

In this issue

pg 1 [Lord Mayor](#)

pg 2 [Chief Commoner](#)

pg 3 [Policy Chair](#)

pg 6 [Open Spaces](#)

pg 12 [In the News](#)



**CITY  
OF  
LONDON**

# MEMBERS' BRIEFING

Produced by the Communications Team

# LORD MAYOR

## **Visit to South Korea, Japan, Hong Kong and Singapore**

On 12 February the Lord Mayor started his overseas visit to South Korea, Japan, Hong Kong and Singapore. The trip enhanced collaboration between the UK and East Asia, strengthened relationships and offered investors reassurance over Brexit and the future of the City. Starting off in Seoul, the Lord Mayor met the Financial Services Commission and Financial Supervisory Service exploring steps needed to encourage more "traffic" across the UK-Korea FinTech Bridge. These themes were also discussed in a meeting with the Deputy Mayor of Seoul, with the Lord Mayor extending an invitation for the Mayor to visit London. In Tokyo the predominant themes were promoting the City's expertise in Asset Management, FinTech and Green Finance. The strong links between London and Tokyo through the existing Memorandum of Understanding were reinforced in meetings with Governor Koike and the new Financial Services Mayor Hiroshi Nakaso who takes up post formally in June. The Lord Mayor was in Hong Kong as the Chinese government announced its vision for the Greater Bay Area. This provided a backdrop to discuss opportunities for the UK to play a part in the Belt and Road Initiative. The role of Green Finance in this was a pre-eminent theme and opportunities for closer work between the Hong Kong Green Finance Association and City's Green Finance Institute were explored. The 'Singapore-UK Partnership for the Future' set the context for the visit to Singapore. FinTech and Environmental, Social and Governance were again key themes. During the visit, the Lord Mayor explored the concept of establishing a UK-Singapore "trusted data corridor" to enhance collaboration between two like minded, highly innovative financial centres. The Singapore Bicentennial event in London in June and Financial Dialogue in Singapore later this year offer opportunities to turn this into concrete action.

## **Visit to Scotland**

The Lord Mayor visited Edinburgh and Glasgow between 3-6 March. The aim of the visit was to strengthen links between London and the two Scottish cities, and to follow up the positive messages delivered by both sides at the Burns Night Supper attended by the First Minister, Nicola Sturgeon MSP, in January. The visit included a briefing by the Law Society of Scotland, and visits to legal and fund management firms and to major banking operations, including the impressive planned Barclays development on the banks of the Clyde. The Lord Mayor was entertained by Scottish Financial Enterprise and by the Royal Company of Merchants, highlighting the three cities complement and benefit each other by working together on the promotion of the UK as a global business hub. This approach was endorsed during a meeting with the Scottish Cabinet Secretary for Finance and Economy, Derek McKay MSP. The visit deepened strategic partnerships and is likely to lead to Scottish institutions taking a greater part in City of London visits to and from overseas.

## **International Women's Day**

On International Women's Day, 8 March, the Lord Mayor opened London Stock Exchange in the presence of Her Royal Highness, the Countess of Wessex, Chair of the Women's Network Forum. This Forum paves the way for gender diversity in business and the Lord Mayor engaged in conversation about shifting the behaviours of the next generation - aligning with the Lord Mayor's theme of training for digital skills and inclusivity. The Lady Mayoress, Sheriff Liz Green and Sheriff Vincent Keaveney's consort Amanda Keaveney, attended the City of London Corporation's annual networking breakfast to recognise the achievements of women in the City. The event raised funds for the charity Refuge. After the breakfast they visited the recently unveiled 'Fearless Girl' statue in Paternoster Square, representing female empowerment in business. In conjunction with this, the Lord Mayor has granted the Freedom of the City to 100 women connected to the City of London to mark 100 years of suffrage in the UK. A reception to mark this was held in Guildhall for 170 people and the ceremony of the first 10 women was held at Mansion House on March 13.

## **Leaders of Tomorrow: Leading the Digital City**

On 15 March the Lord Mayor launched the Leaders of Tomorrow: Leading the Digital City programme. 41 ambitious business leaders from financial, professional services and tech firms have been nominated by their Chief Executive Officers to join the 2019 programme, which is focused around the Lord Mayor's theme 'Shaping Tomorrow's City Today'. As rapid technological change transforms the way we live and work, the programme will look at the skills, attitudes and leadership approaches needed to thrive in the digital City. The next programme session will take place in May, where participants will discuss digitally intelligent leadership.

Contact [Chloe Waterman](#) on 2676

# CHIEF COMMONER

## Civic Events

It is when you start counting the days instead of the months that you know your time as Chief Commoner is reaching its conclusion but fortunately March is as busy as November with events piling up in anticipation of the Easter break. No fewer than six Livery Companies have been kind enough to invite the Chief Commoner in the past four weeks and my final Civic Dinner in my Parlour has been and gone, ending with a musical entertainment from the songbook of Rabbie Burns, not, I hasten to add, delivered by myself.

## Inter-Livery Pancake Race

I have continued to enjoy some traditional events which have passed me by over my twenty years as a Member – for once the sun shone on the Pancake Race in Guildhall Yard while the crowds turned out for the Spital Sermon and the Bridewell Service.

## Visit to HMS Queen Elizabeth

As Members will know we are very proud of our relationships with the armed forces and it is always both a pleasure and an honour when we are invited to visit them. While the absence of planned trains rather curtailed the visit to HMS Queen Elizabeth in Portsmouth, the small party of Members was privileged to be given a tour of the ship followed by lunch in the Captain's quarters where we could see our canteen of cutlery which we gave to the officers' mess last year being put to good use. They have been kind enough also to invite myself and Jeremy Simons on a cruise from Portsmouth to Rosyth in April along with their sponsoring Livery Companies and the Lord Provost of Edinburgh. I have suggested that the commanding officers of all the armed forces which we support should be offered the Freedom by special nomination as a means of strengthening the links still more.

## International Women's Day

I also took great pleasure in being able to host an event in the Livery Hall for the LSO and their corporate sponsors which was very well attended with a strong Chinese contingent including the Chinese Ambassador's wife who enjoyed a quartet of female players in tribute to International Women's Day. The month was marked also by the first Freedom Ceremony at Mansion House for a few of the 100 women nominated to mark the anniversary as well as by a breakfast in Guildhall on the Day itself where men were in a distinct minority for once!

