

IN THIS ISSUE: Merry Christmas from WLB | Smart Currency Business on the Brexit Deal | Brent Council consulting on new local plan | WLB Awards 2019 shortlist revealed | Latest Bank of England update

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WLB CEO Update

December 2018

Dear colleague,

As we come towards the end of an active 2018, I'd like to share some highlights of our work which will serve as a pointer to our priorities in 2019.



Throughout the year we have worked with **HCUC on a bid with Heathrow and Fujitsu to establish a West London Institute of Technology**. We published a short paper with a selection of case studies profiling **employer responses to the housing crisis**. Parliament finally endorsed **Heathrow Airport's third runway** - a move backed by WLB for many years that we believe is vital to sustaining West London's economy. We continue to work with the airport to ensure local benefits are maximised and impacts mitigated.

Progress continues - with our public sector partners the West London Alliance and TfL doing the heavy lifting - on the **West London Orbital overground**; and Hounslow Council is making significant progress on the **Golden Mile-Southall 'Crossrail' link line**. In *West London* the **Elizabeth line started operating between Paddington and Hayes**. This is all vital new capacity to keep West London moving.

Our work around Park Royal with OPDC has **focused on digital infrastructure with the installation of ultrafast broadband** by Openreach to 500 out of 2000 businesses. Also in Park Royal, we took **an active interest in power supply capacity and resilience**.

In 2019 our work will continue to grow the business community's positive impact on West London and help ensure that prosperity is shared; and when Brexit's landing place clarifies itself we will work closely with our partners to provide support to local businesses through the transition.

From myself and all the team at West London Business, we wish you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Andrew Dakers'. The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Andrew Dakers
Chief Executive

Local news bites



EU officials will dismiss Brexit deal renegotiation, writes Paul Redmond of Hammersmith's Smart Currency Business. There is a general feeling that EU negotiators consider the 585-page withdrawal treaty done and dusted, and it only remains to be seen whether Theresa May can win the support of Parliament. *Read Smart Currency Business' latest Brexit white paper.*

[More >>](#)

Also worth reading is research published last week by Ed Balls on the [views of SMEs on Brexit](#).

Brent Council is producing a new Local Plan which will shape how the borough develops over the next 20 years. It will be the main document used to guide planning applications. The Council is consulting on a Brent Local Plan Regulation 18 'Preferred Options' document. The document has been prepared following consultation on an Issues and Options document earlier this year, and builds on the policy options set out previously. [More >>](#)

West London Business Awards 2019 shortlist

Last month we revealed the prestigious shortlist for the upcoming West London Business Awards 2019. The West London Business Annual Awards presentation ceremony and gala dinner is established as a key milestone in the annual calendar of the sub-region's business community. The winners in each category, as well as the overall West London Company of the Year 2019, will be announced at a glittering awards ceremony and dinner on Friday 8 February at Twickenham Stadium. [More >>](#)

Latest Bank of England update



Member news

WLB member Wilkinson Construction Consultants named among UK top 100 small businesses

Update from the Bank of England on interest rates, the new £50 note and the future of money

Lai Wah Co, Bank of England Deputy Agent for Greater London, explores three recent announcements by the Bank. All of them relate to money in one way or another. One was about the official interest rate set by the Bank; one was about the new fifty pound note; and one was about the future of money itself.

[Read more >>](#)

Partner Networking in the New Year



FSB London and West London Business are holding a 2nd open roundtable breakfast meeting for members to meet with two Ealing Members of Parliament and the Leader of the Council on 25 January 2019.

Rupa Huq, MP for Ealing Central and Acton, and, Steve Pound, MP for Ealing North will address small businesses on their key concerns in the area, alongside Cllr Julian Bell.

[Read more >>](#)

Alternatively, if your interest lies in recruitment, training, skills needs and apprenticeships you may be interested in the [Business 1000 Survey Follow-up meeting](#), looking at LCCI and London Councils' local

Wilkinson Construction Consultants Ltd were recognised as one of this year's Small Biz 100, for their contribution to both the UK economy and its local community as part of Small Business Saturday.

[More >>](#)

Knight Frank respond to Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government (MHCLG) announcement regarding housing supply / net additional dwellings

Grainne Gilmore, Head of UK Residential Research at Knight Frank, responds to the government's latest data around delivery of new homes.

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business survey of Greater London taking place on
Tuesday 22 January.

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