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**CITY  
OF  
LONDON**

# MEMBERS' BRIEFING

Produced by the Communications Office

# LORD MAYOR

## Israel and the Occupied Palestinian Territories

In January the Lord Mayor visited Israel and the Occupied Palestinian Territories, undertaking meetings and events in Tel Aviv, Jerusalem and Ramallah. Among others he met the Business Minister of Israel, the Governor of the Bank of Israel and the Governor of the Palestinian Monetary Authority. Tel Aviv is the centre of innovation in Fintech and cyber security with strong connections to the tech sector in London – these can be strengthened even further to benefit both the UK and Israel. The Lord Mayor visited several tech start-up incubators in Tel Aviv, Jerusalem and in the Palestinian new town of Rawabi. This demonstrated the strength and diversity of the sector. The Occupied Palestinian Territories (OPTs) have a young and highly educated population, but with high levels of unemployment. Many of them have the skills and the interest to work in tech, which makes the OPTs a desirable location for outsourcing of tech support, call centres or other IT or communications services.

### Visit to Davos

On 24 January, following straight after his visit to Israel, the Lord Mayor travelled to Switzerland to spend a busy 36 hours attending the World Economic Forum (WEF) Annual Meeting in Davos. This was the first time that the City of London Corporation has had a presence at Davos. Nothing else comes close to this global gathering in terms of the number and calibre of business and political decision makers, who in the space of a week, debate key policy issues and reflect on what they consider to be the next big challenges for society and the global economy. During his visit, the Lord Mayor engaged with a broad cross-section of global political leaders and financial and professional services companies. Some of these meetings were planned, including a discussion with the Australian Finance Minister, providing a valuable introduction to the Lord Mayor's visit in February. Attending a small-scale meeting on Brexit provided the chance to rub shoulders with and hear the views from key officials and stakeholders. The informal nature of Davos allowed for unplanned brush-bys with senior representatives from Nomura, JPMorgan and WPP and there were opportunities to engage with UK leaders from the Governor of the Bank of England, through the heads of M&G Investments and AberdeenStandard, to government ministers (five were in Davos) and their advisers. The visit was completed by discussions with WEF on how we could partner more closely, and meetings with key Swiss investors into the UK including UBS and Julius Baer.

### Freedom Ceremonies for Show Marshals

Also in January, the Lord Mayor was able to preside at the Freedom Ceremonies of Marshals from the Lord Mayor's Show, in recognition of their voluntary service to his own Show in November 2017 and those of his predecessors.

## Livery Academy Awards

On 30 January, the finals of the Livery Companies Academy Awards were held at Mansion House. Teams of sixth form students from four academies supported by the Mercers, Grocers, Drapers and Haberdashers each presented a business idea in a Dragons' Den style contest. All four teams gave excellent presentations but the judging panel, chaired by Tim Campbell MBE, selected Chelsea Academy (supported by the Grocers) as the winners for their 'Not Done Yet' mobile phone app designed to reduce social isolation in pensioners.

## Australia and New Zealand

On 12 -21 February, The Lord Mayor, Alderman Charles Bowman, led a delegation of 13 senior business leaders on an historic visit to Australia and New Zealand. The focus of the visit was to explore opportunities for collaboration in innovation (Fintech and cyber security) and asset management. Accompanied by Alastair Lukies CBE, the Prime Minister's Business Ambassador for FinTech, and Sheriff Neil Redcliffe, the Lord Mayor visited Sydney, Canberra, Melbourne and Auckland. The Lord Mayor and his delegation met a range of key stakeholders in government, industry and regulation, including the Treasurer, Rt Hon Scott Morrison MP, the Australian Stock Exchange, the Reserve Bank of Australia, Australia's Big Four banks, the Mayor of Auckland, Phil Goff MP, New Zealand's Sovereign Wealth Fund, and a range of fintech businesses and hubs. The City of London Corporation also commissioned research titled, '[From strength to strength boosting trade links with Australia and New Zealand](#)' to support the visit.

## Meeting the Lord Chief Justice and the Chancellor of the High Court

The Lord Mayor, with the Policy Chairman, met the Lord Chief Justice and the Chancellor of the High Court, to discuss ways in which the excellence of the judicial system in England and Wales, and the UK legal services offering in general, can best be promoted overseas.

## Shanghai Pudong Opening Launch Event

The Lord Mayor attended the formal opening ceremony of the Shanghai Pudong Development Bank's London Branch, its first outside Asia. At a significant ceremony attended by the Foreign Office Minister and City MP Mark Field and the Chinese Ambassador, the Lord Mayor spoke of the positive message of the Bank's confidence in London as an international finance centre. The Lord Mayor hopes to be able to visit the Bank's headquarters in Shanghai during his visit to China in March.

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

# CHIEF COMMONER

## Lunch at House of Commons

The Chief met with Alan Mak at the House of Commons on 6 February. The photo below shows the Chief Commoner looking at the 1918 Act for Women's Suffrage on display in the House of Commons.



