditation and search of CHOGM delegates. This means that all staff and all Members must access the Guildhall Complex via the North Wing Reception during this period. Upon presenting your pass and identifying yourself as a Member to North Wing Security, you will be directed to use the most appropriate lift and route to reach your meeting room or whichever part of the second or third floor you need to get to. No external guests will be admitted into the complex during this period. Please note that access to a great deal of the ground floor in Guildhall will be restricted to those with CHOGM accreditation. This means that unless you have such accreditation, even as a Member, you will be prevented from accessing the secure area. As we learn more about the security plan over the coming weeks, including the exact parameters of the secure (restricted) area, we will update you further.

### Use of the Members' bedrooms during this period

From 13 to 22 April, if a Member books a double room over this period then their spouse/partner may as usual be accommodated. Please note that there will be overnight activity in Guildhall Yard to facilitate the CHOGM Forum and noise from vehicle and equipment movement is anticipated. For the first part of the week, from 15 to 18 April, access will be via the North wing and security staff will need to escort Members to the bedrooms during this time.

### Access to the Members' Car Park

Members are requested not to use the Members' Car Park (Guildhall) during 15 to 18 April. Where Members seek to access the Car Park, their vehicle will be searched by the police and this process may take some time. As always, you will be required to show your City Corporation security pass. A caveat to this

is that vehicle access can only be between 6am and 10pm (there will be no vehicular access outside this period).

### Committee Meetings

For security purposes, as access to the Guildhall complex will be tightly restricted during this period, we are currently in discussion with a number of Chairmen with a view to rescheduling or cancelling a small number of formal committee meetings that are scheduled to take place on 16, 17 or 18 April. Where meeting dates change, we will be sure to advise all relevant Members in good time. As there will be reduced activity in the committee rooms on these dates and there will be no private hire of the Guildhall Club until the evening of 18 April – or access by external guests - there will be very limited use of the Club during this period.

### Road Closures

During CHOGM, there will be no unauthorised access to key streets around the City which will result in increased congestion. To help minimise congestion road closure signs will be in place and also advertised in advance by TfL using their website and social media. The police are working with affected businesses and local residents to advise of access arrangements, limitations and conditions of entry. There will also be factsheets available on the [CHOGM website](#) providing information about local road closures, event timings and the vehicle and pedestrian access points for those living or working in or near the areas or for those affected by any security measures.

Read the first [City Secure 2018](#) email from the City Corporation Security Board. This message includes information about access to City Corporation buildings and staff ID passes, security during the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting in April and information about the Citizen Aid app. It also includes a video released by Centre for Protection of National Infrastructure about security at work. [Visit the intranet to keep up to date with security changes and the City Secure 2018 campaign.](#)

## Corporate Plan

Contact [Kate Smith](#) on ext. 3437.

On 8 March, the [Corporate Plan 2018-23](#) was unanimously approved by the Court of Common Council. The Plan sets out the City of London Corporation's vision - a vibrant and thriving City, supporting a diverse and sustainable London within a globally-successful UK. Its three strategic aims are:

- To contribute to a flourishing society
- To support a thriving economy
- To shape outstanding environments

This doesn't mean starting from scratch or setting aside the work we have shaped before.

Instead, it enables us to get more out of the work that's already in motion, to see more clearly where we might not be doing the right things and to plan to get the most out of everything we do in future. A press launch is not planned, but, from April 2018, it will be available on the website and Members are urged to share it externally and refer to it in Committees. A User Guide for Members and officers can be found on the intranet and printed copies of the Plan and a User Guide will be placed in the Members' Lounge.

## City-wide Residents' Meeting

Contact [John Galvin](#) on ext. 3269.

All Members are invited to attend the annual City-wide Residents' Meeting on 9 May. The meeting offers residents the chance to hear from their elected Members, senior officers from the City of London Police and the City Corporation. Residents will also have the opportunity to ask questions or raise issues about living in the City of London. The Mayor of London's Air Quality Manager will also be talking to residents about activities across the capital. This year's event will be held on 9 May in the Great Hall at 12.30 – 14.30 and repeated at 18.30 – 20.30. Please take the opportunity to encourage as many residents as possible to attend this event. Reservations can be made through [residents@cityoflondon.gov.uk](mailto:residents@cityoflondon.gov.uk) or 020 7332 3176.

