

In this issue

pg 1 [Lord Mayor](#)

pg 2 [Chief Commoner](#)

pg 3 [Policy Chairman](#)

pg 11 [Open Spaces](#)

pg 12 [In the News](#)



**CITY
OF
LONDON**

MEMBERS' BRIEFING

Produced by the Communications Office

LORD MAYOR

Kazakhstan Visit

The Lord Mayor, Sheriff William Russell and a strong Financial Services business delegation visited Astana 8-11 July. A comprehensive programme was put together by the Department of International Trade team in Astana and included meetings with the Prime Minister, the Finance Minister and the Governor of the Astana International Finance Centre. The delegation also met the Chairman of Kazakh Invest (State supported agency for attracting foreign investment and export development), the Chairman of Baiterek (government organisation promoting economic development and diversification) and the Managing Director of Samruk Kazyna (Kazakh Sovereign Wealth Fund and Joint Stock Company holding most state owned businesses). The programme also included two high profile events at which the Lord Mayor spoke. The first was a FinTech event hosted by the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales and the second was an Islamic Finance event hosted by DDCAP Group. The latter included the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding between DDCAP Group and AIFC. The trip had a number of aims that included reassuring the Kazakh government and investors that the UK is open for business despite Brexit and that London is constantly growing as an international financial centre, from FinTech through to Green and Islamic Finance. Further aims included an offer to host a delegation from Samruk Kazyna to support their privatisation programme, support to their adoption of UK common law for their future business processes and arbitration, and the promotion of London as a potential hub for the 'one belt, one road' (OBOR) initiative. The latter included a promised invitation to Kazakh ministers and business leaders to attend the planned London OBOR conference in spring/summer next year. The UK is currently the sixth largest foreign investor into Kazakhstan. Since independence in 1991, UK investment in Kazakhstan totals more than £20bn. Additionally, Shell is the UK's largest investor and, since its takeover of British Gas in 2015, has interests in two major oil and gas fields: Kashagan and Karachaganak. Kazakhstan is DIT's highest grossing high value campaign with over £6.6bn worth of investments since 2013. Additionally, Kazakhstan is rapidly opening up and is looking for new investors. Samruk Kazyna is looking to privatise a number of state owned businesses with Air Astana being the first initial public offering, probably in early 2018, possibly in London. At all the meetings attended by the delegation, there was hope, that with the UK's support, these ambitions might be realised. The UK's on-going support to the establishment of Common Law, the preparation for World Trade Organisation accession in 2020 and the stated desire to make London the market of choice for the floatation and sale of state owned assets, implied that the UK remains at the heart of Kazakhstan's international engagement strategy. Overall, the visit was a huge success with much knowledge gained and doors opened for business.

Global Pound Conference

On 6 July, the Lord Mayor welcomed guests to the Global Pound Conference held at Guildhall. This was the last event in the 2016-17 conference series which seeks to create a conversation about what can be done to improve access to justice and the quality of justice around the world.

Shanghai

On Monday 10 July, Late Lord Mayor Alderman Sir Michael Bear met the Mayor of Shanghai. Mr Ying Yong a senior member of the local government in Shanghai and a significant national politician whom the Lord Mayor had met when visiting China earlier this year. The visit enabled Mansion House to host several meetings between the Lord Mayor, his officials and senior City business leaders from the financial and professional services sector. The meetings were put together with close cooperation between the Lord Mayor's Office, City Corporation's Economic Development Office, Department for International Trade and the China Britain Business Council and was a significant follow-up event from the Lord Mayor's visit. The meetings were most productive and reinforced the very close ties between London and Shanghai.

UK Spain Business Forum

As part of the State Visit of HM The King of Spain to the UK, on 13 July the Lord Mayor hosted a UK-Spain Business Forum event at Mansion House. Attended by 300 representatives from Spanish and British business, King Felipe VI gave the keynote address on the significance of the UK-Spanish commercial relationship. The Secretary of State for International Trade, the Rt Hon Dr Liam Fox MP, also spoke, as did the Foreign Minister and Trade Minister of Spain. HRH The Duke of York represented HM The Queen. The event was an opportunity for the King to address and meet a wide range of key business people, adding an important commercial element to the State Visit programme as well as a chance for the Spanish and British business communities to network together.

Visit to Czech Republic, Poland & Romania

27 – 30 June, the Lord Mayor visited The Czech Republic, Poland and Romania accompanied by a strong business delegation including several from the Fintech sector as well as a representative from the London Stock Exchange Group. In Poland he was joined by Alderman Sir Roger Gifford and in Romania by Jeremy Browne (Special Representative for City to the EU). Ahead of the visit there was a real desire to articulate why the City of London is so important to the three countries visited and to show how London leads in financial innovation. These core messages were delivered to a wide audiences and discussed deeply in private meetings.

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

CHIEF COMMONER

School Prize Day

The month began with two school prize days both very different but equally inspiring, first to Southwark Academy closely followed by Freeman's School in Ashted.

Epping Forest visit

A long walk in Epping Forest followed by The Chairman's Luncheon and an invitation to City of London 600 Squadron Association AGM and lunch in the RAF Club, Piccadilly rounded off a full week.

Lunch with the Prime Minister of the Cayman Islands

On 10 July I was honoured to be invited to a luncheon in the Travellers Club by the Premier of the Cayman Islands with many of his ministers present.

Freedom Ceremonies

We said farewell with Freedom Ceremonies this month to the Ambassadors of Ireland, Denmark and France, all reaching the end of their UK postings. The Rt Hon David Lidington CBE MP also receives his Freedom this month.