## Inter-Livery Pancake Race

The Chief Commoner presented prizes for the Pancake Day Races in Guildhall Yard on 13 February, though sadly the rain stopped the racing and pancake tossing took over.

## Butchers' Company Ladies Banquet

Most importantly, the Chief Commoner danced the night away with Elvis at the Butchers' Company Ladies Banquet in Inner Temple Hall on 9 February. The photo proves that Elvis isn't dead!



## City Corporation Dinners

The Chief Commoner has attended a variety of City Corporation dinners in the past month. These have included the Barbican Residential Committee dinner, Port Health and Environmental Services Committee dinner, the Guildhall School of Music & Drama dinner, the Barbers' and Ironmongers' Companies dinner, and the Lord Mayor's Dinner with the Archbishops and Bishops.

# CHAIRMAN OF POLICY & RESOURCES

## **Japanese Financial Services Brexit Roundtable**

On 29 January, the Policy Chairman hosted a Brexit roundtable with key stakeholders representing Japan, including the General Manager for Europe at the Bank of Japan and the Minister for Financial Services at the Japanese Embassy. Japanese firms employ 12,000 people in City (6% of workforce) and Japan accounts for 6% of UK's financial services exports. The Policy Chairman delivered a clear and confident message that the City is open for business with Japan, and talked about the dedicated team of account managers that the City Corporation employs to support investors and stakeholders, as well as TheCityUK Japan Market Advisory Group.

## **Professional Business Services Council**

On 1 February was the first meeting of the Policy Chairman's appointment to the Professional Business Services Council (PBSC) and also the first for Richard Harrington MP (lead Minister). The City Corporation aims to make a positive contribution to the PBSC, safeguarding a sector valued at £186bn per annum (11% of the UK economy) while seeking new opportunities for City, capital and country. Recent research suggests that 14% of legal, accountancy and consultancy business exposed to Brexit, totalled 0.51% of UK GDP. The PBSC meets four times a year and is a closed meeting including civil servants and the lead Minister.

## **India-UK Financial Partnership meeting**

The Policy Chairman attended the high-level India-UK Financial Partnership (IUKFP) meeting, chaired by Sir Gerry Grimstone, on 6 February. The main themes of discussion were to consider the activity of the IUKFP in 2018 and the upcoming UK-India Economic Financial Dialogue (April), and to promote this. The City Corporation supports IUKFP, especially through our priority areas of FinTech, reinsurance, non-performing loans and Rupee Internationalisation.

## **EU Financial Affairs Sub Committee**

On 13 February the Policy Chairman met Baroness Falkner to discuss post-Brexit challenges and opportunities for the financial services sector. This follows on from evidence that the Policy Chairman gave to the House of Lords' EU Financial Affairs Sub Committee a few months ago. As a result of this meeting, the City Corporation have been asked to brief members of the Select Committee on the impact of Brexit on the financial services industry.

## **Institute for Government Breakfast**

On the 21 February, the Policy Chairman opened the Institute for Government private roundtable discussion on "What could an EU/UK deal on financial services look like?" The objective of this event was to explore how the UK can structure a future relationship with the EU in financial services. The discussion welcomed officials from relevant government departments, the regulators and senior representatives from the financial services industry. Taking recent publications from the International Regulatory Strategy group as a starting point, it focused on how the UK could build a new relationship in practice.

# PARLIAMENTARY / GLA

## Global Britain

The Lord Mayor, Charles Bowman, and Alderman Sir David Wootton, Chairman of the Mayoral Visits Advisory Committee, gave evidence to the House of Commons Foreign Affairs Committee on the Government's 'Global Britain' policy. The Lord Mayor discussed the City Corporation's overseas engagement, including the extent and objectives of the overseas visits programme, and emphasised the City Corporation's engagement and collaboration with the Government in planning that programme. Other questions asked, how the City Corporation had resourced its engagement abroad in the wake of the EU referendum, with the Lord Mayor noting the City Corporation's investment in its Brussels office, expansion in the Economic Development Office, and the work of Special Representatives Jeremy Browne and Sherry Madera in the EU and Asia.

## The Commonwealth Summit

Commonwealth Minister Lord Ahmad appeared before the Foreign Affairs Committee. Ahmad told the Committee that "every Head of State, Prime Minister and President" is expected to attend the Summit which sends "a strong message" on the importance attached to it by the Commonwealth. He emphasised the importance the Prime Minister is also placing on the event — "The person who is overseeing this event overall is the Prime Minister herself. She is overseeing the arrangements, and she is overseeing the programme." Asked by Andrew Rosindell (Con) on the key message about Global Britain that the UK intends to project at the Summit, Ahmad said, "That we have a common future, that we are building on the issues that matter and that this is an opportunity to strengthen our trade ties." The Minister said that currently only 9% of UK trade is Commonwealth-based but there were opportunities to be taken to develop this trade. The Business Forum, taking place at the Guildhall and Mansion House, would be an avenue to do that "We are hoping that through the bilateral discussions that will take place, there will be huge opportunities—if not to sign trade deals, to start those trade discussions where they have not yet begun. We are not setting any particular target, but there are huge opportunities for us."