## Lord Mayor's Big Curry Lunch

Coming up on Thursday 4 April we have the Lord Mayor's Big Curry Lunch for which we are making a special effort to break all previous records in support of efforts to assist veterans making the transition into civil society and employment. There are still tickets available so do please get your friends to support such a worthy cause in the presence of a 'significant' royal!



Inter-Livery Pancake Race



City sign onboard HMS Queen Elizabeth



100 Women Freedoms of the City



HRH Duke of Kent opening garden in Guildhall Yard

# CHAIR OF POLICY & RESOURCES

## **Unveiling of Fearless Girl in the City statue**

On 5 March the Policy Chair spoke at the unveiling of the Fearless Girl Statue on Paternoster Square. This iconic statue was first unveiled in New York on International Women's Day 2017 to demonstrate the power of women in leadership and the need for more diverse company boards. The Policy Chair congratulated State Street Global Advisers for bringing the statue to the City of London and welcomed its arrival ahead of International Women's Day on 8 March.

## **Meeting with Secretary of State for Wales**

On 6 March the Policy Chair met with the Secretary of State for Wales Rt Hon Alun Cairns MP to discuss the City of London Corporation's regional strategy and to continue to build relationships with political representatives in Wales.

## **Prime Minister's International Women's Day Reception**

On 7 March the Policy Chair attended a reception at 10 Downing Street to mark International Women's Day, where she met with the Prime Minister and networked with other women from both business and Government.

## **Freedom of 100 Women**

On 8 March, two exciting events took place at Guildhall. Firstly, the Policy Chair attended the International Women's Day Breakfast which recognised the achievements of women across the Square Mile. This breakfast was hosted by Julie Etchingham (ITV newsreader) and it was a privilege to hear from Dame Sarah Mullally, the Bishop of London. Later that day the Policy Chair delivered the opening remarks at a reception in the Roman Amphitheatre to celebrate the centenary of women's suffrage by the nomination of 100 women to the Freedom of the City of London on International Women's Day. The Policy Chair extended her congratulations to the army of new Freedom holders drawn from a wide range of backgrounds, all of whom have a connection to the City. The 106 women included Sally Balcombe (Chief Executive Officer of Visit Britain/Visit England), Louise Jeffery's (Artistic director at the Barbican Centre) and Jodie Whittaker (Guildhall School of Music and Drama graduate and actor best known as the first female Doctor in Doctor Who).

## **Trade Associations Roundtable**

On 15 March the Policy Chair hosted a Roundtable with Nick Collier and Trade Associations. The Policy Chair took the opportunity to welcome Nick in his new role as Managing Director of the City Corporation office in Brussels. The meeting provided an opportunity to discuss with key stakeholders an outline plan for his first 100 days in post. The City Corporation Office in Brussels will play an important role in efforts to bring together stakeholders in the financial and professional services sector across the City.

## **City representation at MIPIM 2019**

The Policy Chair, Chairman and Deputy Chairman of Planning and Transportation joined representatives from the City Surveyor's department at the world's leading and most influential property trade show, MIPIM, Cannes which took place in Cannes from 13-17 March. 27,000 delegates from more than 100 countries attended this year's 30th anniversary event. Over the course of the three days, the City Corporation participated in more than 40 meetings, panel sessions, seminars, media interviews and tours of regional and international stands. MIPIM also provided an opportunity to launch our new research report: Locate, Create and Innovate: London in a changing world on an international stage. The report draws on perspectives from London's knowledge intensive industries to understand how the decisions companies make are informed by short and long-term drivers of change. The key aims of the City Corporation's participation was to promote the City to the international property investment market, manage relationships with new and existing investors, developers and influencers; and to position the City as a thought leader in property and place making. In addition to encouraging investment from international markets, the event also allowed the City Corporation to successfully build strong links with our regional partners in Cardiff, Manchester, Birmingham, Belfast, Leeds and Scotland.

## **Forward look:**

- 1 April - The Policy Chair will meet with Dame Minouche Shafik.
- 2 April - The Policy Chair will meet with Lord Jim O'Neill.
- 3 April - The Policy Chair will speak at the Museum of London's Beasts of London and Secret Rivers event.
- 23-28 April - The Policy Chair will travel to China for the China Belt & Road Conference.

Contact [Tina Denis](#) on ext. 3801

Any Member wishing to know our position on any subject can contact the Director of Communications [Bob Roberts](#) or the Head of Corporate Affairs [Eugenie de Naurois](#).

# PARLIAMENTARY / GLA

## **Brexit**

At the time of writing, an extension of Article 50 to at least 12 April has been agreed by the European Union, delaying the UK's exit from the EU while the Prime Minister seeks to have her deal approved at third go and avoid a 'no deal' outcome. While Parliament voted to take control of the business in the House and held a series of indicative votes on eight different outcomes (including membership of the customs union, a second referendum, and 'no deal'), there was no majority for any particular way forward. If the Prime Minister's deal is not approved, MPs are likely to resume discussions about some of the options rejected during the indicative voting process.

## **Financial Services under World Trade Organisation (WTO) Rules**

Dr Lorand Bartels, Linklaters LLP, and Eric White, Herbert Smith Freehills, gave evidence to MPs on the position of financial services under WTO Rules. White explained that the position of services was "much more complex than goods" and that "overall the disciplines were less developed" in relation to services than goods. The basic provision, he explained, was that of the most favoured nation rule. Dr Bartels said that there were "protectionism and other regulatory interests in play" which explained the reluctance of the WTO to expand services liberalisation. Dr Bartels also noted that there was a reluctance among some developing countries to liberalise access for services owing to capacity issues and some more developed nations were "opposed to reducing their regulatory space". On this prudential carve-out, White explained it was drafted as a concession to financial services regulators who were concerned about potential implications for their own domestic functions. The power was "quite broad" and "essentially allows regulators to do whatever they want for prudential reasons," subject to anti-abuse provisions. White remarked that although there was always an appetite to increase services under WTO rules, the "real priority" was bilateral trade agreements which include services as "it is far easier to agree with one country a specific liberalisation". On the UK's position after Brexit, White expressed confidence, remarking it represented "a big opportunity for the UK to improve and develop WTO rules on financial services". White said that he believed that the UK "was better qualified than any other country" to obtain an equivalency decision from the EU and that "it would be very difficult under WTO rules for the EU to say no".