Other engagements

Amongst some of the highlights this month have been the highly successful Spanish State Banquet, and as expected, a jolly Licensing Dinner in Wilton's Music Hall. I also attended a thought provoking Security and Defence Lecture given by Commissioner Cressida Dick at Mansion House and a humbling afternoon with Sir Philip Craven and the Para-Athletes in the Old Library.



Contact Colette Braham on ext. 3801

CHAIRMAN OF POLICY & RESOURCES

Anglo French Dialogue

On 26 June, the Policy Chairman attended the most recent meeting of the Anglo-French Dialogue, which brings together senior industry representatives from London and Paris with the aim of shaping financial services regulation in areas of mutual interest. The Dialogue is co-sponsored by the City of London Corporation and Paris Europlace. The meeting included a discussion on the changed political landscapes in both the UK and France, and a valuable exchange of views on the implications of Brexit. The Policy Chairman provided some introductory remarks and stated her enthusiasm for the Dialogue and its continuation, particularly in the context of the UK's withdrawal from the EU. There was general agreement on the need for an orderly exit, and thus a period of transition to ensure business continuity, legal certainty and smooth provision of financial services given the significant degree of interconnectedness in the European financial system. Other issues discussed included the European Commission's flagship Capital Markets Union agenda, Green Finance initiatives led by London and Paris, the role of FinTech and EU banking reform. On each of these subjects, common interests will be identified as a foundation for future collaborative work.

Meeting with Bank of China

On 5 July, the Policy Chairman had a meeting with the Chief Executive Officer of the Bank of China, Sun Yu, accompanied by the City Corporation's Special Advisor for Asia. The Bank of China is one of the top 15 banks in London by assets with 500 staff employed in the UK (London, Manchester, Birmingham and Glasgow). They discussed the impact on Brexit and the Belt and Road Initiative. The Chairman also updated the CEO on the work the City Corporation is doing on Renmimbi and Green Finance.

VIP Guest at Market Opening – London Stock Exchange

On 6 July, the Policy Chairman made introductory remarks following the Market Opening Ceremony at the London Stock Exchange with Mr Wim Mijs (of the European Banking Federation). The remarks focused on the role of the banking industry in supporting growth, London as a global gateway to capital, and the dangers of fragmenting central clearing.

Launch of Great Repeal Bill

On 27 June, the Policy Chairman attended the launch of the International Regulatory and Strategy Group Report, 'The Great Repeal Bill', produced in association with Linklaters. The report focused on the separation of UK law from EU law and considered the potential impact of the Repeal Bill on the UK-based financial and related professional services industry. The Repeal Bill (announced in the Queen's Speech 2017) will repeal the European Communities Act 1972 and convert EU law into UK law as we leave the EU. It will create temporary powers for Parliament to make changes to domestic law to reflect the content of any withdrawal agreement under Article 50.

Eid Dinner

On 7 July, the Policy Chairman spoke at Eid in the City 2017 – an event hosted by the Association of Muslim Police at the City of London Police, the City Corporation's Muslim Staff Network in collaboration with SquareMileMuslims. The dinner celebrated the festival of Eid-Al-Fitr, commemorating the end of the holy month of Ramadan, and was also an opportunity to unite communities and celebrate diversity. Attendees included City professionals from the financial, legal, business, policing and charity sectors, in addition to civil servants, politicians, inter-faith delegates, diplomats and dignitaries from the embassies of Muslim nations in London.

Private Roundtable with John McDonnell

On 20 July, the Policy Chairman attended a Private Roundtable, hosted by the CEO of London Stock Exchange Group, Xavier Rolet, where several useful conversations were had with the Shadow Cabinet, including the Rt Hon John McDonnell MP (Shadow Chancellor of the Exchequer) and Barry Gardiner MP (Shadow Secretary of State for International Trade), on Brexit, international trade and the future of UK financial services.

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PARLIAMENTARY / GLA

Summer Recess

Both Houses of Parliament rose on 20 July for the Summer Recess. They will return on 5 September.

Brexit—EU Withdrawal Bill

The Government has published the long-awaited 'Great Repeal Bill'—although the more sober instincts of the parliamentary draftsmen won out in the formal title, which is the European Union (Withdrawal) Bill. The densely drafted measure contains few surprises, with EU legislation to be converted automatically into domestic law subject to a power for Ministers to correct any "deficiencies" which arise, such as the need for regulatory functions to be transferred to British authorities. The scope of this power is set to be one of many flashpoints over the Bill, with Opposition parties now having the whole of the Summer Recess to plot amendments which may attract rebels from the Conservative benches.

Brexit—Labour Market

The House of Lords' Economic Affairs Committee has published a report into Brexit and the Labour Market. On the Government's ambition to reduce immigration to the tens of thousands, the report concludes that the use of strict annual numerical targets to achieve this aim "runs the risk of causing disruption to business and the economy." Instead, a flexible approach is likely to best achieve the long-term objective of reducing net migration, the report says. The report observes that "businesses will have to accept that immigration from the EU is going to reduce and adapt accordingly." To help businesses, the report calls on the Government to ensure "that the domestic workforce is trained to offer the skills that businesses need." To give companies time to adapt their business models, the report recommends the adoption of "a suitable implementation period during which businesses retain access to the European labour market." Regarding future immigration controls, the report argues that any new system must give "British businesses access to the type of skilled work the economy requires." Following evidence from think-tank IPPR and the City Corporation on regional visas, the report notes that the Committee was "persuaded there may be some merit in a regional immigration system for Scotland and London," but observes that such a system "is beyond existing administrative capabilities."