## City of London (Open Spaces) Bill

The City Corporation's Open Spaces Bill has passed its Third Reading in the House of Lords. The Bill will enable the City Corporation to manage its open spaces more effectively and provides for a new licencing scheme to control commercial activity in the open spaces. The Bill will also enable the City Corporation to issue fixed penalty notices for breaches of bylaws and a range of regulations. Royal Assent should now be given before Easter.

## London Borough of Culture

The Mayor of London has announced Waltham Forest as the inaugural London Borough of Culture. The borough will assume the title in 2019, with Brent following in 2020. Each winning borough will be awarded £1.35m to deliver a programme of cultural activities and place the arts at the heart of their communities. The initiative is supported by funding from the City Bridge Trust, the City Corporation's charitable funder and London's largest independent grant maker. Further funding has been made available by the City Bridge Trust for the Mayor's Cultural Impact Award, which is funding individual projects in six additional boroughs.

## Mayoral Budget

The London Assembly questioned the Mayor on his final draft budget. Sadiq Khan set out some of the changes he had made to the original draft, including more money to be given to the police from business rates and council tax. The budget will also create a £45m Young Londoners Fund to support young people in the capital, particularly those at risk of falling into crime, and a £140m Strategic Investment Fund to support projects aiming to grow the capital's economy. Increased funding was also announced for enhancing green space in the capital, improving streets and local neighbourhoods, and for the London Borough of Culture scheme. Questions to the Mayor on his budget followed. On post-Brexit funding for London's cultural institutions, Khan recognised the value of the sector and noted that he was providing £70m to assist the Museum of London's relocation to West Smithfield. He was asked by Peter Whittle (UKIP) about encouraging philanthropy among businesses to help fund London's cultural sector, and relayed that he had recently met the City Corporation to discuss its efforts to raise money from business for the Centre for Music. This was, he said, "a really good idea," and asserted he was always happy to speak to businesses in London about the contribution they could make to the capital's cultural life. Following the questions to the Mayor, the budget passed without amendment.

## Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting

Contact [Lorraine Brook](#) on ext. 1409

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

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

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

### Access to the Members' Car Park

Members are requested not to use the Members' Car Park (Guildhall) during 15 to 18 April. Where Members seek to access the Car Park, their vehicle will be searched by the police and this process may take some time. As always, you will be required to show your City Corporation security pass. A caveat to this is that vehicle access can only be between 6am and 10pm (there will be no vehicular access outside this period).

### Committee Meetings

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

## Economic Development Office

Contact [Sabina Johal](#) on ext. 3614

The [City Statistics Briefing](#) infographic has been updated with the most recent data. It provides the latest facts and figures about jobs, people, firms and sectors that make up the economy of the Square Mile. It also looks at the City and London's wider role in financial and professional services across the UK.

### European FinTech delegation

City of London, alongside Department for International Trade and Foreign & Commonwealth Office hosted a delegation of over 50 European FinTech companies on 13 February. The companies spent the day learning about the support available for FinTech companies across the UK as well as information related to the UK FinTech ecosystem. Speakers included Adam Afriyie MP who is Chair of the All Party Parliamentary Group for FinTech as well as representatives from Financial Conduct Authority, Innovate Finance, Scottish Development International, Department for International Trade's Northern Powerhouse and a panel discussion with FinTech startups that have set up across the UK. Alderman William Russell gave welcoming remarks at an evening reception attended by over 100 representatives from across the UK FinTech ecosystem.

### Level Two Fundamentals of Financial Services course

City of London Corporation has partnered with the Chartered Institute of Securities & Investments, to offer the Level Two Fundamentals of Financial Services course to students from schools across London. On 5 February, we welcomed 13 Year-12 students to Guildhall for the first session of the course which will run until June. The course will provide students with an interest in financial and professional services careers with an understanding of the industry and the types of careers they could have whilst gaining a recognised financial services qualification. We are also funding the course to be delivered to students at City Academy Hackney.

### Making Apprenticeships work for your business

To coincide with National Apprenticeship Week (5 – 9 March), the Employability team in Responsible Business and Supporting London are launching a series of webinars to help businesses navigate the apprenticeship complexities, take on apprentices and use their Levy payments. To find out more, please visit: [www.cityoflondon.gov.uk/cityapprenticeships](http://www.cityoflondon.gov.uk/cityapprenticeships) or contact [responsible.city@cityoflondon.gov.uk](mailto:responsible.city@cityoflondon.gov.uk)

## Community Safety Team

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

On 22 February, the Community Safety Team hosted an event for representatives from London boroughs and housing associations looking at how to respond to the challenges of hate crime. The Mayor's office for Policing and Crime and the judiciary, looked at the scale and nature of the problem in London, current responses and how these might be improved. The City of London enjoys comparatively low levels of Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) compared to its neighbouring areas. However, we are not immune to these concerns which can cover issues ranging from nuisance through to the clearly criminal. Over recent years new problems develop and legislation has also evolved to provide a variety of enforcement options. To help improve effectiveness and coherence the Safer City Partnership is overseeing the development of a strategy to tackle the breadth of ASB problems in the City. We will keep Members informed of developments over the coming months.