## **Bribery Act 2010**

The post-legislative scrutiny report regarding the Bribery Act 2010 (to which the City of London Police gave evidence) has been published by the House of Lords. The scrutinising Committee concluded that the Act is "an excellent piece of legislation which creates offences which are clear and all-embracing." Nonetheless, the report asserted that Ministry of Justice guidance was less successful in providing SMEs with the information needed to decide on formal anti-bribery policies, and argued that a lack of cooperation between law enforcement agencies ought to be remedied. Among the report's conclusions and recommendations, the Committee commended the Home Office's decision to look at options for a centralised reporting mechanism for bribery, and called on the Director of the Serious Fraud Office (SFO) and the Director of Public Prosecutions (DPP) to outline how they intended to speed up investigations under the Act and improve communications with those placed under investigation for bribery. The report noted that a lack of awareness of and training on the Bribery Act may be a contributing factor in the lack of bribery prosecutions and argued the Government should provide the resources for the City of London Police's Economic Crime Academy to expand its anti-bribery training programme, and should ensure that every police force has at least one senior specialist officer who has undertaken the training. Also of interest to the City Police, the report concluded that the current requirement for prosecutions to be initiated only with the written consent of one of the Directors of the SFO or DPP is too rigid and should be relaxed.

## **Industry & Parliament Trust**

Sir Nicholas Kenyon, Barbican, and Lisa Burger, the Royal National Theatre, spoke at a joint City of London and Industry & Parliament Trust event on culture. The meeting, chaired by Shadow Arts Minister Kevin Brennan MP, was used to discuss the value of arts and arts education, and the take-up of apprenticeships in the sector. Sir Nicholas outlined the range of outreach work undertaken by the Barbican Centre and Guildhall School of Music & Drama, and described to attendees the aims of the Culture Mile initiative. The impact of new immigration rules on the creative industries was also discussed.

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

**Locate, Create, Innovate**

On 5 March the London launch of a joint City Property Association (CPA) and City of London Corporation research report entitled [Locate, Create, Innovate: London in a changing world](#) took place. The event was held at Hub Hub, a new co-working space on Farringdon Street. The report was introduced by David Ainsworth, CPA President and Chief Executive of CORE and Alastair Moss, Deputy Chairman of the Planning and Transportation Committee. Dr Laura Davison, Head of Research at the City Corporation provided an overview of key findings, based on 65 in-depth interviews with London firms and a global poll of 459 business leaders. Technology is driving innovation across financial and professional services, and the City is a location of choice for business innovation.

**Women in Finance Charter**

On 14 March, the Women in Finance Charter's 2nd annual review launch was held at Guildhall. The Charter was set up in response to the unusually high gender pay gap in financial services (23%) and asks its 120 signatories to commit to advancing female representation (ideally 33% in executive committees, boards, and direct reports) and reducing the pay gap. The event was to celebrate the good work being done by signatories (42% have met targets, 72% had an increase in female senior management, two-thirds had a target of 33% or above), and also express points of tension for improving and reporting on gender parity. The event also emphasised the importance of flexible working and mentoring.

**'Women's Progression in the Workplace' Launch**

On 27 March, a series of research products co-produced with the Government Equalities Office on actionable steps for employers to take in closing the gender pay gap launched at Guildhall. Entitled 'Women's Progression in the Workplace' the project involved academics and industry leaders from the UK. The products were launched by Penny Mordaunt MP alongside Policy Chair Catherine McGuinness, to an audience of business leaders, academics, and policymakers. The project stresses the importance of changing workplace culture, supporting flexible working, improving recruitment, and implementing measurement and evaluation processes.

**Brussels office event on data flows**

On 18 March, the City of London Corporation's Brussels office hosted a joint event with the British Chamber of Commerce – EU & Belgium, on the topic of data flows. Vivienne Artz (Chief Privacy Officer, Refinitiv and Chair of the IRSG Data Workstream) discussed the pending risks to cross border data flows (from the EU to the UK) in the event of the UK leaving the EU without a deal. Bruno Gencarelli (Head of Data Flows and Protection, European Commission) asserted that there would be no grace period in the case of a hard Brexit. Other panellists included Steve Wood (Deputy Commissioner, Information Commissioner's Office) and Christian D'Cunha (Head of Private Office, European Data Protection Supervisor). The event was well attended by a range of EU stakeholders, including representatives of EU trade associations, corporations, third country missions and consultancies. Any member wishing to know more about this event, or upcoming events in Brussels, please contact [Hannah Connaghan](#).

**Global Cyber Alliance - cyber trends, 8 May**

This event at Mansion House will pull together industry, government and researchers to look at the current trends in cybersecurity and what's on the horizon both for the UK and internationally.

**Green Finance Summit: Investing in Actions, 2 July**

The City of London's flagship annual Green Finance Summit will showcase the latest in green financial policy, market developments and thought leadership. This coincides with London Climate Action Week and aims to convene industry experts, policymakers, leading voices and the brightest minds in green finance. Confirmed speakers include the Rt Hon Claire Perry MP, Minister of State for Energy and Clean Growth and Hoesung Lee, Chair, Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC). We expect to launch the new Green Finance Institute at this event. Registration is free and we encourage members to join us to hear more about the latest developments in this field. Registration is now open on the [Green Finance Summit website](#).

**City Bridge Trust**Contact [Martin Hall](#) on ext. 3705

At its latest Grants meeting, the City Bridge Trust Committee agreed funding to 40 organisations totalling nearly £5m. These awards brought the total awarded for the 2018/19 financial year to just under £22m. The latest grants include funding for advice services; making community buildings fully accessible for people with disabilities or mobility issues; and mental health services for homeless Londoners. The Trust also made a number of five-year funding awards and several core funding grants providing organisations with long-term certainty and security. This reflects a change in policy introduced in the new Bridging Divides funding strategy. Specific grants included: £390,000 to [Federation of London Youth Clubs](#) (also known as London Youth) towards the costs of the [City Leaders](#) project; £172,200 to [Citizens Advice Bureaux Service Camden](#) to enable them to offer specialist advice and support for residents accessing Universal Credit; and £99,400 to [Zoological Society of London](#) towards their [Tidal Thames Conservation project](#), working with volunteers and local communities to monitor and protect London's river biodiversity. A full list of grants can be found on the [City Bridge Trust website](#).