City of London Corporation (Open Spaces) Bill

The City Corporation's Bill on open spaces was successfully revived (without incident) in the Commons and Lords following the General Election. Standing Orders require two days' notice of Third Reading (the stage which the Bill had reached when the Election was called) and so it was not possible to table it before the House rose. Notice of Third Reading will therefore be tabled on 5 September, the day the Commons returns from the Recess.

Industrial strategy

Junior Industrial Strategy Minister Lord Prior of Brampton told peers that responses to the Government's industrial strategy consultation had been "broadly supportive." He said it was "clear" from the feedback received that technical skills were "the most important area" along with universities, science and innovation, and infrastructure. A strategy for life sciences would be "published imminently" and Sir Peter Bazalgette would produce recommendations for the creative sector aspect of the strategy and report "within a couple of months," Prior explained. Baroness McIntosh of Pickering (Con) pressed for digital connectivity to be included in the strategy and heard that £740m was allocated to help improve broadband and 5G infrastructure. The overall strategy is due to be published in the autumn.

Affordable homes

The Mayor has announced a £1.7bn deal between City Hall and local authorities and housing associations to start building 50,000 affordable homes over the next four years. The money has been allocated to bidders from the £3.15bn affordable homes fund secured by the Mayor from the Government in November last year. New homes are due to be built in all 32 boroughs and the City of London. The City Corporation has been allocated £14,640,000 to provide 244 affordable homes.

London Emergency Services Network

The London Assembly's Oversight Committee took evidence from a number of representatives from the emergency services on the transition from the Airwave communication system to the use of the Emergency Services Network (ESN). The Committee heard that Airwave had been a success on its own terms, but that the system had reached the end of its life. ESN would, the Committee heard, provide both voice and data functionalities, offer better coverage, allow greater interoperable working between the emergency services, and be cheaper than the existing system. Having raised concerns over delays in introducing the system, Committee Chairman Len Duvall (Lab) was told that good progress was being made, but that a "considerable series" of tests to make sure the system met the needs of the emergency services would mean that things would "take as long as necessary." Keith Prince (Con) asked about the key risks of the project and the steps being taken to mitigate them. He heard that technical novelty and coverage were some of the principal concerns, but was told that the emergency services would have priority access to the EE network on which the system relied. A coverage map was being developed, the Committee heard, and there was a pan-emergency services effort to verify coverage from a 'user perspective' to ensure the system worked as needed.

The following is a brief summary of some of the matters considered at meetings of the Policy and Resources Committee in June and July.

Increasing diversity in the Court of Common Council

For the past few years the Committee has been looking at ways to enhance the diversity of the Court. Amongst other things this has included arranging an early evening event to engage employee networks operating in City businesses; improving communication on how to become a Common Councilman on the website; engaging external help to review whether the timing of committee meetings was a deciding factor in candidates standing for election and creating a small informal group of Members to help steer matters and act as a sounding board. As part of the ongoing discussion on diversity, approval was given to the following:-

1. further consideration being given to the timing of meetings and to options being developed for consideration at the next informal meeting of the Court of Common Council;
2. a more detailed look being undertaken into the Member's Financial Loss Scheme and the issue of remuneration by the Resource Allocation Sub-Committee to ascertain a way forward;
3. officers writing to those who had initially expressed an interest in standing for election but who subsequently decided not to, to ascertain the reason for their decision; and
4. in order to ascertain the demographics of the Court, a questionnaire be sent to Members, similar to that sent to staff, for completion.

One City media platform

"One City" is a dedicated resource which promotes the Square Mile to City workers by informing them of attractions and events in the area and encouraging greater attachment to the City as a place to work. The One City social media platform has been piloted by the City Property Association (CPA) since October 2016 and in just over 6 months it has attracted over 3,800 followers on Instagram and over 7,000 unique visitors to a new dedicated One City website. Given its success, approval has been given to the City Corporation partnering with the CPA (at a cost of £60,000 per annum) to promote the City as being relevant to its workers who want to enjoy culture and a broader experience at their place of work.

Educational float in the Lord Mayor's Show

The Lord Mayor's Show is one of the most important events in the City of London Corporation's calendar, attracting millions of television viewers and thousands of spectators each year. The event provided a good opportunity for the City Corporation to showcase its educational offer and to give the schools associated with the City Corporation an opportunity to directly connect with, and participate in, a modern celebration of the City's civic governance. Approval was therefore given to an education float being entered into this year's Show.

Website entries for Members

Consideration was given to the website entries for Members in relation to party political affiliation. As Members were already free to include this type of information in the "additional information" section of their entries on the website it was agreed that no other statement was required on party political affiliations, including any reference to whether Members consider themselves as independent.

Social Mobility Index

The Social Mobility Index is an initiative which ranks employers on the actions they take to present people with the opportunity to get in, and get on, in the workplace. It is targeted at sectors which, traditionally, have low rates of social mobility – such as law, accountancy, media, banking and finance and the sciences. The index was sponsored by the City Corporation and developed by the Social Mobility Commission in partnership with the Social Mobility Foundation. Businesses were able to apply to participate in the Index anonymously and could choose whether to have their scores published. 98 businesses applied and the top 50 performers appeared recently in the Times. It was noted that whilst the City Corporation had applied, it chose to do so anonymously for the first year. The aim would be to disclose its results when the exercise is run again next year. Notwithstanding this, the City Corporation's results for this year together with any details of improvements and how those improvements would be addressed, would be the subject of a report to a future meeting of the Committee.