### Looking out for rough sleepers in the City all year round

During cold weather, we operate a proactive shift model which sees our commissioned outreach service out every day on City streets to offer emergency accommodation to rough sleepers. During the winter months especially, rough sleepers will face additional health risks. The DCCS has been running a winter-long [public-facing awareness campaign](#) to highlight how to [make referrals to StreetLink](#), the pan-London reporting mechanism. The City of London Corporation outreach team will then respond with immediate effect. If you see someone sleeping rough and think they are suffering the effects of exposure to cold weather, please contact emergency services on 999.

### Celebrating City care leavers and children in care

Earlier this month, the City of London Corporation's Virtual School hosted a celebration event for City children in care and care leavers. The event was attended by 14 of our young people as well as many of our colleagues, foster carers and members of the Safeguarding Sub-Committee. It was great to have so many there to acknowledge the achievements and significant progress our young people have made over the last year. Randall Anderson, Chairman of the Safeguarding Sub-Committee, kindly presented awards to the young people.

### Gathering views on our draft Children and Young People's Plan

The Children and Young People's Plan (CYPP) is the overarching strategy that outlines our vision for children and young people in the City over the next three years. The aim of the strategy is to outline what the issues are for our children and young people, how we plan to address them and what we hope to achieve. The draft CYPP 2018-21 is out for public consultation until 12 March. Please [share the plan, summary document and survey link](#) with your networks.

## City Bridge Trust

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

On the 31 January 2018, the City Bridge Trust Committee agreed its new funding programmes to deliver its [Bridging Divides Funding Strategy](#) for 2018/23. This strategy will take a 'total assets' approach to ensure the best use of the Trust's non-monetary resources, including the expertise of the City of London Co as its trustee and its links to local, regional and national Government and the private sector. These programmes will be launched and open for applications from April 2018. At the same Committee meeting, grants totalling almost £2m were agreed to charities and projects across London. Grants awarded included £133,300 to [High Trees Community Development Trust](#) towards the staff and running costs of their English for Speakers of Other Languages project; £87,900 to [Eye Music Trust](#) towards the cost of taking their [Colourscape](#) experience to Special Educational Needs Schools across London; and £120,000 to [Entelechy Arts](#) towards staff and running costs of the [Meet Me on the Move](#) & [Meet Me at the Movies](#) schemes reducing isolation and loneliness amongst older Londoners. In addition, the Trust awarded grants to two local giving schemes in the London Boroughs of Camden and Haringey. This follows similar awards to help establish giving initiatives in a number of boroughs including Sutton, Barnet, Camden, Hammersmith & Fulham and Lewisham, using the model first established by [Islington Giving](#) and developed by [London's Giving](#).

## Bank on Safety update

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

The experimental safety scheme, Bank on Safety Consultation, ended in November 2017. The City Corporation employed an independent consultant to review the responses with the aim of publishing a full consultation report in March. Early monitoring data shows positive signs, with casualty reduction at Bank Junction and the wider area. A report covering all the monitoring that has been undertaken so far, including air quality and journey times will be presented to committee in April. A comprehensive report will be presented to committee towards the end of May to seek a final resolution as to whether the experiment will be made permanent.

## Public Engagement on Transport

Contact [Eddie Jackson](#) on ext. 1937

The Strategic Transportation team are running a stakeholder engagement exercise to gather views of City workers, residents and visitors on how City streets are operating. In a growing City, the demands on the streets are increasing. Streets fulfil roles as public spaces as well as enabling the movement of people and vehicles, but with a finite amount of space available, the City faces choices about how the space is prioritised to ensure the City remains a great place to work, live and do business. The stakeholder engagement exercise aims to understand how City streets are performing at the moment, and what the streets of the future should look like. Members can get involved in several ways; complete the [online survey](#) before 3 April, or visit the City Streets Exhibition which is running at the City Centre until the end of March.

## Visitor Destination Strategy

Contact [Julie Mayer](#) on ext. 1410

On 9 March 10 - 11am Members are invited to attend a discussion facilitated by tourism consultant Carmel Dennis in respect of the new Visitor Destination Strategy for the Square Mile currently in development. This new strategy will replace the existing one and take us forward from 2019 to 2023. The discussion will seek feedback from Members on the following topics:

Links to the Cultural Strategy, Corporate Plan and other key strategies and plans; Emerging trends in the travel and tourism sector of relevance to the City; Strengths and weaknesses of the City's visitor offer and Priority markets for future focus. Those wishing to attend are kindly asked to reserve a place with [Julie Mayer](#), no later than close of play on Tuesday 6 March.