### Employability

On 22 March the Employability team held an event hosted by Alderman Peter Estlin to test business views on where City Corporation can act to beat shortages in digital and cyber skills. Over 30 senior business representatives and specialist digital skills providers shared good practice, as well as insights into what is missing and the changes needed to increase the talent pool available to City firms and Financial and Professional Services. The session generated ideas around making training more relevant, supporting leadership of workforce transformation in FPS, and making the sector more attractive to talent.

### Promoting cyber insurance sector

On 16 March, the Export and Investment Team in Economic Development Office convened a joint City of London Corporation and Department for International Trade high-level breakfast with leading representatives of the cyber insurance sector, chaired by the Lord Mayor, with CEO of Lloyds of London, Inga Beale, and UK Cyber Ambassador, Conrad Prince, speaking. Follow up includes producing a promotional report on cyber insurance to use in City of London international engagement; potential establishment of a more permanent working group and involving leaders from the sector in future Lord Mayor visits.

### Fintech

UK FinTech Week kicked off with the Innovate Finance Global Summit at Guildhall, which saw the launch of the FinTech Strategy Group (FSG), to be vice-chaired by the Chairman of Policy and Resources. The FSG will provide an industry-led independent platform for government and regulators to engage with the sector. The same week saw the Chancellor launch the government's new FinTech Sector Strategy. The announcement follows the City Corporation's call for a fintech sector deal in its '[Value of Fintech](#)' report. One pillar of the strategy is a new DIT FinTech Steering Board chaired by the Lord Mayor, which will help shape support for UK firms accessing new markets and a new FinTech bridge agreement between Australia and the UK, following from the Lord Mayor's visit to Australia in February.

### The City as a Place for People

This year's MIPIM property conference saw the launch, by the Policy Chairman of a new report [The City as a Place for People](#), which looks in detail at how firms and developers in the City are leading the way in the global trend for using technology and innovative place strategies to make inspiring offices an asset to help attract the best talent.

## City Bridge Trust

Contact [Martin Hall](#) on ext. 3705

At the Trust's recent Committee meeting on 14 March, grants totalling over £3.2m were agreed to charities and projects tackling disadvantage across London. These brought the total number of grants awarded during the financial year to over £22m. Grants awarded included £120,000 to [BANG Edutainment](#) towards the costs of their [NoLimitz](#) project to tackle offending or anti-social behaviour; £117,000 to [Down's Syndrome Association](#) for their [DSActive](#) project which runs sport activities for people with Down's Syndrome; and £47,800 to [London Sustainability Exchange](#) towards their [Pollinators Path](#) project distributing pollinator kits for city microclimates, such as window ledges or balconies. The Trust has recently launched the fifth round of its Stepping Stones Fund. This programme, a partnership with UBS bank, will award grants to charities and social enterprises which enable them to explore social investment as an alternative funding model. So far 65 grants totalling £2.8m have been awarded through this programme. Applications should be submitted by 11 May. In April 2018, the Trust will be launching its new Bridging Divides grant programmes, following a comprehensive review of its grant making and the creation of a new five-year Funding Strategy. The Trust will be operating three priority areas: Connecting the Capital; Positive Transitions; and Advice and Support. These three programmes above are cross-cut by two over-arching priorities, which are Reducing Inequalities and Enabling Voice & Representation. Full details will be published on the Trust's website over the coming weeks.

## Rough Sleeping Awareness campaign

Contact [Rachel Morrison](#) on ext 1722.

The Department of Community and Children's Services has a longstanding commitment in addressing rough sleeping and homelessness in the City and to support those it affects throughout the year. [Campaign posters](#) have been displayed during the winter months in high footfall areas across the Square Mile to highlight how people can make a referral to StreetLink, the pan-London reporting mechanism, and donate to support services. Please [let us know what you thought of the poster campaign by completing our survey](#) by **5 April**.