Culture Mile

Contact [Rebecca Driver](#), 020 7247 1894

The City of London Corporation, together with the Barbican, Guildhall School of Music & Drama, London Symphony Orchestra and Museum of London, have announced plans for a major destination for culture and creativity in the Square Mile. Unveiled as 'Culture Mile', this ambitious and transformational initiative will create a vibrant cultural area in the north-west corner of the City over the next 10 to 15 years. Stretching just under a mile from Farringdon to Moorgate, Culture Mile will have creative exchange, cultural collaboration and learning at its core in an area where 2,000 years of history collide with the world's best in culture. Over the next decade and beyond, the five partners, led by the City Corporation, will transform the area, improving their offer to audiences with imaginative collaborations, outdoor programming and events seven days a week. Links between venues will be improved and major enhancements to the streets and wider public realm will enliven the area which, as Culture Mile expands and flourishes will be regenerated. Visit the [Culture Mile website](#) for further information.

Supporting UK Financial and Professional Services

International engagement

On 17 July Alderman Charles Bowman hosted the Mayor of Chicago Rahm Emanuel and his delegation. Chicago is looking to develop international relationships and attendees represented a variety of sectors showcasing London. Alderman Sir Michael Bear hosted the Mayor of Shanghai, Ying Yong, on 10 July; discussions included cooperation on financing the Belt and Road Initiative. 14 CEOs and Deputies from the Association of Indian Banks gathered at a private roundtable in June, hearing views and showcasing our priorities for India. Following this, the City of London Corporation's India Advisory Council met in London to set the agenda for our engagement with India on financial and professional services. Attendees included Parliamentary under Secretary of State, Department for International Trade, Mark Garnier, YK Sinha, High Commissioner, India, and variety of CEOs.

European Engagement

The Lord Mayor and his business delegation visited The Czech Republic, Poland and Romania from 27 to 30 June. In Poland he was joined by Alderman Sir Roger Gifford and in Romania by Jeremy Browne. The visits focused on the UK's offer to the countries visited, especially in financial innovation.

Publications

Blogs have been published on London as a location for financial services, London as a destination for raising capital, social mobility, and the UK's legal services sector. <http://colresearch.typepad.com/>

Inclusion

Recruitment is underway for a pilot financial services apprenticeship support scheme to help smaller banking and asset management firms maximise the benefits of their apprenticeships levy payments.

Contact [Isabelle Almeida](#) on ext. 3587

Electoral Services

Langbourn Aldermanic Election

A Notice of Election will be published on 11 August 2017 following the surrender of office by Sir David Wootton who is seeking re-election. The deadline for nominations is noon on Friday 18 August 2017. The Wardmote will take place at the Church of St Mary Woolnoth, King William Street, London, EC3V 9AN at 1.30pm on 11 September 2017. If the election is contested the poll will take place on 12 September at the Church of St Mary Woolnoth, King William Street, London, EC3V 9AN between 8am and 8pm.

Tower Aldermanic Election

A Notice of Election will be published on 11 August 2017 following the death of Sir Paul Judge. The deadline for nominations is noon on 18 August 2017. The Wardmote will take place at St Olave's Church, 8 Hart Street, EC3R 7NB at noon on 11 September 2017. If the election is contested the poll will take place on 12 September at Parish Hall, Mark Lane, EC3R 7LQ between 8am and 8pm.

Contact [Seth Alker](#) on ext. 1430

Corporate Strategy and Performance

On 19 July, Kate Smith, Head of Corporate Strategy & Performance, informally updated Members on the [Corporate Plan](#). This new five-page draft reflects the balance of comments on the mission statement, three strategic objectives and twelve outcomes made at all Grand Committees between May and July and includes the next level down of detail, in the form of strategic themes, to show how departmental activities contribute to each outcome. During the autumn, staff engagement activities will commence and departments will be asked to update their two-page summary Business Plans for 2018/19 and start using new detailed Business Plan templates to show how they will achieve the aims set out in the Corporate Plan. Through this process, performance indicators will be identified which will be included in the Corporate Plan and used to measure our corporate performance over its five year life-cycle. A plan for engaging with external partners and stakeholders will also be pulled-together. Members will be invited to another informal briefing session to help steer this work. In the New Year, Policy and Resources Committee and the Court of Common Council will be asked to approve the new Corporate Plan and Committees will be asked to approve departmental Business Plans for 2018/19. The new Corporate Plan will be published in April 2018.

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

Planning and Transport

Bank on Safety

Since Bank on Safety became operational on 22 May, the level of compliance has improved. Traffic movements in the area continue to be closely monitored to further capture any impacts. The consultation survey has been live since late June on the Bank on Safety website. This survey allows users to provide feedback of their experience since Bank on Safety has gone live, compared to how it was previously and will close at the end of November. The project's ongoing monitoring work combined with this consultation and feedback will be presented to Members of the City of London Corporation prior to any decision being taken on the permanency of this experiment.

Contact [Gillian Howard](#) on ext. 3139

Planning and Transport

Crossrail

Work on Crossrail stations and the Elizabeth line is underway, with a targeted opening of the Line in December 2018. Within the City there are three ticket halls through which passengers will be able to access Crossrail; these are Farringdon Eastern, Moorgate and Liverpool Street. Additionally, there is a further Crossrail construction site in Finsbury Circus. Whilst Crossrail Ltd is responsible for construction of the Crossrail stations, it was agreed by Members that the City will assume responsibility for construction of the urban realm surrounding each ticket hall (and Finsbury Circus site) to ensure the surrounding is constructed to high standards. It will also ensure a high level of communication with City stakeholders during the construction process, and ensuring disruption to the public is minimised. As with any major construction project in the City, each of the urban realm schemes does not exist in isolation; each scheme is affected by other construction activity in the area. There are a number of building redevelopment proposals which are already underway which will affect the City Corporation's ability to fully deliver all of the Crossrail urban realm schemes in time for opening of the Elizabeth line. We are developing a delivery programme, whereby we expect the entire Crossrail urban realm schemes to be delivered by late 2020. However, the City Corporation is committed to delivering a safe and attractive urban realm in the immediate vicinity of the Crossrail ticket halls in time for opening of the Elizabeth line in December 2018.