## Corporate Plan

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

On 7 February, the draft Corporate Plan 2018-23 was presented to Members for discussion at the Chairman of Policy and Resources' Breakfast Briefing. Thank you to all Members who attended and provided valuable feedback on the Plan. As recommended, a 'hard edit' has been carried out to remove repetition, reduce the word-count and ensure key points are fully covered. A revised draft has been approved by the Chairman of Policy and Resources and will be presented to the Court of Common Council on 8 March for final approval by all Members.

## City of London Police

Contact [Teresa La Thangue](#) on 02076012290

A busy month for the City Police with significant activity from the Economic crime directorate, the most notable of which was the sentencing of a man from Dorset for selling fake air-bags. Robert Czernik sold £30,000 worth of fake air-bags at £175 each and was given a suspended sentence and ordered to do 135 hours of unpaid work. This followed the sentencing of a gang of 13 for a complex car insurance fraud involving misuse of credit cards, and a boiler-room gang who received sentences of between two years and 18 months for investment fraud. From local policing, a drug dealer was sentenced to two and a half years in prison for possession of a range of drugs and a stun-gun. The drugs and weapon were discovered during a City police raid on the suspect's home in December 2018. A high-profile campaign alerting young drivers to the risk associated with buying fake car insurance, known as 'ghost broking', was launched by the Insurance Fraud Enforcement Department, generating print, broadcast and extensive social media coverage. Alongside this, the force celebrated four years of Project Servator, the counter-terrorism technique that sees officers deploy a range of tactics to deter terrorists and other criminality.

## Open Spaces

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

### Hampstead Heath

The English National Cross Country Championship returned to Hampstead Heath on 24 February. Nearly 10,000 runners aged 12 and over took part in this popular but challenging event due to its uphill start. Races varied in length from 3km to 12km. The following day two Shire horses came to assist the Heath team by harrowing the course. By using the horses, areas which are difficult to access by tractors could be reached and in any weather condition. The horses were from Operation Centaur, a company dedicated to the preservation of working horses.

### Burnham Beeches

Throughout January and February, the Burnham Beeches team carried out their annual maintenance work on 60 ancient pollards. Most of the work was carried out by the Burnham Beeches staff, who were joined by climbers from Hampstead Heath who helped prune 10 pollards. Over 400 people took part in Woodland Wonders 'Freaky food chain' trail and half term activities in February. A popular self-guided walk, consisting of a number of information boards about wildlife food chain along the route. Over 20 arborists from City Corporation owned sites, other sites across the UK and Europe attended a Pollarding Open Day on 14 February. It was a great opportunity to watch tree pruning in progress and to exchange experience and ideas. During Easter visitors will be able to have a go at the Easter Puzzler or the Easter egg hunt and, for early risers, there is a dawn chorus walk at 6am on 25 March.

## City of London Academies and Schools

### City Schools Debating Competition

On 27 February the City Corporation hosted a City Schools Debating competition. Six of the City Schools took part in the competition, including the City of London School for Girls, City of London Freeman's School, City Academy Hackney, City of London Academy Southwark, and City of London Academy Islington. The debaters were Year 10 pupils, and they were put into mixed school teams and competed against each other across three debates. Audience members voted for the winning team, best debater, most entertaining debater, and best question from the audience. All the pupils and teachers thoroughly enjoyed the event, and are already looking forward to next years' debating competition.

Contact [Jeanne Barnard](#) on 1864

### City of London School

#### Head boy gets highest National Score

The Head Boy at City of London School has achieved the national top score in the Introductory Chartered Institute for Securities & Investment Certificate. The qualification provides a basic introduction to the financial services industry with a focus on investments. Students learn the nature and purpose of the retail, wholesale (professional) sectors, as well as the main products and market structures of equities, debt, commodities and derivatives. The qualification includes a 3,000-4,000 word extended essay and a 50-question multiple-choice exam. The essay was based on the question "Evaluate the Advantages and Disadvantages of Investing in Alternatives to equities and bonds." City of London School started teaching this certificate last year with one pilot group and interest in the qualification has since increased. The School currently has two sets preparing for the course this year. Many congratulations to Alex on this achievement and good luck at the awards ceremony in April.

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

## City of London Academies and Schools

### City of London Academy Southwark Relationship and Sex Education

City of London Academy Southwark has been participating in the government's consultation regarding the teaching of [relationship and sex education](#) through the delivery of the Personal Social Health Education (PSHE) programme. The Rt Hon Nick Gibb MP, Minister for School Standards visited on 8 February to observe the quality of teaching in PSHE lessons. During the visit, Nick Gibb held meetings with pupils and staff to finding out more about their experiences of sex and relationship education. The Minister also had a 'learning walk' to Mathematics, English and Science lessons. He was particularly impressed by the increased standards in the lessons seen and the outcomes achieved by pupils. The Minister indicated that the Department for Education has identified the City of London Academy Southwark as a school that has radically transformed how pupils are taught about relationships and sex education.

