



## WLB CEO Update

September 2021



Dear colleague,

It was fantastic to catch up with WLB members and supporters at our AGM & Leaders reception last week, hosted by [Venture X](#). The AGM agreed an update to our Memorandum & Articles of Association to ensure we continue to follow good governance standards and received our [Annual Review 2020-21](#). This briefly outlines the breadth and depth of our work over the past 12 months, as well as our current financial position.

Looking beyond the current fuel crisis, which we know is causing many of our members and supporters great difficulties, four opportunities of note as we head into the Autumn:

- **London West Innovation District** - One of the first impact projects delivered by Plus X is the Better World Collective Summit (13-14 October) for Wealmoor. Do you have an innovative solution to preserving / extending the shelf life of vegetables or one for reusing or recycling fruit and vegetable waste? *If so, follow the link below to get involved.*
- **West London Business Awards** - Entries close on Friday 22 October - *More info below*
- **West London Autumn Property Lunch** - This is scheduled for Friday 5 November at the National Liberal Club, so save the date now in your diary and [get registered!](#)
- **WLB at COP26 Glasgow** - As an observer organisation, West London Business is sending a delegation to COP to share what London cleantech innovators are already achieving and can contribute to the race to zero. Look out for news in the coming weeks on our podcasts from Glasgow that will give you the inside track on these critical negotiations on international climate change policy.

Finally it's my great pleasure to welcome our new members: Buckinghamshire New University, CBRE Global Investors, Recycle 4 Reuse, Spire Security and the University of Westminster.

With best wishes,



Andrew Dakers  
Chief Executive

## Innovation for a responsible West London economy



**BETTER ● WORLD**  
**COLLECTIVE**

The Better Futures Directory is now live! As West London rebuilds for a more sustainable future, the directory, formed as part of the [Mayor of London's Better Futures project](#), gives you access to a range of organisations delivering solutions to environmental challenges. Whether you are looking for sustainable packaging, transport or utilities solutions (or a whole lot more!), the new Better Futures Directory will point you in the right direction.

[Explore the Directory now >>](#)

As one of the first impact projects supported by the [London West Innovation District](#), Wealmoor- a sustainable fresh produce grower and supplier- is on the hunt for innovative solutions to tackle food waste. In a two-day Better World Collective summit on 13-14 October 2021, selected start-ups and scale-ups will learn how to navigate commercial partnerships and connect with leaders and experts across departments in Wealmoor. Registration is now open.

[Read more >>](#)

Following its successful launch in April, the Digital Creative Network West returns representing an exciting opportunity to convene large anchor organisations, startups and academia and accelerate innovation in West London. Taking place on Thursday 7 October, 4 – 5:30PM, Join us for a series of inspirational talks from industry leaders with sector-leading expertise to serving film clients worldwide, Esports giants and more!

[Read more & register >>](#)

## Don't forget your entry for the WLB Awards 2022!



## Are you the Best in the West?

**The West London Business Awards 2022 is waiting for your entry.** Entries close on Friday 22 October and are open to every business that trades in West London. With 33 categories to choose from, all businesses from all sectors are invited to enter!

FIND OUT MORE

### Business support

**London Business Hub provides an online platform for West London's entrepreneurs, small and medium sized business to access tools to start-up, sustain and grow.** A rolling programme of events gives you access to the know-how you need to tackle ongoing business challenges.

[Find out more >>](#)

**London Business Week - a series of free events - celebrates SMEs and the entrepreneurial spirit of London's small business community.** Taking place from 12 - 15 October, eligible SMEs wanting to learn how to exploit Technology, Marketing or achieving net-zero can register for a selection of in-person and online sessions.

[Find out more >>](#)

### Member news

#### Managing the end of furlough

Bright Grahame Murray looks at employer options as the Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme (CJRS) is set to end on 30 September.

[More >>](#)

#### OLWG Launches Energy Community Platform – Insyn

WLB member OLWG has launched a community platform providing a range of interactive tools around

## Policy watch

**Scottish & Southern Electricity Networks (SSE) are developing an ambitious draft Business Plan for 2023-2028, setting out how they intend to run and operate their network for the 3.8 million homes and business served.** The consultation on the business plan is open until 12pm on Monday 4 October 2021 and SSE want to hear your views.

[Read more >>](#)

**Between 1 April 2020 and 31 March 2021, British Business Bank increased its financial support to smaller businesses by more than £80bn, to nearly £89bn.** This increase was largely due to the role the Bank played in delivering part of the government's response to the Covid-19 pandemic. The Bank has released its latest annual report laying out its core programmes.

[Read more >>](#)

## Be in the know on your carbon footprint

**There is still time for you to measure your carbon footprint for FREE with Climate Essentials.** Climate Essentials supports SMEs on their journey to understand the carbon impact of their decisions in a way that is easy, educational and engaging.

[Start measuring your climate impact >>](#)

energy for business owners and decision-makers. Insyn is an unbiased community-based 'one-stop-shop' offering a range of fit-for-purpose, accessible and interactive tools.

[More >>](#)

### **MKS's 'Business Doctor' podcast: Winning the talent war**

Whether it's due to Brexit, the pandemic or a range of other market conditions, businesses across the UK are finding themselves caught in a war for talent. Moore Kingston Smith's latest Business Doctor podcast looks at the challenges they're facing at MKS, as well as what they're seeing in the wider marketplace.

[More >>](#)

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