Contact [Julie Elgram](#) on ext 3909

Freight and Servicing Supplementary Planning Document Consultation

The public consultation on the City of London's Freight and Servicing Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) will commence on 7 August following approval at July's Planning and Transportation Committee. Freight vehicles make up around 22% of traffic in the Square Mile on a typical weekday, and much of this traffic is servicing buildings in the City. Keeping freight moving is vital for the ongoing success of the City as a world-leading business destination, so as the City grows, smarter management of delivery and servicing is essential. The SPD, which gives additional guidance on the policies in the City's Local Plan, aims to reduce the negative impact of delivery and servicing on City streets, and will help improve air quality, reduce traffic congestion, and improve road safety. The consultation will be open until 30 September. Members are invited to view and comment on the draft document on the Planning Consultations page of the City Corporation website.

[Eddie Jackson](#) on ext 1937

Property Investment Board

The City of London's Property Investment Portfolio delivered strong upper quartile performance for the year ending 31 March 2017.

The MSCI UK March 2017 Annual March Universe assesses the property performance of 231 property portfolios, containing 10,105 properties, valued at £185.7 billion as at 31 March 2017. The City of London subscribes to and contributes data to MSCI to allow its three commercial estates to be benchmarked against the MSCI Universe Benchmark and a specialist benchmark. The overall performance of the three Property Investment Portfolios has been amalgamated into a "House Fund".

As at 31 March 2017 the City of London's performance was:

Estate	Year 1			Year 5		
	Total Fund Return (Year to March 2017) %	Benchmark Return %	MSCI Universe %	Total Fund Return %	Benchmark Return %	MSCI Universe Return %
"House Fund"	11.3	4.7	4.4	16.6	13.7	10.0
Bridge House Estate	16.0	4.7	4.4	15.8	13.7	10.0
City's Estate	11.6	4.7	4.4	18.4	13.7	10.0
City Fund	8.3	4.7	4.4	14.9	13.7	10.0

All funds outperformed MSCI Benchmark return and UK Universe

The House Fund has outperformed its benchmark and Universe over a 1, 3, 5, 10 and 20 year period being in the 5th, 4th, 3rd, 3rd, and 2nd percentile rank over the respective periods.

The strong upper quartile performance from all three funds, and the "House Fund", has been achieved through active management of the City's investment property at a portfolio and property level to maximise income and investment performance. This includes identifying opportunities to redevelop and refurbish property at the end of its economic life, either directly or in joint ventures with development partners.

[Nicolas Gill](#) on ext 3718

London Borough of Culture

On the 30 June, Policy Chairman Catherine McGuinness spoke alongside the Mayor of London, Sadiq Khan at the launch of the London Borough of Culture programme. This event in City Hall was attended by representatives of all 32 London boroughs along with arts organisations from across the capital and local and national media. This scheme will see two boroughs awarded the annual title of London Borough of Culture for 2019 or 2020 which includes funding of £1.1m to run activities over the year. In addition, six boroughs will receive grants towards one-off bespoke cultural projects in their local area. The City Bridge Trust is providing £300,000 in funding towards the scheme, whilst the City of London Corporation will offer in-kind support to the winning boroughs through its cultural assets, expertise and services. Applications will open in October 2017, with the winners announced in February 2018. For more information see the [London Borough of Culture website here](#).

Moving on Up

This £1m two-year initiative jointly funded with [Trust for London](#) and run in partnership with the [Black Training and Enterprise Group \(BTEG\)](#) was run in response to persistently higher unemployment rates amongst young black men in London compared to other ethnicities. At the time the programme was devised, the employment rate for young black men in London was just 56%, compared to 81% for young white men. This holds true regardless of education level, with almost 10% of young black graduates unemployed one year after graduating, compare to less than 5% of young white graduates. This programme has now been evaluated and this has revealed a range of good practice which will be shared with policy-makers, employers and community leaders. At a time of skill-shortages, it is imperative that the thousands of young black men in London who are available for and actively looking for work are fully engaged. A copy of the [full report can be downloaded here](#) whilst a [summary of the evaluation is available here](#).

Community & Children's Services**Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) Joint Strategy available**

SEND is a service delivery priority for the Department of Community and Children's Services. We are taking steps to ensure all children and young people in the City with SEND are aware of the services and options available to them, to help them make the best life choices. Furthermore, we are working with children and young people with SEND, as well as their parents and carers, encouraging them to help us to develop the very best services around their needs. Please take a look at our new [Joint Strategy](#).

Contact [Theresa Shortland](#) on ext. 3047

Tackling scams and financial abuse in the City

People defrauded in their own homes are two and a half times more likely to die or go into residential care within a year while 53 per cent of people aged 65 or over have been targeted by scammers. To raise awareness of scams and financial abuse, DCCS colleagues have been out and about with representatives from Trading Standards, City of London Police and other key local partners to talk to members of the public, as part of Scams Awareness Month. You can spread the word by sharing our [financial abuse leaflet](#). We're also installing trueCall devices in City residents' homes. This system blocks out cold calls from people who are not on someone's approved list and allows calls to be monitored remotely by a family member so it's possible to see who has been calling.

Contact [Adam Johnstone](#) on ext. 3453

Guildhall School of Music & Drama**Acting and Technical Theatre Gold Medals 2017**

The School is delighted to announce Steffan Cennydd has been awarded the Acting Gold Medal and Oscar Selfridge has been awarded the Technical Theatre Gold Medal. Steffan's acting credits at the School include Bela Zangler in this summer's musical Crazy For You. Oscar has worked with the Technical Theatre stage crew on a variety of School productions including Props Coordinator for the world premiere of The Tale of Januarie (2017).