### Year 11 Progress and Attainment

This term, the Head of School has placed particular emphasis on raising students' aspirations as the school approaches the 2018 summer examination series. Year 11 students have been addressed in their assemblies by Professor Dame Alison Peacock about the benefit of working hard and maximising learning time in lessons because the "future is not fixed". Also, Baroness Shami Chakrabarti CBE shared her experience of learning in a comprehensive school. She challenged students to apply themselves and contribute positively to address inequalities in society. Students enjoyed the Q&A sessions which covered topics of human rights, law and social mobility.

Contact [Dr Jeffery Quayle](#) on 02073945128

### City of London Freeman's School Freemen's Launches Counterpoint Project

The school has partnered with Achievement for All (AfA) to launch the 'Counterpoint: Independent and State Schools Working in Harmony' initiative. At the end of January, Freeman's School launched the project at an event in the Guildhall with 50 leading influencers from the education, business and social mobility sectors. The School has collaborated with AfA, a leading not-for-profit organisation that works in partnership with schools to improve outcomes for all children vulnerable to underachievement. The aim of the collaboration is to help improve relationships between state and independent schools and close the unacceptable gaps at all levels of the education system. The initiative will encompass a national two-year pilot, based on the AfA framework, in up to 20 independent schools. Each school will be partnered with two to five maintained schools and businesses to improve leadership, teaching and learning; parent and carer engagement; community and social understanding; and educational outcomes for all children and young people. Counterpoint will broker partnerships with schools, through the Headmasters' and Headmistresses' Conference, Society of Heads, Independent Schools Association, Girls' School Association, Local Authorities, Multi-Academy Trusts and Academy Chains to have an agreed programme in place to start in September 2018. Further information on the project can be found [here](#).

Contact [Sophie Parkin](#) at 01372 822447

## Guildhall School of Music & Drama

### Guildhall Symphony Orchestra and Ben Gernon

On 14 March the Guildhall Symphony Orchestra will be conducted by alumnus Ben Gernon with a programme including: Albert Schnelzer's Tales from Suburbia; Shostakovich's Violin Concerto No. 1 and Tchaikovsky's Symphony No. 6 in B minor, Op.74 'Pateticheskaja'. Ben has become Principal Guest Conductor of the BBC Philharmonic Orchestra, one of the youngest conductors to have held a position with a BBC orchestra this year.

### Barbican Guildhall Creative Learning: Changing Dialogue

Changing Dialogue is an annual event that celebrates the diversity and creative talent of East London as part of the Guildhall School of Music & Drama and the Barbican's joint Creative Learning division, which gives people of all ages and backgrounds access to world-class arts. This year, the festival of workshops, interventions and live music involves 50 Guildhall School students and 200 community members. Performers involved across the event include Guildhall students, people who seek support from St Mungo's Homeless Charity, Barking & Dagenham community groups, Inclusive Communities, Barking & Dagenham College, Greenshoes Community Arts, plus many more. The project culminated on 21 and 22 February with live performances, workshops and a finale showcase at Chats Palace, Hackney & The Broadway, Barking.

### Recent Alumni successes

Guildhall School alumni have had much success recently: Nimesh Patel (Acting 2010) has won the Best Actor award at the [2018 BBC Audio Drama Awards](#) for his performance as Saleem in Salman Rushdie's Midnight's Children. Caspar Singh (tenor, BMus Vocal Studies, student of Adrian Thompson & Susan Waters) and Mirjam Mesak (soprano, Masters Vocal Studies, student of Prof. Rudolf Piernay) have both been selected for the [Bayerische Staatsoper \(Munich\) Opera Studio](#) for the 2018/19 season. The Opera Studio is a programme which supports highly talented young artists and prepares them for an international career in step with actual practice. Debbie Wiseman has also been nominated for an International Film Music Critics Award: the Best Film Music Compilation Album for Debbie Wiseman Live at the Barbican. The album was recorded live in concert with members of the Guildhall Symphony Orchestra and conducted by Debbie Wiseman herself.

