

Court of Common Council

Great Hall, Guildhall
Thursday 6th March 2025
The Rt Hon The Lord Mayor of London
Alderman Alastair King

Item 4: Mayoral Engagements

Thank you, Town Clerk.

On the day this honourable Court last met formally, we held the London Government Dinner with all 32 London boroughs and representatives from across different parts of London Government.

I spoke about the City's contribution to the London Growth Plan, which was launched last week.

I also travelled with the Policy Chairman to the World Economic Forum in Davos, followed by a visit to Scotland, where we attended a Burns Night supper hosted by the Scottish First Minister and renewed the City Corporation's partnership agreement with the Scottish Government.

I enjoyed visiting Wales and was honoured last week to open the Investing in Future Wales event as part of Wales Week London.

Last month, I visited Australia, where I met the Governor of Queensland, the Governor of Victoria and business leaders in Brisbane, Melbourne and Sydney.

We discussed the opportunities to collaborate for 'Growth Unleashed' and also lessons we can learn from Australian superannuation funds and their investments.

I then visited India, meeting business leaders and policy-makers in Mumbai to discuss the huge opportunities for building on our already strong record of India-UK trade and collaboration.

We also discussed the importance of financial and professional services for a UK-India free trade agreement.

Here in London, we were delighted to host a successful 9th Tokyo-London Financial Seminar, and I was honoured to welcome the Vice President of Turkey to the City.

Last week, the Lady Mayoress and I hosted a dinner at Mansion House with the City Reserve Forces and Cadets Association and the Ministry of Defence to celebrate City employers who have signed the Armed Forces Covenant, and to urge other City employers to do so.

Earlier this week, we were delighted to help launch the Veterans in the Square Mile network, part of our City Belonging Project.

I have also been delighted to take part in events with other City Belonging Networks and the Faith in the City initiative.

Next week, Women in the Square Mile is launching, following on from International Women's Day this weekend.

We will also be supporting the launch of the Social Mobility network and the Neurodiversity network soon.

I look forward to visiting China this month... which sadly means I will be out of the country for election day.

As this is our last Court of Common Council before the City-wide elections, I would like to thank all Common Councillors here for your service to the City of London and wish you all the very best.

Thank you all.