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Chief Executive's Update

April 2016

Dear member,

Since my last *CE Update*, West London Business has made great strides in advancing our work to strengthen your voice and help create more connections between member companies. This has been given greater impetus by a board workshop in March that started to flesh out the detail of a four year strategy for WLB's development.



This issue gives an overview of the work programme now underway. More specific emails in the week's ahead will provide additional detail on the individual initiatives we are developing to ensure West London stays the best place to do business.

VOICE

WLB Policy Commissions

Four policy commissions were launched at our House of Commons reception at the end of February with panel members recruited from the membership. Click on the links below to read the Terms of Reference for each commission:

- [Transport & Infrastructure](#)
- [The Built Environment](#)
- [Education & Skills](#)
- [Sustainability & Climate Change](#)

The commissions are now inviting submissions of evidence from key stakeholders. If your company would like to make a submission in any area please e-mail clarence.bretz@westlondon.com

EU Referendum

Log into the [Members Area at westlondon.com](#) to access the **PwC webcast 'Navigating a path through the EU referendum'**. It is a must-see where PwC experts discuss key issues including immigration, the economic impact of Brexit, the various potential scenarios and political implications.

If you are wondering what fellow members of WLB are thinking, you can download the [results of our Winter 15/16 EU referendum member survey](#). The headline results: 55% stay in; 35% undecided and waiting for the Prime Minister to conclude his negotiations; and 10% leave. (The survey was conducted before the Prime Minister completed his negotiations.)

Over the next two months monitor our [Partner Events calendar](#) where we will signpost to **EU debates taking place in West London** where the case will be made by both sides. *If you would like to speak to the media or at events setting out the business case for staying in or leaving the EU please get in touch - both campaigns occasionally contact the WLB team seeking business introductions.*

Cross Party Group for West London

On Wednesday 13 April a group of representatives of both houses of parliament convened at The Red Lion, Westminster to establish the Cross Party Group for West London. West London Business, supported by member company Fuller, Smith & Turner Plc, are providing the secretariat for the group. Lord Young of Norwood Green was appointed chair of the group, with Bob Blackman MP (Harrow East) and Seema Malhotra MP (Feltham & Heston) both appointed vice-chairs.

The group's purpose is *"To provide a forum that brings parliamentarians together with key leaders in business to consider and discuss opportunities to maximise investment in the West London economic powerhouse."* The Group has a micro-site on www.westlondon.com and can be contacted at crosspartygroup@westlondon.com

West London Export Club

On Thursday 31 March WLB Board member John Graham (MD, [AdCreative](#) and member of the UKTI Creative Industries [Task Force](#)) took part in a joint announcement that WLB will work in partnership with Hounslow Chamber of Commerce to establish a West London Export Club. The club will provide a special interest group for members of both organisations looking to develop their export activity through a series of events and targeted business support. *The Export Club will soon have a micro-site live at www.westlondonexport.org.uk Don't forget that WLB members can access Hounslow Chamber's trade documentation service with a 50% discount. E-mail sallysmith@hounslowchamber.org.uk for more information.*

CONNECTIONS

Events

April has seen the hugely popular **relaunch of our Property Lunch series** at the Dorsett Hotel Shepherd's Bush, members enjoying **Brentford FC** beat Bolton 3:1 at home, and **HSBC host a corporate lunch** on the currency implications of the EU referendum. At the **Spring Leaders Dinner** at the Radisson Blu Hotel, members enjoyed a scene setting presentation from Dan Gascoyne, Director of the West London Alliance (WLA) and then a panel discussion on the challenges ahead with input from senior leaders at Beond, DBLO Architects, Heathrow and GreenTomatoCars.

Upcoming events

In May, the **Park Royal Infrastructure Summit 2016** takes place, kindly hosted by Fit Out UK. The event, which is being supported by our partners at OPDC, will see a morning session, over a light breakfast, discussing the future of broadband, utilities and Crossrail/HS2; followed by an afternoon visit to the Manufacturing Technology Centre in Coventry. [Book your place today](#) or, alternatively, contact clarence.bretz@westlondon.com if you'd like more information.

May will also see our **first Friday of the month informal launch in Park Royal** - look out for more news on this shortly, as well as the opportunity for early-bird bookings for our **House of Lords summer reception** on Thursday 21 July 2016.

WLB App

Members can download the new West London Business app from [Google Play](#) or the [Apple App store](#). The app allows you direct message fellow WLB members before, during and after events to create new connections. After installing the App you will need to login and then wait for a few hours for a member of the WLB staff team to active your account. *Please let clarence.bretz@westlondon.com know how you get on, or if you have any problems.*

West Londoner

Our new magazine **West Londoner** launched at the end of February and has been warmly received across the West London business community. The second issue is due to hit the streets in June/ July and we're already in the process of compiling a range of compelling content.

If your business wants to explore a range of advertising possibilities to reach our audience of 35,000+, please e-mail Ryan.Smith@westlondon.com. Alternatively, if you have an editorial pitch, content suggestion or wish to be featured in our events listings section, please email editor@westlondon.com

It's exciting times at WLB and, as always, thank you for your continued support as a member of West London Business.

With warm regards,



Andrew Dakers
Chief Executive

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