## City of London Police

Contact [Teresa La Thangue](#) on 02076012290

Since 20 March, the City of London Police has been supporting the National Counter-terrorism's Action Counters Terrorism (ACT) campaign. The campaign urges citizens to report any suspicions about attack planning to the police. It is a four-week campaign targeting adults in the main metropolitan areas of Great Britain through online, PR, internal and partnership communications. The central asset of the campaign is a short film that will be promoted via online advertising. The campaign was launched by national Counter Terrorism (CT) policing lead Neil Basu, widely supported by a series of regional interviews and media engagement with CT Heads and forces around the UK. In support the City Police have hosted some events, such as a crime prevention day at the Walbrook building featuring the prevent team and Counter Terrorism Security Advisors. On 27 March we delivered a presentation in the Guildhall to all the Livery committees and Town Clerk's Department, and there is a Project Griffin talk at Intu University on Middlesex Street. In addition, City of London Police featured in BBC news broadcasts on 21 March, when a Project Servator (a counter terrorism tactic) deployment was filmed as part of the BBC's news package on the new ACT campaign.

## London Drug and Alcohol Policy

Contact [Jane Anson](#) on ext. 3804

Back in March 2017 the Policy Adviser of the LDAPF was invited to contribute a series of presentations to staff, pupils and parents at the first ever drug education programme to be run in an Indonesian school. Following on from this visit the LDAPF has maintained contact with staff at the school and provided additional materials. These have led directly to a project launched last month seeking to protect the street children of Pekanbaru (the capital city of the province of Riau) from the dangers of substance misuse. Closer to home, the LDAPF is currently supporting the Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime consult with boroughs on the future nature of the Drugs Intervention Programme (DIP). DIP provides much of the route into drug treatment from the criminal justice sector. We will be hosting an event on 19 April to allow discussion of how we can make best use of the resources available in London.

## Community Safety Team

Contact [Jane Anson](#) on ext. 3804

Members will have seen the media coverage concerning the distribution of Emergency Trauma Packs across various locations within the City. The City Corporation has actively supported this work with 15 packs being centrally funded and located within our buildings that have 24-hour access. The Community Safety Team also supported the Prevent (counter extremism) strand of the recent two-day pan-London counter terrorism exercise. Continuing the Prevent theme this month has seen a major campaign to raise City Corporation staff awareness of Prevent alongside the introduction of universal on-line training.

## Social Investment Fund Report

Contact [Joseph Anstee](#) on ext. 1480

All Members will have received a report detailing the first five years of the City of London Corporation's Social Investment Fund with the Court of Common Council papers for Thursday 8 March 2018. Please be aware that separately-bound colour copies of the final report are available in the Members' reading room.

## Open Spaces

Contact [Roush Islam](#) on ext. 3571

### The Open Spaces Act

The City of London Corporation (Open Spaces) Act 2018 received Royal Assent on 15 March 2018, completing its passage through Parliament. This brings existing Acts governing our open spaces up to date. The Act focuses primarily on three main objectives: clarifying general management powers; strengthening the City Corporation's powers to deal with anti-social behaviour; and providing greater opportunity to generate income to be re-invested back into the running of our green spaces.

### Epping Forest

An Exhibition 'Hunting the King's deer – Tales of Epping Forest poaching in the 16<sup>th</sup> and early 17<sup>th</sup> centuries took place at The View from 24 February and ran through to 25 March and was very popular with visitors. An exhibition 'You can't see the trees for the woods', by the Artist in Residence, took place at The View from 3 March – 2 April.

### Hampstead Heath

The Mixed Bathing Pond is currently being emptied of silt and mud to improve the water quality for swimmers and for wildlife. Some of the silt will be used to build revetments which will be planted with aquatic plants. The work will be completed in May. Funfairs have been hosted on Hampstead Heath since the end of the 19<sup>th</sup> Century. The Fun Fair is back on the Heath for Easter.

## City of London Academies and Schools

### City of London School

#### London Youth Choir

City of London School is the official rehearsal venue for the London Youth Choir, and this week they held their fifth birthday concert in our Great Hall. The hall was packed out with over 450 in the audience along with all 201 members of the Choir. Patron of the Choir, Gareth Malone, was there alongside founders Rachel Staunton and Suzi Digby OBE, who chatted with Head Alan Bird and thoroughly enjoyed the performances.