### Air Quality Officers meet Lord Mayor of Sydney

On Friday 22 February, two of our Air Quality Officers met the Lord Mayor of Sydney, Australia, Clover Moore, and the CEO of City of Sydney, Monica Barone, to show them air quality monitoring equipment at Sir John Cass Primary School. The City Corporation has been monitoring air quality closely at the school since 2003 using a wide range of equipment. The Lord Mayor and CEO were particularly interested in the different types of monitoring taking place at the school as they are hoping to introduce permanent air quality monitoring at key sites in Sydney.

### Air Quality Strategy Consultation

The City of London Corporation is consulting on its latest draft Air Quality Strategy. Please take a few moments of your time to complete [Air Quality Strategy Consultation](#) which can be accessed via the City of London website and encourage others to do so too.

## Clean City Awards Scheme

Contact [Karen Marks](#) on ext. 4975

On 25 January, Alderman Sir Andrew Parmley hosted the 24<sup>th</sup> [Clean City Award Scheme \(CCAS\)](#) Ceremony at Mansion House. The CCAS is a membership scheme which supports and rewards businesses to adopt and maintain sustainable waste management practices and is unique to the Square Mile. This year's applicants included a wide range of organisations including dentists, conference centres, iconic buildings and financial institutions. Applicants are rewarded for driving behavioural change through engagement and communication, waste minimisation business models, and recycling. CCAS members receive a host of benefits including monthly newsletters, regular best practice meetings, an annual inspection and award ceremony invite.

Keith Bottomley, Deputy Chairman of the City of London Corporation's Environmental Service Committee, said: "Over the past 24 years the CCAS have advised on legislative changes in the waste industry and has seen its members improve waste management and consider wider sustainability issues like Air Quality and biodiversity. The scheme has directly enhanced environmental credentials, fulfilled Corporate Social Responsibility objectives, saved money and improved employee engagement. Improved waste management has important environmental and economic benefits."

### 2019 Award Winners

The big winners were Nomura, Royal Bank of Canada, Travelers, Broadgate City Campus and 99 Brookfield. Rothschilds won the first Plastic Free City award and London Stock Exchange won the Cheapside Business Award.

## Open Spaces

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

### Rare finds at Burnham Beeches

A rare fungi growing on a birch tree has been discovered at Burnham Beeches. Although common in Europe, the red banded polypore is not often found in the UK. In addition, during recent monitoring work a rare spider, *Zelotes petrensis* which is normally found in grass heath or unimproved grassland has also been discovered on site. Improvements to wood pasture and heathland habitats are likely factors to these discoveries.

### Taster Session: prints of the forest

Head over to the View, Epping Forest on Thursday 4 April, 1.30-3.30pm and join Claire Willberg, an experienced community arts lecturer, in developing and printing your own print designs inspired by the forest environment. Free, no booking required. This event is for adults (19+) only and is run in partnership with the Waltham Forest Adult Learning Service.

### An Eggcellent Easter extravaganza trail

Celebrate Easter at Kenley Common on Thursday 18 April, 12-2pm and go on an Easter adventure through the woods. Look for the eggs hidden by the Easter Bunny and find the decorated stones scattered about and complete activities along the way. Even get a chance to take a prize home. This is a self-guided trail. For more information visit the [Eventbrite website](#).

### Guided walks in the Square Mile's gardens

Discover beautiful tranquil spaces in between the steel and concrete of the City. A regular programme of turn up and go walks will be running from May until October 2019. From exploring historic gardens to modern ones, each walk will be different in character. No booking required, £10 per person (no charge for children under the age of 15 who are accompanied by an adult). For more information visit the [City Garden Walks website](#).

More information on all events being held in our Open Spaces can be found on the [events section of the City of London website](#).

## Policy & Resources Committee

Contact [Angela Roach](#) on ext. 1418

Following detailed work undertaken by the Members Diversity Working Party, the Policy and Resources Committee supported the direction of travel of its recommendations to help promote the merits of standing for office as a Common Councilman or an Alderman to enhance the diversity of the Court. In pursuance of this work, the Committee has already considered and agreed some recommendations in more detail and will continue to look at others over the next few months. So far, the Committee has supported:-

- The introduction of an aspiration for increasing the number of elected Members from two of the nine protected characteristics, i.e. gender (women) by 30% and BAME 15% by 2021, with a further increase which is more reflective of the City's communities by 2025. It should be noted that other characteristics will be considered in due course;
- In terms of nomenclature, the Committee supported the title "Chairman" remaining as the default but with Members having the option of being referred to "Chair" if they so wish. The title "Common Councilman" was also considered and it was agreed that it should be changed to the more non-gender specific title of "Common Councillor" in all non-legal documentation and communication;
- The "First Past the Post" voting system for committee elections was reviewed to ascertain whether altering it would help improve diversity on committees. On balance, the Committee felt that an alternative system would not have a positive impact and, as a consequence, there was no need to change the current system;
- Going forward, ballot papers for committee elections should include a gender breakdown of the committee. This would serve as a prompt for Members to consider the make-up of a committee when voting;
- The introduction of a voluntary Members Diversity Charter which Members can consider signing up to. This would publicly show commitment to the diversity agenda and would help drive the debate on diversity and inclusion internally;
- Given the important role that Members play in encouraging people to stand for office, unconscious bias training should be offered to all Members. This might assist Members to look beyond encouraging people to stand for election from similar backgrounds to themselves.

There are a number of other recommendations of the Working Party which have yet to be considered. Members will be provided with an update on these in due course.