Actors perform at Venice Open Stage

The Guildhall School opened the Venice Open Stage festival on 2 July with two sold-out performances of a special adaptation of Shakespeare's King Lear, directed by Eliot Shrimpton at Venice's Cambazzo San Sebastiano open air theatre. The production will also be performed at the Beijing International Student Drama Festival and World Theatre Education Alliance 2017 International Theatre Festival.

Guildhall alumna and Fellow named as first ever female Doctor Who

Acting graduate and Fellow of the Guildhall School Jodie Whittaker has been announced as the next Doctor Who by the BBC. Revealed in a special trailer on 16 July, she will be the 13th Doctor in the BBC series, and the first ever woman to play the iconic role. She graduated from the Guildhall School in 2005, and was awarded the Gold Medal for Acting in her final year. Christian Burgess, Vice-Principal & Director of Drama at the Guildhall School, said: "Jodie is a force of nature. She is one of the kindest and funniest people I have ever met...I am in awe of her talent. She is one of a kind."

Contact [Rebecca Driver](#),
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Contact [Jo Hutchinson](#), GSMD 020 7382 6130

City of London Schools and Academies

City of London School

Over £10,000 raised for homeless charity

City Boys collected £10,640 via bucket collections and their Just Giving Page for the charity Centrepont during a 48-hour non-stop sponsored row early in July. Charity is at the heart of the School and City boys are extremely passionate about their charitable endeavors, chairing and running their own pupil charity committee. Fundraising has been going tremendously well, with highlights including the sponsored Sleep out, where 100 pupils slept overnight in the School's courtyard, and the annual 11-mile Sponsored Walk. The total raised for Centrepont will be announced in the Autumn Term, and we are hoping to beat last year's record of over £60,000.

Highlights NewsReel

Students have been working hard on a digital edition of the highlights from the summer term. The recently constructed 'Creative Studio', which forms part of the Levene Learning Centre, was the hub for production which included green screens, cameras, anchormen and video editing – all of which was undertaken by a group of students. Watch the video on the School's website.

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

City of London Academy Islington

City Stories

On 13 July the year 7 cohort from took part in a 'City Stories' trip to explore The Barbican, The Museum of London and the surrounding area. Students engaged in poetry, creative writing workshops, 'free writing' and were given the opportunity to handle artefacts from a range of historical periods. Jimmy Bone, a year 7 student, said, 'I would like to return with my family to explore further, being able to touch real artefacts in the Museum made me feel more connected to the history of London'. Students were also given a tour of The Charterhouse, The Monument and St Paul's Cathedral. Feedback from students and staff was overwhelmingly positive; they found the experience of the day rewarding and all felt inspired to visit the City of London in the future.

CCF Vellum Book

Annually the Combined Cadet Force (CCF) holds a Vellum Book signing at Armoury House, the Headquarters of the Honourable Artillery Company (HAC). The evening is an opportunity to recognise cadets who joined the CCF in September 2016, and have completed the necessary recruit basic training known as the Basic Army Proficiency Certificate. The best cadet from the intake is recognised with the presentation of the HAC Yager Soldier trophy. This year the trophy was won by Cadet J Spreadbury. The event was well supported by parents, cadets, governors and other CCF supporters. This included the HAC Commanding Officer, and members of the Regimental Council. Guests were given a virtuoso performance by the Academy Corps of Drums. We thank the HAC for their hospitality and continued support and assistance.

Contact [Noha Khawam](#) at 020 7226 8611 ext: 4582

City of London Academy Southwark

The final weeks of the Summer Term flew as the school said goodbye to popular students and staff and the school community united for a series of fantastic events. Four staff members said farewell, with Head of School Marcus Huntley leaving to become Principal at Compass School, with Carly Moran, William Harris and Lauren Fever also departing. Mr Huntley, who joined in January 2012, said, "I've thoroughly enjoyed my time at CoLA and am most grateful to the pupils, parents and staff for the opportunity I have had to work here." Prizegiving, the talent show and sports day all brought the best out of students and staff. Toyosi Abiola, one of seven CoLA girls to earn a NCAA Athletic Scholarship this year, won the award for Sport Excellence in Basketball. Finn Wharton won the Billingsgate Ward Club Trophy for best essay, poem or factual writing on the theme of the City of London. Prizegiving was followed by an evening of drama, dance and music at the School's talent show. The evening was a great success, with proceeds going to the victims and families of the Grenfell Tower disaster. Departing Year 13s said an emotional farewell to their friends and teachers, and thoughts turned to the future as the School welcomed the new Year 12 cohort, who will be studying in the new, purpose built Sixth Form centre next term. The state-of-the-art building is progressing well and on course for opening in September.

Contact [Marcus Huntley](#) at 020 7394 5100

City of London Freeman's School

City of London Freeman's annual Prize Giving Day took place on 6 July, giving the school community the chance to celebrate the events and achievements of the past school year. The Rt Hon Lord Mayor, Dr Andrew Parmley, led the procession with an audience consisting of the parents, pupils and grandparents as well as representatives from each of the City of London Livery companies. The audience was then welcomed with speeches by the school's Chairman Deputy Roger Chadwick, OBE and the Headmaster Roland Martin. Later on, guests were entertained by the School's String Trio No. 1, whose rendition of Op.3 – 1st movement by Beethoven, reminded the audience of the superb musical talent within the school. Prizes and trophies for the academic year 2016-2017 were then presented to dozens of proud pupils, including a large group of those who had just left the Upper Sixth and are about to embark on university courses at Oxford and Cambridge. In his address to pupils and guests, the Headmaster, Roland Martin, drew attention to the importance of making a significant contribution to the wider community as a means to improve not only our own life experience but also university and job prospects. Head Girl, Amelia Hart thanked the school for such a holistic, well-rounded education and delivering on its promise to foster the development of 'the whole person' in each of us. The day concluded with the traditional afternoon tea in the school's Italian gardens.