### Model United Nations

The School recently hosted its 13th annual Model United Nations conference. The conference was attended by 150 students from 12 schools representing 40 countries.

Topics of debate were important and thought-provoking geopolitical issues, ranging from human rights abuses in the Central African Republic to the pressing question of the global loss of natural law.

The conference began with an opening ceremony featuring a keynote speech by Dr Spyros Economides, Associate Professor of International Relations and European Politics at LSE, who spoke about the history of the United Nations and its role today.

The MUN society even received a letter Justin Trudeau, the Canadian Prime Minister, specifically for the conference. The letter, signed by the man himself, reaffirmed the importance of MUN and welcomed all the delegates to the conference. After the opening ceremony, there were 3 hours of debate followed by a debate on an emergency topic, where a fabricated but likely scenario, was announced: 'North Korea had launched an unarmed test missile over Japan which had crashed due to an engine failure.' The scenario tested delegates' ability to react to events in real time and quickly come up with solutions.

Contact [Georgina Berry](#) on 0203 680 6414

## City of London Academies and Schools

### City of London School for Girls National Gymnastics Final

On 16 and 17 March, our Under 13 and Under 19 gymnastics trios competed in the British Gymnastics National Finals in Stoke-on-Trent. Each member completed a vault, solo floor and a trio routine. The Under 19s put in an amazing performance to score 27/30, the highest score in the country. The Under 13s also pulled off a fantastic routine on the vault. The gymnasts finished the competition with two fifth placings and contributed to the London region being ranked second overall in both the Under 13 Girls and Under 19 Girls categories.

### Dads4Daughters Day Breakfast

On 15 March, 100 Year 9 to 13 students and parents attended a Dads4Daughters (D4D) Day Breakfast at the school, where they discussed the results of this year's D4D Day survey – designed to encourage conversation about gender equality. Two fathers and a CLSG alumna spoke about their experiences in the workplace and what is being done to tackle gender inequality. Dads4Daughters have made a [short film](#) featuring some of our students and their fathers.

### Sponsored Cycle

On 19 March, students in the senior school embarked on a challenge to cycle the distance from London to Sierra Leone in just five days, to raise money for Street Child. The students covered the distance of 3064 miles/4931 kilometers by cycling on exercise bikes during their PE lessons, at break and lunchtime. So far, the challenge has raised over £4,000 for the charity, which will be doubled by the government.

Contact [Sam Robson](#) on 5549

### City of London Freeman's School New Freeman's Foundation Launch

Since its foundation, Freeman's has always welcomed pupils from all backgrounds. We know an education here can provide a transformative experience to our students' lives. However, we do not believe that these opportunities should only be open to those who can afford the fees; we feel that we have a social responsibility to do more. Headmaster, Roland Martin shared, "I am mindful that with the privilege of our education we should not be exclusive. When I joined the school, our bursary provision was only being directed to one per cent of students. My aim has always been to increase that number and make a Freeman's education available to any promising child, no matter what their family's income or assets." Through the new Freeman's Foundation, we are committed to offering the educational opportunities to children whose family circumstances would make this opportunity unfeasible. The School Governors have set ambitious targets: by 2020, we should like to be able to provide at least five per cent of Freeman's students, approximately 50 children, with a significant bursary, and there is commitment to grow this even more in the future. Further information on the new Freeman's Foundation can be found [here](#).

Contact [Jo Patel](#) on 01372 822454

## Guildhall School of Music & Drama

### The Guildhall School launches The Leadership Academy

On 16 March, the Guildhall School of Music & Drama officially launched The Leadership Academy, a one-of-a-kind initiative that will harness the School's deep knowledge and expertise in the arts to develop new models of leadership and leadership training for senior decision-makers. The launch was celebrated at an exclusive gathering of leaders across the public and corporate spheres at Skinners Hall. Leading the event for the Guildhall School were Dymphna Cunnane, who is taking up the role of Creative Director of the new Leadership Academy, and Patsy Rodenburg OBE, world-expert in voice, and Professor of Text and Poetry at the School.