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)

A barnstorming performance of Mahler's Second Symphony, the 'Resurrection', kicked February off for the London Symphony Orchestra and Chorus, cramming 129 singers and 118 musicians both on and off-stage, conducted by Semyon Bychkov with soloists Christiane Karg and Anna Larsson. It earned rave reviews, including a five-star review in *The Telegraph* that called it 'a dream of a Mahler performance', citing that 'Bychkov drew superb playing from the LSO'. The performance was also live streamed for free on YouTube, with 6,500 people from 113 countries around the world getting to enjoy the LSO's music. Sir Mark Elder followed with two concert performances, featuring Eastern European composers side-by-side with Elgar symphonies. He was joined by pianist Francesco Piemontesi for Bartók's Piano Concerto No 3 – 'his delicately trilling digits uncannily evoking the insect nightlife of the Great Hungarian Plain that was, for Bartók, the nearest thing to evidence of a God' (Richard Morrison, *The Times*) – and Nikolaj Znaider in Bruch's Violin Concerto No 1. A concert in Bristol's Colston Hall began a three-performance run with conductor Lionel Bringuier, also performing at the Barbican and Vienna's Konzerthaus, and the month finished with the second family concert this season, 'Dreams of Air and Flight'. In half term week, LSO Discovery and partners Heart n Soul ran a workshop day where young people with learning disabilities could come along with their families and carers to perform their own music, try out instruments, play along with LSO players and hear them perform, and more.

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## Barbican Centre

### Record numbers attend Basquiat: Boom for Real

Barbican Art Gallery announced that Basquiat: Boom for Real – the first large-scale exhibition in the UK of the pioneering American artist – was the most popular exhibition in the Barbican's history. Jane Alison, the Barbican's Head of Visual Arts, was quoted in *The Art Newspaper*, saying "we're delighted that for the first time a new generation has been able to see his work in the flesh and for most, a once in a lifetime opportunity to see such a considerable body of his work in one place."

### Yto Barrada exhibition opens

Yto Barrada: Agadir opened in the Curve gallery to a double page, five star review in the [Evening Standard](#), who said "Yto Barrada is a force of life and her new show in the Barbican Gallery's Curve space is a delight". Alongside further reviews from [The Upcoming](#), [RIBA Journal](#), [Something Curated](#), and [Time Out](#), there was also widespread broadcast coverage with Barrada and Curator Lotte Johnson appearing on [Monocle 24](#); [BBC World Service](#) and [BBC Click](#) featuring interviews with Barrada; and [London Live](#) featuring a TV interview with Johnson.

### Barbican joins the Evening Standard's The Last Straw campaign

The Barbican announced on the 5 February that it had joined the Evening Standard's The Last Straw campaign and will no longer be stocking plastic straws in its bars, cafes and restaurants. In previous years nearly 50,000 plastic straws had been given to customers each year, but as part of a commitment to reduce the centre's environmental impact, only paper straws will be available to those who request them from now on. The announcement was covered in the print and online editions of the Evening Standard, along with a quote from Sir Nicholas Kenyon, Managing Director of the Barbican.

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## London Metropolitan Archives

At the Guildhall on 1 February London Metropolitan Archives was presented with the National Archive Volunteering Award for its project Speak Out London – Diversity City. The award is made annually by the Archives and Records Association (UK and Ireland) in partnership with The National Archives, the Scottish Council on Archives and the Welsh Government. Speak Out was funded by the Heritage Lottery Fund and aimed at preserving the voices and experiences of the contemporary LGBTQ+ community alongside more traditional archives. It was part of LMA's continued engagement with the LGBTQ+ community and volunteers from the community were critical to its success, acting as interviewers, exhibition curators and ambassadors.

The centrepiece of the current exhibition in the [City's Heritage Gallery](#) until 26 April 2018 is a letter from the American Congress to the Lord Mayor and Livery of London from 1775 at a time when the City of London was strongly opposed to the policy of the British Government in its American colonies. Also featured are two celebrated Londoners: pioneer Elizabeth Garret Anderson, the first woman to qualify as a physician and surgeon in Britain; and actor, writer, musician, poet and activist Cy Grant, one of 500 young men recruited from the Caribbean in 1941 to serve in the RAF which celebrates its 100th anniversary in 2018. The next exhibition from 28 April 2018 will provide another chance to see the [City of London's 1297 copy of Magna Carta](#).

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

## Town Clerk's Bulletin

You can read the latest message from the Town Clerk on his bulletin which is available on the [intranet homepage](#). This Bulletin includes information about City Secure 2018, December and January diary highlights, and news from across the corporation.

