



Walbrook

Fintech and the City

Walbrook Ward's voters include a particularly high proportion of financial sector businesses, meaning any overarching change in the sector is a major issue. Having worked in the City for financial sector businesses for virtually all of my professional career, one of the most significant developments impacting the City financial sector – and the wider world – is the growth of fintech. It is estimated that the UK fintech market was worth £20 billion in annual revenue in 2014, which is expected to be easily exceeded this year.

From a more personal perspective, this is also where in my professional practice as a financial regulatory lawyer there has been a clear increase in firms seeking legal advice about creating and using more innovative services and products. The City of London Corporation is supporting fintech because, as a champion for the UK-based financial sector, the City Corporation recognises that fintech is a key component for future success. From a more personal perspective, this is also where in my professional practice as a financial regulatory lawyer there has been a clear increase in firms seeking legal advice about creating and using more innovative services and products.

What is fintech?

Fintech businesses are taking the traditional role and processes of the financial sector and replacing traditional structures with new technology-based processes. The majority of the £20 billion UK 2014 annual revenue was generated by 'traditional' fintech businesses as 'facilitators'. These are the incumbent, often global technology businesses which support banks in particular and the financial sector in general. In fact, the 'traditional' facilitator fintech business model has been around for decades. What is new is the growth of the emergent fintech 'disruptors', which are innovative firms disintermediating incumbent financial services with new technology. These generated almost a fifth of the £20 billion annual revenue figure. Venture capital funding in UK-based fintech dramatically increased in 2014, rising to US\$ 539 million, with the UK taking half the total investment in fintech businesses in Europe.

In scope here are a number of important areas, including platforms (including robo-advice, foreign exchange, peer-to-peer lending, investment crowdfunding, trading and wealth management, as well as aggregators and market infrastructure); data analytics (including around credit reference, capital markets and insurance); software (for example, innovative solutions for risk management, payments, banking, asset management and capital markets, insurance and accounting); and mobile banking and payments (such as the digital wallet, contactless payments and more recently Apple Pay). Another innovation with game-changing potential is blockchain technology. Blockchain is a public ledger for virtual currency transactions

and share trading, and its best known application is Bitcoin, launched in 2009. Many of these innovations are or have already transformed finance in improbable timescales. Some of the biggest banks now have corporate clients authorising over a billion dollars of payments at a time on tablets and smartphones. In retail, according to the Financial Conduct Authority, the broader mobile payment market is expected to be worth some US\$ 721 billion by 2017.

Some fintech businesses are regulated and need to be authorised and others do not, depending on whether what they do is seen as "regulated activity". So, for example, operators of peer-to-peer lending and investment crowdfunding platforms need to be authorised and supervised by the Financial Conduct Authority whereas cryptocurrencies are not – for the time being, at least – regulated in the UK.

Why does fintech matter?

The City is a uniquely well-suited location for fintech. Fintech is a hugely exciting opportunity for the City and the UK economy.

The City combines an existing primacy in financial services and markets with the UK's flourishing technology expertise. In addition, the UK's good availability of business capital, relatively supportive regulatory approach and excellent financial services infrastructure mean that the stars appear to be aligned. UK consumers are relatively sophisticated and are open to new innovative models for delivering financial services both within and outside the traditional banking system.

The key challenges include access to capital and investment opportunities, the development of a fair regulatory

ecosystem, access to skills and talent (both domestically and via the international skills market) and awareness of the opportunities for both new and growing businesses on one hand and 'traditional' financial services institutions on the other.

London employs over 44,000 people in the sector, which is more than Silicon Valley, with 11,000, or New York, with 43,000. London is a major employment hub for big data. There are an estimated 54,000 big data workers within 25 miles of London, compared to 57,000 for New York City and 98,000 for Silicon Valley.

A significant number of FinTech businesses are based in or close to the City itself. Those businesses not only include start-ups – which the City Corporation is delighted to encourage – but equally a number of large financial sector institutions based across the UK. Those 'traditional' financial sector businesses recognise that their future development and strategies are dependent on supporting those start-ups, entrepreneurs and graduates with innovative ideas.

What is the City Corporation's role in Fintech?

The City Corporation is working to bring key policy discussions regarding fintech to the heart of more traditional City discussions. The City Corporation is a lead sponsor – along with the Canary Wharf Group – for Innovate Finance. Innovate Finance is an industry-led not for profit membership organisation aiming to accelerate the UK's leading position in global financial services by supporting technology-led financial services innovators – whether they are early-stage start-ups or established industry players. Innovate Finance members

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**HAVE
YOUR
SAY!**

There's still time to register

It's not too late for organisations that have received an electoral registration form from the City of London Corporation to return it and get your workers on the register.