## City of London Police

Contact [Teresa La Thangue](#) on 020 7601 2290

The estate occupied by the City of London Police has been under review for a number of years, and plans are being formulated to integrate a new police building into the planned court complex in the West of the City. While these plans come to fruition, work continues across the police estate to refurbish existing buildings and make best use of the space we have available. The use of our buildings by the public is constantly reviewed and with footfall at Snow Hill police station extremely low, the decision has been taken to close the building to the public at the end of July 2019. It will remain an operational police building until later in the year. The accommodation team is currently working on relocating officers and staff based at Snow Hill to within our existing estate. Following the closure, the public will be redirected to Wood Street police station, which is a 10-minute walk away, or to Bishopsgate police station. They can also continue to report crimes online or contact us via 101 or 999. The level of service we continue to offer our communities will not be affected by this change, and will remain second to none. We continue to consult with our residential communities and let them know of our plans. If you need further information on the planned closure to assist with ward briefings or similar engagement, please get in touch.

## Gresham College

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

### AI and Education

This lecture will consider the current reality of AI in education and its transformative potential. Professor Rose Luckin will look at how AI is already supporting the teaching and learning process, and at the possible futures that AI might provide in order to help us tackle our greatest educational challenges. The lecture takes place on 9 April, 6-7pm, at the Museum of London.

### Pollution and Inequality: How They Affect Health

Pollution is a much more complex problem than many realise and cannot be resolved solely through global and regional agreements. In this lecture by Gresham Environment Professor Jacqueline McGlade she will talk about the factors affecting pollution, its damaging impact on health, and how we can tackle it. The lecture takes place on 30 April, 6-7pm, at the Museum of London.

### Does Finance Benefit Society?

Since the financial crisis, there has been a strong view that the financial sector has little benefit for society. This talk by Gresham Professor of Business Alex Edmans will show that stock market trading may contribute to society even if it does not lead to firms raising new capital. The lecture takes place on 24 April, 6-7pm, at the Museum of London.

All the lectures are open to the public on a first-come, first-served basis. They are also live-streamed online. You can view details of all upcoming lectures and videos of previous ones on the [Gresham College website](#).

## City of London Academies and Schools

### City Schools' Concert

14 schools from across the City of London Family of Schools performed at the City Schools Concert on 15 March to an audience of elected Members, Chief Officers, parents, teachers and governors. The concert was held at the Guildhall School of Music and Drama's (GSMD) Milton Court venue and included a blend of choral, orchestral and dance pieces. Teaching staff gave up their time to support the young people with their rehearsals and performances on the day. The concert also included an impressive mixed-school piece of music which was composed and led by GSMD's Paul Griffiths. Pupils served as comperes for the evening and provided attendees with introductions to the musical pieces, with entertaining and well-researched background information for each. The exceptional standard of musical ability on display was evident of months of rehearsing. Deputy Catherine McGuinness, Chair of the Policy and Resources Committee, closed the evening. The concert is a key activity as part of the Education Board's Creative and Cultural Learning Strategy.

### City Schools' Debating Competition

Pupils from the City of London Family of Schools competed in a Debating Competition on 11 March. Mixed-school teams argued both in favour of and against whether nuclear weapons made the world safer between 1945-51. The event was delivered in partnership with the International Churchill Society who provided extensive resources to allow the young people to carefully research and prepare their arguments in advance. The competition was preceded by a Debating Workshop on 11 February which was hosted at the City of London School with tutors from the English-Speaking Union providing a masterclass on debating techniques. Barbican gift vouchers were awarded as prizes to the winning teams and also to individuals who impressed the judges and the audience. A follow-up debate will take place on 2 May at the Old Bailey and will be judged by Sheriff Liz Green. The Debating Competition is one of the pupil enrichment events that are part of the Education Strategy.

### City Schools' Chess Tournament

On 19 March, the City's Education Unit organised a Chess Tournament in the Livery Hall for pupils from the City of London Family of Schools. The event was delivered in collaboration with Chess in Schools and Communities who provided expert training resources on chess strategies and judged the bouts. Schools were encouraged to set up chess clubs in advance to develop a strong team of eight pupils to bring to the Tournament. Sheriff Liz Green, the City Corporation's Anne Bamford and chess grandmaster John Parker attended the event to hand out prizes to the chess champions. Pupils from the top four competing schools have been invited to attend the Chess Finals which will be held at the Old Bailey on 26 March.

Contact [Daniel McGrady](#) on ext. 1864

### City of London Academy Southwark

Sabra Al Shurbajji in Year 12 received the Worshipful Company of Painter-Stainers Award at Painters Hall in the City of London on 22 March 2019. The prize winners were invited to attend with their families an annual Prize Giving ceremony where they were presented with their book and a certificate. Sabra was invited to bring her painting to be displayed during the Prize Giving ceremony. The City of London Academy (Southwark), Women's Elite Academy Basketball League (WEABL) girls' team have won the Southern Conference after a tense final match of the season on 6 March, beating their opponents with the last shot of the game to clinch the title 43-42, making them Southern Conference winners for the second time in three years. The team have also fought their way through a further two playoff games to reach the final on 3 April 2019, to earn the right to be called the best WEABL team in the country. A number of students from the Academy were selected to attend WE day at Wembley stadium on 6 March. WE is an international charity who pride themselves on "making doing good, doable". High-profile celebrities joined the event, including Prince Harry, Duke of Sussex, to praise the thousands of students around the United Kingdom who have been working towards social-change projects in their own schools. Abena Peprah, in year 10, was selected to represent all London schools, she spoke on stage clearly, articulately and passionately about the work the academy have been doing towards gender equality and safe-spaces for students.

Contact [Katie Lancaster](#) on 020 7394 5100

### City of London Academy Islington (COLAI)

To celebrate International Women's Day, 10 year nine girls from COLAI spent a full day experiencing all the careers and opportunities available to women within the Royal Navy. Students met with and spoke to inspiring women who are working within the Royal Navy in logistics, medicine, the Fleet Air Arm, seamanship, engineering roles and the Royal Marines. For all of our students, the opportunities to speak to professionals as well as engage in activities that allowed an insight into the type of work that these women are involved in every single day was thrilling. One of our student's aspirations is to become a physiotherapist and she commented on how she would now consider following a medical path through the Marines because it would allow her to also travel and see the world. The students were surprised to learn that it has only been in the last eight years that women have been allowed to train as submariners but understood that this demonstrates the progression in women's rights within the Navy. The girls enjoyed the day immensely. Staff and students want to say a huge thank you to the Royal Navy and London Irish Rugby Club for organising such an exciting and inspiring day.