Contact [Jason Harrison-Miles](#) at 01372 82244

Gresham College

Cleaning up the Thames: success or failure?

Professor Carolyn Roberts

When: 28 September, 6:00PM - 7:00PM

Where: Barnard's Inn Hall

The Thames is often hailed as an international success story. Engineering works solved 19th century sewage problems, improving Londoners' health. Salmon, otters and birdlife are now reported to be flourishing along the Thames and the waterfront has been reinvigorated with new buildings. On the other hand, Thames Water PLC has been heavily fined for environmental offences that compromised human health, contaminated land and affected ecosystems. Levels of chemicals in river water are high. Will the Thames Tideway tunnel solve flooding and pollution? This event is also part of Totally Thames 2017. Professor Carolyn Roberts is the first Frank Jackson Professor of the Environment at Gresham College. She is also a Senior Scientist at the UK Knowledge Transfer Network (KTN), which links business and universities in order to promote research and innovation in environmental technologies.

From Royal Highway to Common Sewer: The River Thames and its architecture

Simon Thurley CBE

When: 13 September, 6:00PM - 7:00PM

Where: Museum of London

The Thames is the reason that London is where it is and the river has had a decisive influence on the growth of the city since Roman Times. For 500 years it was the only reliable way to move about but in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries changes came that were to alter the face of London and transform our relationship with the river. This event is part of Totally Thames 2017 that runs from 1-30 September. Professor Thurley is a leading architectural historian, a regular broadcaster and was, for thirteen years, Chief Executive of English Heritage, the Government's principal advisor on the historic environment in England.

You can find out more about these lectures and many more on the [Gresham College website](#).

Contact [Lucia Graves](#) on 020 7831 0575

Barbican Centre

Walthamstow Garden Party 2017

In partnership with Create and Waltham Forest Council, the Barbican hosted the fourth Walthamstow Garden Party in Lloyd Park E17 over the weekend of 15 and 16 July. A record breaking event that saw over 35,000 people attend, and over 1,000 performers involved each day, including 450 young people. The free festival showcased Waltham Forest's thriving creative and cultural communities and some of the young people Barbican Guildhall Creative Learning have been working with, alongside international talent. Toots and the Maytals and Tinariwen headlined a programme that combined music, theatre, dance, film, spoken word, arts and crafts, food, and family activities.

Trajal Harrell: Hoochie Koochie

Trajal Harrell: Hoochie Koochie, a performance exhibition, opened in the Art Gallery to a brilliant critical response, with a five-star review from The Observer and four-stars from The Telegraph, The Times, the Evening Standard, the Independent, Londonist, City A.M., the British Theatre Guide and The Arts Desk. The Evening Standard Magazine published a fantastic column on the exhibition, and London Live featured a TV news piece including an interview with Barbican curator Leila Hasham.

Barbican Youth Panel launch

The recruitment process is now underway for the first Barbican Youth Panel. Rooted in the principles of Youth Voice and Participation, the Youth Panel will help to ensure the ideas and opinions of 14-to-25-year-olds can be brought into conversations, projects and events across the Barbican. Members will meet once a month for a year to share their views on the arts programming and ethos of the organisation, working with departments ranging from music and theatre, to marketing and human resources. They will also have the opportunity to get involved with major Barbican shows, as well as gaining experience of teamwork, project management and leadership.

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

Guildhall Library

Guildhall Library commemorated 200th anniversary of Jane Austen's death with a Regency Ball in the Livery Hall. The 'First Impressions' Regency Ball was organised by Guildhall Library, and featured expert dance tuition from Mrs Bennet's Ballroom and live Regency music performed by the Fortuna Trio, a woodwind band. We sold over 65 tickets and generated £2,355 in ticket sales. Our guests looked splendid in their Regency costumes. It was a unique opportunity for guests to discover what it might have felt like to attend a society ball in the early 1800s.

Contact [Isabelle Chevallot](#) on ext. 1865

Open Spaces

Burnham Beeches

The popular Woodland Wonders Wildlife Walk will take place on 23 August. Activities will include crafts, games and a bug hunt, all aimed at children aged 4-12, booking is required.

The Woodland Wonders self-led trail is now available until 3 September, full of games and ideas for your walk through Burnham Beeches. Just pick up a leaflet from the information point and guide yourself along the trail.

Every Tuesday throughout August 10.45am-12.45pm there is the Woodland Wonders crafts taking place at the café.

Creatures of the Night Walk will be taking place on 5 August. A two hour walk to track down things that go bump, squark and squeak in the night. Remember to bring a torch! Booking required.

For more information and to book please call the Burnham Beeches office on 01753 647358.

Find out more about all events taking place in our Open Spaces on the [City of London website](#).

Queens Park

The Great British Tennis Weekend is taking place on 30 July from 9am-5pm, this is to encourage people to start playing tennis and come along and have free lessons from our resident tennis coach.

"Playing Wild" sessions encourage children to learn about nature and the environment through play. These are free and are held every last Thursday of the month from 11am – 1pm.

There are four late night open cinemas between August and September, with all profits going to charity. Various dates and films available. For full details, prices and bookings please visit www.wherethenomad.com.