### Blackout 'In the News'

*Blackout*, a site-specific video projection and sound installation inside Tower Bridge's Bascules Chamber by Guildhall School students, has had a successful stream of coverage across multiple media outlets recently. Video Lecturer Dan Shorten and third year student on the BA Video Design for Live Performance Andrew Monks went on the BBC Radio London Robert Elms Show; London Live and BBC London visited the Bascules Chamber to capture the event for television. In print, the event received a double page spread in Time Out, previews in Country and Townhouse and the Big Issue, as well as an interview with Shorten in City Matters.

### The Guildhall School announces partnership with the Diversity School Initiative

The Guildhall School is one of five drama schools to sign a three-year partnership with the Diversity School Initiative: a non-profit campaigning organisation set up to address under-representation and diversity in UK drama schools. The partnership includes a programme of events and workshops for staff and students, a mentoring and networking scheme for students and outreach activities into schools and colleges, as well as sharing knowledge and information and auditing progress on diversity.

Contact [Rebecca Driver](#), Rebecca Driver Media Relations on 020 7247 1894  
Contact [Jo Hutchinson](#), Guildhall School of Music & Drama on 020 7382 6130

## Gresham College

Contact [Pernille Norregaard](#)

### Regional, Industrial and Infrastructure Policies

19 April, 6-7pm Barnard's Hall

There are large disparities in economic performance at the regional level in the UK. We need to consider what kinds of policies might raise regional performance and the extent which directed industrial policies and

infrastructure spending might be employed to iron out differences in regional performance. In this lecture by Professor Jagjit Chadha the evidence will be considered. Professor Chadha is the Mercers' School Memorial Professor of Commerce at Gresham College and Director of the National Institute of Economic & Social Research (NIER). He has also acted as an academic adviser to HM Treasury, the Bank of England and many policy-making institutions around the world.

For more details about this lecture and the many other upcoming lectures [Gresham College website](#).

## London Symphony Orchestra (LSO)

Contact [Edward Appleyard](#) on 020 7382 2521

March has been a busy month for the LSO with two sets of concerts at the Barbican conducted by Sir John Eliot Gardiner and François-Xavier Roth, a birthday celebration for LSO St Luke's, and the launch of BMW Classics. Schumann took the focus of Sir John Eliot's performances as he began his retrospective of the composer which will stretch over the 2017/18 and 2018/19 seasons. Featuring the symphonies, Piano Concertos, overtures and more, the series got off to a fantastic start with The Guardian naming him 'one of the great Schumann interpreters, wonderfully alert to the music's volatility and rigour'; the performances toured to Germany and Spain. LSO Principal Guest Conductor François-Xavier Roth followed, continuing his retrospective of Debussy works spanning the composer's career in the centenary of his death, which was given five stars by the Bachtrack critic, and also saw the last of this season's Half Six Fix one-hour concerts. At LSO St Luke's, the whole month has been devoted to a celebration of the Centre's 15th birthday. With a myriad of events programmed by LSO Discovery and BBC Radio 3, plus Eclectica concerts and more, the celebrations came to a head with a community party on 26 March. The following days saw the launch of BMW Classics, the London Symphony Orchestra's 2018 performance in Trafalgar Square on 1 July, which was announced to gathered media and guests at the YouTube Space London, as this year's performance will be live-streamed for free by YouTube for the first time.

## Barbican Centre

Contact [John Kelly](#) on ext. 2389

### Barbican OpenFest 2018

Barbican OpenFest 2018, a weekend of inspiring art and entertainment, took place over the 17 and 18 March. Alongside concerts, open rehearsals, showcases and workshops around the centre, Beech Street tunnel was transformed into a light display with a soundtrack recorded by the BBC Symphony Orchestra for an installation called Tunnel Visions: Array. Forming part of the wider Culture Mile programme around the City of London, the installation was subject of a Financial Times preview, photo features in The Times and The Sunday Telegraph, an interview by the Barbican's Artistic Director Louise Jeffreys on BBC Radio London, and pieces in the Evening Standard and The Times by the Barbican's Managing Director Sir Nicholas Kenyon.