Contact [Lisa Hancock](#) on 020 7226 8611

## City of London Academies and Schools

### City of London School

City of London School welcomed the first day of Spring with one of the most exciting events in the school calendar- the Spring Concert. The school's choir performed alongside the London Youth Choir Training Choir, one of five choirs which fall under the London Youth Choir family, a series of choirs for young people in London from primary school age to 23 years old. The Under 18 and Under 16 Basketball teams have won the London Independent Schools League. This is a remarkable achievement for the boys and their performances leading up to and including the finals have been excellent. Sixth Former Isaac has written and co-directed a play called 'N1' as this year's Student Production. Based on the lives of five homeless men in Islington, the play was originally written for his Extended Project Qualification and then turned into a stage production. Isaac co-directed the piece with fellow Sixth Former Jamie. Ten actors and eight tech crew took to the Winterflood Theatre to exhibit the day-to-day life of rough sleepers using a technique called 'verbatim', where each homeless person was directly based on the story of those sleeping rough in London. Donations were collected at the end of each performance for homelessness charity Centrepont.

Contact [Georgina Berry](#) on 020 3680 6414

### City of London School for Girls (CLSG)

A team of year 12 debaters have reached the European Youth Parliament national finals after putting in an excellent performance at the South East regional forum on Friday 8 March. The team did a fantastic job of debating issues related to Russian interference in elections, the UK-EU's future relationship with Gibraltar, the prevention of the dissemination of anti-Semitic ideas, and global warming, and were highly commended by the judges. Over 150 students, alumnae and staff performed in a spectacular music concert at the Barbican Centre on Tuesday 12 March 2019. The concert celebrated 125 years of music at the school, as part of the school's anniversary celebrations. The evening began with City Overture, a new piece of music created by Paul Griffiths, from the Guildhall School of Music, and our Music

Scholars. The Senior Orchestra performed Prokofiev's Romeo and Juliet Suite No. 2 and the String Ensemble gave an excellent performance of Elgar's Enigma Variations: Nimrod. The second half of the concert began with Vaughn Williams' Fantasia on Greensleeves, led by conductor Alice Farnham, before our Director of Music, Dr. Berryman, took to the stage to conduct a full choir and orchestra for Vivaldi's Gloria. For more information on our 125th Anniversary events, please [visit the CLSG website](#).

Contact [Sam Robson](#) on ext. 5549

### City of London Freeman's School

Solangela Garbutt, Alderman John Garbutt, Chair of Governors Roger Charwick OBE and Headmaster Roland Martin presided over the official naming of the City of London Freeman's School Boarding House, now Walbrook, earlier this month. Freeman's has a small, friendly boarding community of approximately 60 students who are able to benefit from the school facilities 24 hours a day. This modern Boarding facility accommodates students in the boarding houses from year nine and has a mixture of full and weekly boarding students. It is a multi-cultural environment with British pupils and international students joining us from all over the world. Boarding pupils were asked to select their favourite name from the Wards of the City of London to be the new title for the Boarding House. Walbrook made the grade - it contains two of the City's most notable landmarks: the Bank of England and Mansion House. The brook played a very important role in the Roman settlement of Londinium, the city now known as London. The stream started in what is now Finsbury and flowed through the centre of the walled city, bringing a supply of fresh water whilst carrying waste away to the River Thames. It is thought that the brook was named because it ran through or under the London Wall.

Contact [Sarah Sergeant](#) on 01372 822447

## Museum of London

Contact [Emily Brazee](#)

The Museum of London will open Beasts of London on Friday 5 April; a state of the art, immersive and digital experience that will take visitors on a journey through time, from before the City of London was created, through to the present day. Inspired by objects in the Museum's collection and created in partnership with Guildhall School of Music & Drama, Beasts of London tells the story of the capital from an animal's perspective and highlights iconic moments in the city's history such as the arrival of the Romans and The Plague. The animals are voiced by some of London's greatest performers and artists including Kate Moss, Brian Blessed, Pam Ferris, Nish Kumar, Stephen Mangan, Angellica Bell and Joe Pasquale alongside actors from Guildhall School. The exhibition will run until January 2020. Beasts of London is the captivating result of an ambitious, creative exchange between two core Culture Mile partners. To celebrate this collaboration, Culture Mile have organised a whole range of programming to extend this animal kingdom beyond the Museum's walls to the rest of the City, including a family festival at the Museum, and a celebration of its' future home in West Smithfield, with A Beastly Street Party. Both events are part of Play the Mile which runs from May – August 2019. Full details of all events can be found on the [Culture Mile website](#). For further information and to book tickets for Beasts of London please visit the [Museum of London website](#).

## Barbican Centre

Contact [John Kelly](#) on 020 7382 2389

### Tune in to Access

The Barbican presented Tune in to Access on 16 March, a celebratory free day of performances and participation exploring accessibility, technology and the arts as part of Disabled Access Day, a biannual nation-wide initiative by the disabled access charity Euan's Guide. The event was organised in collaboration with Drake Music, the leading national organisation working in music, disability and technology, who presented The Radical Sound of Many, a free showcase in the public spaces of the Barbican of five new commissions by disabled musicians.

### Hidden Figures

Barbican Cinema has announced Hidden Figures, a new strand celebrating filmmakers who, despite directing ground-breaking films, have been neglected in the canon of world cinema. The season launched with a retrospective of maverick filmmaker Lina Wertmüller, the first woman to be nominated for the Best Director Oscar for Seven Beauties in 1975. Love and Anarchy: The Films of Lina Wertmüller, which ran from 6-31 March, was the subject of a major feature in [The Guardian](#), as well as previews in Sight & Sound and Time Out.

### Strange Loops

Part of the Barbican's 2019 season Life Rewired, Strange Loops was a series of collaborative projects examining artificial intelligence that took place across the centre during March. Led by mathematician Marcus du Sautoy, musician Mahan Esfahani, actor and mathematician Victoria Gould, composer Robert Thomas, and visual artist Ben Kreukniet, Strange Loops included a performance lecture in the Barbican Hall which challenged an audience to differentiate between music created by an algorithm and music composed by J. S. Bach, a theatrical performance in The Pit theatre, and an installation on Level G of the Barbican. In keeping with the theme of the Life Rewired season, Strange Loops posed the question of where an artist stops and where a machine begins.