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- The Lord Mayor led a business delegation of senior figures from industries such as asset management, cyber security and fintech to Australia and New Zealand. Before he left the [Evening Standard](#) ran a piece about the trip. During the visit he was interviewed by the [Australian Financial Review](#), [Sky News](#) and [The Australian](#) (£), and was quoted in [Investor Daily](#), and [Sydney Morning Herald](#).
- [CityAM](#) published an interview with Policy Chairman Catherine McGuinness, where she discusses his role in safeguarding the Square Mile during Brexit.
- The Lord Mayor was mentioned in a [China Daily](#) article following his speech at the official opening of the London branch of China's SPD Bank
- [People's Daily](#) published a Chinese New Year message from Lord Mayor Charles Bowman, and Chinese New Year greetings from the Policy Chairman ([link](#)). Further coverage featured in an [Express](#) article.
- Policy Chairman Catherine McGuinness was quoted by [Reuters](#) in a story about bankers and regulators comments about a proposed Brexit transition deal. Further coverage in [CNBC](#), [Mail on Sunday](#), [Nasdaq](#), and [Yahoo](#).
- Policy Chairman Catherine McGuinness was quoted by [Economic Times](#) in a piece about the State Bank of India (SBI) opening a subsidiary in the City of London in April. Further coverage in [Bloomberg](#), [Financial Express](#), and [Live Mint](#).
- The Special Adviser for Asia Sherry Madera was quoted in a piece by [Business Standard India](#) on the City of London Corporation holding a roundtable for UK fintechs at the Indian High Commission.
- [The Slovenia Times](#) interviewed Jeremy Browne, the City of London Corporation's Special Representative to the EU, who stated that "London will remain the indispensable global financial centre" in the continent of Europe.
- Chris Hayward, Planning and Transportation Committee Chairman, was quoted in [The Times](#) following news that Britain's largest property developer Landsec has secured revised planning permission for a new London headquarters for Deutsche Bank at 21 Moorfields in Moorgate. Further coverage was also in the [Daily Mail](#).
- Planning Chairman Chris Hayward and Gwyn Richards, Head of Development Design, were quoted in an [Evening Standard](#) story on London's changing skyline.
- Chris Hayward, Chairman of the Planning and Transportation Committee, was quoted in [London Loves Business](#), [Energy Manager Today](#) and [Environment Guru](#) on innovative proposals as part of the City's first Lighting Strategy.
- Chief Planning Officer Annie Hampson was interviewed in [Property Week](#) (£) regarding the City of London Corporation's planning influence on the new Bloomberg
- Member Mark Wheatley wrote in [Brexit Central](#) about the UK's membership of the single market. The City of London Corporation is referenced.
- building which opened late last year, after her team was awarded 'Best Mixed-use Scheme' for the development at the London Planning Awards last month.
- The Lord Mayor of London wrote a column in [City AM](#) about the launch of the 2018 Lord Mayor's Dragon Awards, which this year has a special Business of Trust award. Further coverage appeared in [SME Magazine](#) and [Recruitment Buzz](#).
- Policy Chairman Catherine McGuinness is quoted in an article on the installation [City Matters](#) as part of Culture Mile. Further coverage appeared in [Financial Times](#), with Barbican Managing Director Sir Nicholas Kenyon are quoted. (£)
- Policy Chairman Catherine McGuinness wrote a column in [City Matters](#) on the importance of employment, skills and education.
- [The Guardian](#), [BBC London](#), [The Stage](#), [Arts Professional](#), [LBC Radio](#) and [Barking and Dagenham Post](#) reported that City Bridge Trust, the City of London Corporation's charitable funder, provided £300,000 towards the London Borough of Culture competition, which was co-ordinated by the Greater London Authority and won yesterday by Brent Council and Waltham Forest Council.
- Coverage of the St Mungo's/City Corporation rough sleeper support partnership and the City Corporation's new emergency homeless shelter at the Guild Church of Saint Mary Aldermary ran in [Telegraph](#), [Metro](#), [Daily Mirror](#), [ITV](#), [Guardian](#), [Independent](#), [AOL](#) and [The Argus](#).
- A City Corporation Trading Standards campaign encouraging City drinkers to feel confident in asking for a top-up if they are sold a short measure pint was covered in [the Daily Telegraph](#), [Mail Online \(i\)](#), [Mail Online \(ii\)](#), [Metro](#), [BBC London News](#), [ITV London News](#), [The Morning Advertiser](#), [Evening Standard online](#), [The Times](#), [Caterer Licence](#), [Drinks Business](#), [The Scottish Sun](#), [The Sun](#), [Food and Wine](#) and [London Live](#), as well as over 140 local and regional news outlets across the country. Steve Playle, the City Corporation's Trading Standards Manager, is interviewed on BBC Radio London ([Part 1](#), [Part 2](#)), [BBC London News \(TV\)](#) and [London Live](#).
- Alison Gowman, Chairman of the City of London Corporation's City Bridge Trust Committee, was referenced in [The Carer UK](#) and on [WiredGov](#) about fraud cases among the over-65s.
- Jim Graham, Assistant Director – Cleansing, is interviewed by [BBC London News](#) [Skip to 4.04] about the steps the City Corporation is taking to deal with the recent snow in the Square Mile.
- Jeremy Simons, Chairman of the City of London Corporation's Environment Committee, was quoted in a [City Matters](#) story on a City florist who used a new clean air cargo bike scheme to make 200 flower deliveries on Valentine's Day.
- The Heathrow Animal Reception Centre was featured on [ITV's Britain's Busiest Airport](#).
- Xenia Koumi, Project Lead at the City of London Corporation, was interviewed on [BBC London](#) (play at 50 minutes) about the pilot Dragon Café scheme.

### Key Links

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

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

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