### Another Kind of Life: Photography on the Margins

Another Kind of Life: Photography on the Margins opened in the Art Gallery to five-star reviews from the Evening Standard and Time Out and four-stars from The Daily Telegraph, Morning Star and City A.M. Curator Alona Pardo and photographer Chris Steele-Perkins, whose work features in the exhibition, were interviewed live on BBC World News, and the exhibition also received in-depth previews and features from The Observer, British Journal of Photography, BBC Online, Wallpaper\* and AnOther.

### Barbican launches 2018 Theatre and Dance season

The Barbican launched its full September to December 2018 Theatre and Dance season in March. The Evening Standard, What's On Stage and Broadway World all reported on the announcement, also mentioning the Barbican's cross-arts season, The Art of Change. Toni Racklin, Head of Theatre at the Barbican, said "The Art of Change brings risk-taking artists with new ideas to the Theatre and The Pit - who challenge themselves, challenge conventions and challenge perceptions. With a focus on artists from the UK, Australia, Ireland and France, and stimulating performances encompassing opera, music-theatre, circus, theatre and dance, our newly announced shows seek to provoke discussion and action by shining a spotlight on inequality and injustice".

## London Metropolitan Archives

Contact [Geoff Pick](#) on ext. 3833

On 9 March LMA hosted a well-attended and favourably received day conference "Courage and conviction in conversation" to promote the ground-breaking role played by the Tavistock and Portman clinics (now the Tavistock and Portman NHS Foundation Trust) in the advance of psychotherapy and developmental theory through patient files and clinicians' records dating back nearly a century. This was based around a unique two-year project undertaken by LMA and funded by the Wellcome Trust to catalogue the records - maybe one of the deepest dives ever into a medical institution's records. The conference featured talks and presentations from LMA Staff and current and former clinicians of the Trust, and a chance to see some original corporate archives. "Very interesting to learn about cross-sectoral collaborative project"; "Thank you for the fantastic conference ... it was invaluable".

On 16 March, LMA hosted its annual Careers Day. The event began with a Behind-The-Scenes tour, where participants met specialists from the Conservation, Records Management and Digital Services teams to find out more about their work. This was followed by a panel discussion on skills, qualifications and routes into the archive profession as well as what the future looks like for archive services and their staff. Break-out sessions gave opportunities to further question the specialists more closely. Participants left feeling enthused and better informed about their career prospects. For example, students from Notre Dame High School, Southwark said the event had made them think about different jobs they could pursue.