It is important for you and your organisation to have a say on the services it provides, and the way it provides them, by exercising your right to vote in City local elections. It's also important for the City Corporation that as many people as possible are registered to vote so it can be truly representative of the Square Mile it supports and promotes.

The people nominated to vote must also reflect the make-up of your organisation as a whole – from the chief executive to entry level employees and even regular contractors. They should reflect

the diversity of your firm's employees, including gender, ethnicity and seniority.

The City Corporation would also encourage organisations, where possible, to use your full voting entitlement.

The absolute deadline is Wednesday 16 December. If you've misplaced your form or are new to the registration process and aren't sure what to do, then please get in touch with the team at Guildhall as soon as possible. They will talk you through what you need to do.

Call them on 0800 587 5537 or email them at electoralservices@cityoflondon.gov.uk.

You can also find out more at www.cityoflondon.gov.uk/workervote and follow @CityVote.



In March 2016, annual ward meetings known as Wardnotes will be taking place in each of the City's 25 Wards.

Electors are invited to attend the meeting in their ward, which are conducted with an element of City tradition in the way that they are ceremonially opened and closed. More importantly they provide an opportunity for electors to meet their elected representatives (Alderman and Common Councilmen) and raise any issues they have with them.

Details of all the meetings are shown below, and are also on the City of London website www.cityoflondon.gov.uk/voting.

If the arrangements for any of the meetings change, updated information will appear on the website.

Invitations to the meetings will also be sent to all electors in February. If you have any queries regarding the meeting in your Ward please contact the Electoral Services Office on 0800 587 5537, electoralservices@cityoflondon.gov.uk or via the website www.cityoflondon.gov.uk/voting.

Aldgate - Wednesday 16 March, 12 noon
Church Hall, St Katharine Cree,
86 Leadenhall Street, London,
EC3A 3DH

Aldersgate - Wednesday 16 March, 12 noon
Ironmongers Hall, Shaffesbury Place,
Barbican, London, EC2Y 8AA

Bassishaw - Tuesday 1 March, 12.15pm
Basinghall Suite, Guildhall Yard, London,
EC2P 2EJ

Billingsgate - Wednesday 16 March, 12 noon
Waterman's Hall, 18 St-Mary-at-Hill, London,
EC3R 8EF

Bishopsgate - Wednesday 16 March,
5.30pm
Parish Hall, Parish and Ward Church of St
Botolph without Bishopsgate, Bishopsgate,
London, EC2M 3TL

Bread Street - Monday 14 March, 12 noon
St Nicholas Cole Abbey, 114 Queen
Victoria Street, London, EC4V 4BJ

Bridge and Bridge Without -
Tuesday 15 March, 12 noon
Fishmongers' Hall, London Bridge,
London, EC4R 9EL

Broad Street - Wednesday 16 March, 12 noon
Drapers' Hall, Throgmorton Avenue,
London, EC2N 2DQ

Candlewick - Wednesday 16 March, 12 noon
Church of St Clement Eastcheap,
Clement's Lane, London, EC4N 7HB

Castle Baynard - Thursday 17 March,
6pm
St Bride Foundation, Bride Lane, off Fleet
Street, London, EC3Y 8EQ

Cheap - Monday 21 March, 12 noon
Saddlers' Hall, 40 Gutter Lane, London,
EC2V 6BR

Coleman Street - Wednesday 23 March,
5.30pm
Armourers' Hall, 81 Coleman Street,
London, EC2R 5BJ

Cordwainer - Wednesday 23 March,
11.45am
St Mary Aldermary, Watling Street, London,
EC4M 9BW

Cornhill - Wednesday 16 March,
12 noon
Vestry, St Michael's Cornhill, St Michael's
Alley, London, EC3V 9DS

Cripplegate - Wednesday 16 March,
7.30pm
Barber-Surgeons Hall, Monkwell Square,
London, EC2Y 5BL

Dowgate - Wednesday 16 March,
12 noon, Skinners' Hall, 8 Dowgate Hill,
London, EC4R 2SP

Farringdon Within - Wednesday 16 March,
12.30pm
Court Room, Cutlers' Hall, Warwick Lane,
London, EC4M 7BR

Farringdon Without - Wednesday 16 March,
12 noon
Haberdashers' Hall, 18 West Smithfield,
London, EC1A 9HQ

Langbourn - Wednesday 16 March, 12 noon
St Mary Woolnoth, Lombard Street, London,
EC3V 9AN

Lime Street - Wednesday 16 March, 5pm
Old Library, Lloyd's Building, 1 Lime Street,
London, EC3M 7HA

Portsoken - Wednesday 9 March, 5pm
Artizan Street Library and Community
Centre, 1 Artizan Street, London, E1 7AF

Queenhithe - Wednesday 16 March,
12 noon, Painter's Hall, Little Trinity Lane,
London, EC4V 2AD

Tower - Wednesday 16 March, 12 noon
St Olave's Church, 8 Hart Street, London,
EC3R 7NB

Vintry - Wednesday 16 March, 12 noon
Parish Room, Church of St James
Garlickhythe, Garlick Hill, London, EC4V 2AL

Walbrook - Thursday 17 March, 12.30pm
The Long Parlour, Mansion House, London,
EC4M 8PH

New Cycle Superhighways coming soon to the Square Mile

Work to build two East-West and North-South Cycle Superhighways through central London is well underway and completed sections are expected to open in December.