## Dragon Cafe in the City

Contact [Xenia Koumi](#) on ext. 3378

[Dragon Cafe in the City](#) provides a free, safe and quiet sanctuary in the Square Mile for both City residents and workers to support and look after their mental and physical wellbeing and release the pressure of day to day life. It is hosted in Shoe Lane Library fortnightly, on Wednesdays, between 12 and 7:30pm. The project is delivered by Barbican & Community Libraries and Public Health, in partnership with charity Mental Fight Club. Dragon Café in the City was initially trialled as a successful pilot and has secured funding for the next two years, through the City Corporation's Priorities Investment Pot, the Public Health Grant and the Healthier Hackney and City Fund. Free activities available to Dragon Café in the City visitors include: 15-minute massage, lunch and learns, workshops on nutrition, yoga, mindfulness, calligraphy, scent workshops, chess strategy, Tai Chi, Pilates and more. The pilot showed that attending Dragon Café in the City helped visitors to feel more able and inclined to engage with their mental health.

## Guildhall School of Music & Drama

### Guildhall School in Top 10 QS World University Rankings 2019

The QS World University Rankings 2019, which were announced this month, have placed Guildhall School seventh in the world for performing arts. Ratings were based upon academic reputation, employability and research impact. This prestigious ranking alongside being rated Gold in the Teaching Excellence Framework and top conservatoire in the UK for music in the Guardian University Guide 2019, further endorses the School as one of the world's leading conservatoires and drama schools.

### Tenors Filipe Manu and Andrés Presno selected for Royal Opera House Programme

Tenors Filipe Manu (Opera Studies) and Andrés Presno (Vocal Studies) have been selected to join the Royal Opera's prestigious Jette Parker Young Artists Programme in September 2019. The programme is formed of five singers and one stage director, selected from more than 508 applicants from 61 countries across the globe.

### Freedom of the City of London

Women from Guildhall School including Principal Lynne Williams, Professor Patsy Rodenburg OBE, alumnae Jodie Whittaker (Acting 2005) and Kate Royal (Opera 2003) are among recipients to have been given the Freedom of the City of London. The award has been made to more than 100 women in commemoration of the centenary of the Representation of the People Act 1918, which gave women the right to vote.

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

Contact [Jo Hutchinson](#),  
Guildhall School of Music & Drama  
on 020 7382 6130

## London Symphony Orchestra (LSO)

Contact [Veronica Kocovska](#) on 020 7588 1116

LSO Principal Guest Conductors joined the Orchestra this month, with François-Xavier Roth taking the lead on LSO Futures – a festival celebrating contemporary voices in music – by conducting a concert featuring a world premiere of a new work by LSO Panufnik Scheme composer Donghoon Shin. The evening began with Choral Director Simon Halsey conducting a choir made up of 500 singers. Singers from across London who had never sung before, joined with the London Symphony Chorus as part of an initiative with Culture Mile, to perform the UK premiere of David Lang's *the public domain*. Roth conducted the LSO at the Panufnik Composers Workshop, also part of LSO Futures, in which six composers from the 2018 scheme heard their original works performed by the full orchestra and received advice and guidance from Roth and composer Colin Matthews. Gianandrea Noseda conducted three concerts at the end of the month, including the new format of early-evening, shorter concerts – Half Six Fix. These concerts target a wider audience and provide a

more engaging experience with digital screens and programme notes to follow during the performance. Conductors also connect more with audiences by introducing the music from the stage. Noseda was joined by pianist Seong-Jin Cho and soprano Diana Damrau at concerts later in the month, and continued his cycle of Shostakovich symphonies by conducting Symphony No 1. March saw more guest conductors return, including Sir Antonio Pappano, Barbara Hannigan – both conducting and singing at once – and three celebratory concerts for renowned conductor Bernard Haitink's 90th birthday in London, and one on tour in Paris.

### LSO St Luke's

The LSO's venue on Old Street, LSO St Luke's, hosted many concerts this month, including lunchtime and evening concerts, in addition to events as part of LSO Discovery – the Orchestra's education and community programme – with a choral singing day, a Discovery day, and concerts for children.

## London Metropolitan Archives (LMA)

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

On 20 March LMA hosted a gala reception at Guildhall for The AIDS Since the 80s Project – Making Positive History. The project is about filming, recording and preserving the history of those affected by the AIDS epidemic of the 1980s and 90s. Central to that history has been the LGBTQ+ community, but the project is wholly diverse, reflecting the experiences of men, women, trans, gay and straight, of all races, UK born and migrant. It also reflects the experiences of those infected through blood transfusion and drug addiction, told by people with the disease and their families, partners and carers. The stories of those involved are already in danger of being forgotten, yet the epidemic is the most significant event in modern day LGBTQ+ life and continues to affect the community today. The AIDS Since the 80s Project charts not only a key and tragic part of LGBTQ+ history, but of our society's shared history. The project has filmed 100 in-depth interviews to create the largest filmed archive of HIV related testimony in the UK that amounts to over 150 hours of material and they plan to collect many more stories from people affected by HIV/AIDS over time. The gala reception marked the official deposit of the 100 film interviews to LMA, to preserve the materials in perpetuity, and eventually make them available for researchers, historians and the public.

## City Business Library (CBL)

Contact [Alexandra Leader](#) on ext.1849

### Business Start-up advice

Following feedback from customers, CBL now offers business advice and market research support to early stage businesses on a 121 basis. Three members of the CBL team have secured a Professional Business and Enterprise Support Services qualification. The team have seen 86 customers this year to help them kick start their business planning, with 60% of the customers supported being female which highlights CBL's impact on supporting women to start and grow a business. Following a recent survey, 80% of customers rated the advice as excellent and 20% rated the advice as very good.

### Outreach work

CBL offers free market research and start-up business advice sessions to various community groups, colleges and universities across the UK. During the last year, the team have supported 1200 delegates, with support from the Princes Trust, Newham College, Redbridge and Waltham Forest job brokerage services, Coventry University, Hult international business school and Sir John Cass school.