Contact [Roush Islam](#) on ext 3571

City of London Police

Notable sentencings

On July 14, David Harris was sentenced to 17 years imprisonment at the Old Bailey after being found guilty of three counts of soliciting murder. Harris had approached a number of men and offered payment if they would kill his partner. The case, brought by City Police's major crime team, generated extensive coverage in print and broadcast media. On 12 July, Adil Kasim was jailed for two and a half years after faking her own death to claim a life insurance payout. The case was brought by the Insurance Fraud Enforcement Department within the Economic Crime Directorate. And on 21 July, Mohammed Chaudhari was jailed for four years after being found guilty of a complex fraud that netted him and his family over £1m of EU funds, another case brought via the Economic Crime Directorate.

Actions

In late June City Police partnered with Microsoft to arrest four people following two years of work between the two organisations on computer service fraud. During the week of 10 July, City Police joined the Met and BTP in a week long joint operation to counter knife crime across London. Officers from CoLP arrested suspects in South London and performed checks at Liverpool Street station and across the City to deter knife related violence.

Commissioner Dick

Speaking at the Mansion House Defence and Security lecture, Commissioner Dick of the Met, announced she had no desire to see the three London police forces merge, saying the current arrangements worked very well to serve London.

Contact [Teresa La Thangue](#)

- Plans to develop the City of London into a world leading cultural centre, known as Culture Mile, were revealed by the City of London Corporation, Barbican, Guildhall School of Music & Drama, the London Symphony Orchestra and the Museum of London. Policy Chairman Catherine McGuinness was quoted in The Guardian, Evening Standard and Architects Journal. Both the Policy Chairman and the Lord Mayor were quoted in The Wharf and Building Design. The Policy Chairman was also interviewed live on BBC Radio London's Simon Lederman show [skip to 01:44:06] on the plans. Further coverage appeared in the Financial Times (£), Time Out, Classical Music, The Stage, Slipped Disc and London Live.
- Policy Chairman Catherine McGuinness joined Mayor of London Sadiq Khan and Deputy Mayor for Culture and the Creative Industries, Justine Simons, at the launch of the London Borough of Culture competition. The competition will be supported by a grant of £300,000 from City Bridge Trust. Coverage appeared in The Guardian, BBC News London, Gulf Times, CNC News, BDaily, Real Business, Famagusta Gazette, UK Fundraising, LocalGov, London News Online, Classical Music and Xinhua Net.
- The Times (£) ran a piece on Lord Mayor Andrew Parmley, in which he reiterates that London is still an attractive place for firms to do business despite uncertainties posed by Brexit. Further coverage was in Proactive Investors UK.
- Jeremy Browne, Special Representative to the EU, was referenced on the front page of the Mail on Sunday after his recent France visit memo suggested that the country might want to weaken London's role as a financial centre. Further coverage was in BBC News, Financial Times (£), The Times (£), Daily Telegraph, Vanguard, The Sun, Evening Standard, City AM, Daily Express, The Metro, NDTV and The Independent.
- Policy Chairman Catherine McGuinness was quoted in a Reuters article on Brexit and the transitional agreements Britain and the EU must outline. Further coverage was in Pound Sterling Live and The Wire. The Policy Chairman was also quoted in Le Monde in response.
- Policy Chairman Catherine McGuinness was interviewed by China Central Television on how the UK's financial and professional services sector can support China's Belt and Road initiative [skip to 2:00-2:15]. Business Insider UK also quoted the Policy Chairman in an article on Brexit and Chinese investment in the UK (£).
- The Evening Standard referenced the City of London Corporation's proposed regional visa scheme, following support from the Treasury to protect international bankers coming to the UK financial sector after Brexit.
- Times Educational Supplement, Schools Week, and FT (£) ran articles on a Sutton Trust report which analyses the progress of disadvantaged pupils from primary to secondary school. The City of London and The City of London Academies Trust were mentioned for being one of the top performing academy sponsors for progress and attainment.
- The Financial Times reported on the upcoming "Londinium" season, which will explore the City's Roman history and its legacy through exhibitions, walks, talks and a season of films in and around the Guildhall yard (£). Further coverage appears in AOL, Yahoo, Yorkshire Post and Time Out Kids (viewable internally only).
- Coverage of a City Bridge Trust grant to 18 organisations for a summer activity programme for those affected by the Grenfell Tower fire appeared in the Evening Standard. Alison Gowman, Chairman of the City Bridge Trust Committee, is quoted. Alison Gowman was also interviewed on LBC about the grant and activity programmes in the Grenfell area (Link unavailable).
- Alison Gowman was interviewed on London Live [viewable internally] to talk about City Bridge Trust's new 'Bridge To Work' programme, which supports young disabled Londoners into work. Further coverage was in Disability News and Possibility Magazine.
- Bromley's young people with mental health conditions are set to benefit from a £1.5million employment scheme from the City Bridge Trust, Bromley Times reported on the grant.
- Horticulture Week, Epping Forest Guardian and Pro Landscaper Magazine reported on the Ancient Tree Forum annual conference which was held at Epping Forest. Philip Woodhouse, Chairman of the Epping Forest Management Committee was quoted (£).
- The Ham and High (i and ii) reported on the 'Give It A Go festival' which was held at Hampstead Heath. Hundreds of people were able to take part in a range of sports and dog competitions on the Heath.
- Each year, the critically acclaimed Sculpture in the City returns to the Square Mile with contemporary works from internationally renowned artists. The seventh edition of the project, which includes works by Paul McCarthy, Ryan Gander and Damien Hirst, is now on display. Coverage appeared in Time Out, Artlyst, Daily Telegraph, City AM and Londonist.

Key Links

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