- Lord Mayor Charles Bowman's comments during a speech in Spain were covered by [CNN](#), [Agencia FF](#) [in Spanish], and others. He reiterated that financial services should be included in a UK/EU Free Trade Agreement.
- The Lord Mayor's China visit was covered by [China Daily](#), [Shenzhen Daily](#), [China Economic](#), [Jingji](#), [Toutiao](#) and others including [BBC News](#). The Lord Mayor also wrote in the [Daily Telegraph](#) about the benefits of building ties with China on his nine-day trip.
- Policy Chairman Catherine McGuinness was quoted by [The New York Times](#), [City AM](#), [Financial News](#), [City AM](#), [Reuters](#), [Yahoo News](#), [Business Insider](#), [US News](#), following the Prime Minister's Brexit speech at The Mansion House.
- The Policy Chairman Catherine was quoted by the [New York Times](#) [i and ii], [Reuters](#) [i and ii in Chinese], [Daily Express](#), [City AM](#), and others in response to the agreement reached for a transitional arrangement.
- The International Regulatory Strategy Group, co-chaired by the City Corporation, was referenced in a [Times](#) piece on its proposals for a free trade agreement with the EU post-Brexit.
- Coverage of the launch of a Fintech Strategy Group (FSG) in partnership with Innovate Finance found in [Reuters](#), [Alt Fi News](#), [KFGO](#) and [P2P Finance News](#). Policy Chairman Catherine McGuinness was quoted in [Crowdfund Insider](#).
- The Policy Chairman was quoted by [London Loves Business](#), [The Daily Telegraph](#), [Property Week](#) (£) and [City AM](#) on 'The City as a Place for People' report published ahead of the annual MIPIM property conference. This found that firms believe London is the best European city for business and talent. Chris Hayward was also quoted in [Estates Gazette](#) (£) and [Building](#) (£) on how the built environment continues to attract business to the City.
- Policy Chairman Catherine McGuinness was interviewed by [Le Monde](#) commenting on promoting the 'City as a Place for People' at MIPIM. She discussed that the City is not seeing signs of a 'Brexodus.' She also discussed the continued development of office space and that jobs are more likely to go to New York City or Singapore over other European centres, and the City's ambitious efforts with UK regions to ensure Brexit is positive for both the UK and EU. Further coverage in [MSN France](#) and [Senior Planet](#). [in French]
- [Financial News](#) ran an interview with Planning and Transportation Chairman Chris Hayward on "his vision" for the City's skyline. [£]
- The City of London Corporation was referenced in [Financial Planning Today](#), [Mortgage Solutions](#), reporting that it has now registered for the Women in Finance Charter.
- [Artlyst](#) reported on the Crossrail Art Programme and how the final two artists to be selected for the major initiative. The City of London Corporation, which supports CAP, was referenced. Also reported by [The Art Chronicle](#), which referenced the City Corporation.
- [The Times](#) interviewed Sir Nicholas Kenyon, Managing Director of the Barbican Centre, about Culture Mile.
- Policy Chairman Catherine McGuinness wrote in [London Loves Business](#) on the importance of apprentices for business, as part of National Apprentice Week 2018.
- The Policy Chairman was also quoted in [London Loves Business](#), [Business Matters](#), [SME Mag](#), [People Management](#), [Accountancy Live](#), [London Loves Business](#), [People Management](#) and [Bullfax](#) in reports that the City Corporation has exceeded its target to employ 100 apprentices in a single year.
- Erin Sibley, a City Corporation apprentice at the Heathrow Animal Reception Centre, was interviewed as part of National Apprentice Week 2018. Coverage appears in [Yahoo News UK](#), [Yahoo News Australia](#), [AoL News](#), [MSN](#), [BT News](#), [London Live](#), [Irish News](#), [Belfast Telegraph](#), [Irish Independent](#), [Evening Express](#), [Jersey Evening Post](#) and [Press and Journal](#).
- The City of London Corporation's apprentices offer is referenced article in the [Evening Standard](#). The piece references tree surgeon, animal handler and museum curator as "just some of the apprenticeships that are offered by the City of London Corporation", and signposts readers to [www.cityoflondon.gov.uk/cityapprenticeships](http://www.cityoflondon.gov.uk/cityapprenticeships)
- Peter Hewitt, Chairman of the Social Investment Board was quoted in [Charity Today News](#) announcing that the City Corporation's Social Investment Fund has made 20 investments, totalling nearly £13m since 2012: these have helped marginalised people right across the UK with particular successes in London.
- Alison Gowman, Chairman of the City Bridge Trust Committee, shared her tips on how best to compile a grant application in [Fundraising Magazine](#). [viewable internally]
- Alison Gowman, Chairman of the City Bridge Trust Committee, was quoted in a report by [Children & Young People Now](#) on City Bridge Trust's 400,000 to London Youth towards providing sports programmes for girls and disabled young people.
- City Bridge Trust's grant to Age UK for a pilot project to tackle scams targeting the elderly was featured in a story in the [Yorkshire Post](#).
- Karina Dostalova, Chairman of the Corporation's Hampstead Heath Management Committee, was quoted in a [Ham and High](#) article explaining how Shire horses have returned to the Heath for the first time since the City of London Corporation approved a move to enable them to work on the site. Further coverage appeared in [Horse and Hound](#).
- [Wanstead & Woodford Recorder](#) reported that £5m to £10m may be required to improve the safety of three Wanstead Park lakes, which have been assessed as a "high risk reservoirs" by the Environment Agency. Paul Thomson, Epping Forest Superintendent, is referenced and a City of London Corporation is quoted.

## Key Links

[City of London Website](#)  
[Colnet](#)

[Communication Strategy](#)  
[YouTube](#)

[Twitter](#)  
[Christ's Hospital](#)