### Technology company data

The Gibson Index database was introduced to CBL eight months ago and contains company profiles on over 70,000 early stage start-ups, University spinouts, Small or Medium-sized Enterprise veterans, technology-led consultancies and business partnerships, and it forms the world's first comprehensive national small company database of any major nation. With the Tech industry being the second highest growth sector in the UK, having access to this data is invaluable. In January 2019, the Gibson Index mapped the top UK tech sectors nationally across the UK: artificial intelligence, fintech, software, digital services and materials sectors which added an additional 4,270 new companies to the dataset.

- Policy Chair Catherine McGuinness was interviewed by the [Evening Standard](#), [CNBC](#) [viewable internally only] and [Quartz](#) [£] on the impact of Brexit on businesses in the U.K. Further coverage in the [Independent](#) and [The Times](#).
- The Policy Chair was quoted in Brexit coverage in [City A.M.](#), [BBC News](#), [FT](#) [£] and [Reuters](#), [Financial Times](#), [£], [Law360](#) [subscription only], the [Guardian](#), [BBC News](#), [The Independent](#), [BBC News](#), [Yahoo! UK and Ireland](#), [ITV News](#), [CNN](#), [City A.M.](#) [viewable internally only] [Financial Times](#), [Sky News](#), [Financial News](#), [Yahoo News](#), and [CNN Business](#). Coverage of an opinion piece on China's Belt and Road Initiative by the Policy Chair appeared in [Global Times](#), [GMW](#), [China News](#) and [China Economic Daily](#). [in Chinese] Lord Mayor Peter Estlin wrote in [21st Century Business Journal](#) and [Shanghai Daily](#) about the potential for greater UK-China ties. Further coverage included in [People.cn](#), [China Daily](#), [News Guangdong](#), [China Plus](#), [Global Times](#), [East Money](#), [CRI English](#), [CRI Chinese](#), and in chinese [Yicai](#), [Sina](#), [Shine](#), [China Daily](#), and [p5w](#). Interviews with the Lord Mayor were also broadcast on [Shenzhen TV](#), [Phoenix TV](#), [Kaixian TV](#), [Xinhua](#), [CCTV](#), [CCTV+](#), [CCTV's](#) flagship show.
- Interviews with the Lord Mayor at a fintech forum organised by the City of London Corporation appeared in [Kaixian](#), [Sina](#), [DZwww](#), [People's Daily](#), [Shanghai's Observer](#), [Sina](#), [Xinhua](#) [all in Chinese] [Phoenix TV](#) [viewable internally] and [China Banking News](#).
- The Lord Mayor was interviewed by [BBC Radio Scotland](#) [skip to 1:41:00] to talk about investment opportunities and Brexit, as part of his visit to Glasgow. Further coverage in [BBC News](#). The Lord Mayor also wrote in [City A.M.](#) about his visit. The Lord Mayor's visit was also reported by [The Herald](#) and [The Scotsman](#).
- The Lord Mayor wrote in [City A.M.](#) about the importance of small and medium-size enterprises and their impact on the agenda of responsible business. Heart of the City, funded by the City Corporation, and City Bridge Trust, were both referenced.
- The Policy Chair was quoted on the front page of the [Financial Times](#), and in [CNBC](#), [Business Insider US](#), [Yahoo! Singapore](#), [Financial News](#), [City A.M.](#), and [Financial Times](#) about *Fearless Girl*, a statue of a defiant young girl unveiled in Paternoster Square.
- The Policy Chair was interviewed live on [BBC Radio London's Roberts Elms Show](#) [skip to 15:40] on the award of the Freedom of the City of London to 106 women. Further coverage appeared in over 230 news outlets across the UK and Ireland, including [ITV London News](#), [City A.M.](#), [LBC News](#), [Talk Radio](#), [Irish Independent](#), [BBC Bristol](#) and radio stations across the UK. [all viewable internally]
- Coverage of the City Corporation's representation at the MIPIM property conference appeared in a number of London, national, and international media outlets featuring quotes from the Policy Chair and Planning Chairman. Coverage was included in [City A.M.](#), [Property EU](#), [Property Week](#) [£], [FNews](#), [Estates Gazette](#) [£], [Relocate](#), [Building](#), [Property Magazine International](#), [Property Week](#) [£] and [MIPIM News](#). [viewable internally only], [Yahoo!](#), [Le Monde](#) [in French] and [Property Week](#). Carolyn Dwyer, Director of the Built Environment, was quoted in an [Evening Standard](#) *Homes & Property* feature on the City of London Corporation's plans for homes, bars, cafes, hotels, retail and culture in a bid to transform the Square Mile into a 24/7 destination.
- The Policy Chair wrote in [City A.M.](#) about the City Corporation's Plastic Free City campaign. Jeremy Simons, Chair of the Port Health and Environmental Services Committee, was also quoted in a [Daily Mail](#) article about the campaign following the unveiling of the first of 10 new water refill points to be rolled out this year.
- The Planning Chairman was quoted in [Financial News](#) and [Horticulture Week](#) following the approval of a new riverside roof garden as part of Seal House [£]. Further coverage in [Building Design](#), [The Londonist](#), and [Building](#).
- [Jewish Chronicle](#) and [London Bulletin](#) reported on City Bridge Trust, the City Corporation's charitable funder, which has awarded a £77,320 grant to the charity Noa Girls to support young women and girls from London's Orthodox Jewish community. Alison Gowman, Chair of the City Corporation's City Bridge Trust Committee, was quoted.
- [Islington Gazette](#), and [Hackney Gazette](#) reported that the City Corporation has been named as the best UK academy sponsor for a second year for its work supporting pupils from low income families to achieve top grades.
- The [Evening Standard](#) published an article about 'It's NOT only Rock 'n' Roll', a new photography exhibition at the City of London Corporation's Barbican Music Library taken by veteran photographer Mark Allan.
- [Gardeners' Question Time on BBC Radio 4](#) broadcast a feature on Postman's Park in the Square Mile. Team Leader Niall Birnie and Gardener Nic Guerra from the City Gardens Team were interviewed.

## Key Links

[City Corporation website](#)  
[City Corporation intranet](#)

[YouTube](#)  
[Twitter](#)

For all enquiries contact [MembersBriefing@cityoflondon.gov.uk](mailto:MembersBriefing@cityoflondon.gov.uk)  
 or telephone the Communications Team on 020 7332 3467