Parts of both routes are opening as they are completed, including sections on Victoria Embankment towards Westminster Bridge (see image) and Blackfriars Road.

The section on Upper Thames Street, between Fish Street Hill and Great Tower Street is also due to be completed in the lead up to Christmas.

Major work is currently underway at three key locations: Blackfriars Bridge, Upper Thames Street between Lambeth Hill and Queen Street Place and Tower Hill.

As work continues, please take extra care and follow signage indicating changes to pedestrian paths. Travel advice assistants will be on hand at key locations to help people in the area.

Completion of the East-West and North-South routes is scheduled for summer and spring 2016 respectively.



The East-West and North-South Cycle Superhighways form part of Transport for London's Road Modernisation Plan. £4bn is being invested as part of the plan to transform junctions, bridges, tunnels and public spaces. As well as segregated cycle lanes to separate cyclists from other traffic, a number of other innovative approaches will also be used to improve safety, such as dedicated traffic signals for cyclists.

The improvements for pedestrians in the City include new signalised crossings at Trinity Square and across Tower Hill. Existing crossings will also be simplified at the Minories junction, and two existing crossings at Trinity Square Gardens and Minories will be widened.

The improvements will continue into next year and people are being advised to plan journeys through the areas in advance.

Visit tfl.gov.uk/roadtraveladvice for the latest information on these projects and travel advice and www.cityoflondon.gov.uk/highways for details of other transport-related work going on in the City.

Another step forward for superfast broadband in the City

The word "wayleave" might not necessarily mean much but this legal agreement permits the installation of broadband – an essential for any company – so that it can reach the offices and businesses that need it.

At present, each connection requires a new agreement, and SME tenants, of which there are over 13,000 in the Square Mile alone, have to negotiate each time they want a connection. This can take months, involve expensive fees, can result in unnecessary delays, and in some cases can mean lost work.

In other instances, offices are ready for occupation and the lease has begun before broadband is installed – meaning that businesses cannot move in under those circumstances.

For the past few months, the City Corporation has been driving a project with London's main developers, landlords, broadband operators and property managers to produce a wayleave agreement



template to resolve delays and speed up the delivery of superfast broadband.

To do this, it has been working closely with the British Standards Institution, Central London Forward, and the City of London Law Society to get this template agreed.

The template wayleave should be adopted by all parties and it has

already gained support from trade associations such as the British Property Federation and the UK Competitive Telecoms Association. It has the potential to reach out across the telecoms and property industries.

Look out for more news on the rollout of superfast broadband in your own ward in future issues.



Who We Are

**Alderman John Garbutt**

E-mail: john.garbutt@cityoflondon.gov.uk
Tel: 020 7739 8200

Committee Appointments:

Court of Aldermen
Court of Common Council
Finance Committee
General Purposes Committee of Aldermen
Planning and Transportation Committee
Port Health & Environmental Services Committee

**Lucy Frew**

E-mail: lucy.frew@cityoflondon.gov.uk

Committee Appointments:

Board of Governors of the Guildhall School of Music and Drama
Barbican Centre Board
Committee of Aldermanic Almoners, Common Council
Governors and Donation Governors of Christ's Hospital
Court of Common Council
Culture, Heritage and Libraries Committee
Economic Crime Board
Finance Committee
Police Committee

**Deputy James Thomson**

E-mail: james.thomson@cityoflondon.gov.uk

Committee Appointments:

Court of Common Council
Planning and Transportation Committee
Port Health & Environmental Services Committee
Board of Governors of the City of London School
Police Committee

CONTACT US

To write to any of your Members, to let us know if you wish to receive this newsletter by email in future, or to inform us if you wish to be taken off the distribution list write c/o

Member Services
City of London
Guildhall
London EC2P 2EJ

or email
col-eb-tc@cityoflondon.gov.uk

We are always happy to talk to workers and residents within the Ward about any issues you may wish to raise. Please contact us if you would like to arrange a meeting.

COMMUNICATING WITH THOSE WHO LIVE AND WORK IN THE CITY OF LONDON

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have raised over US\$ 500 million of funding to date in 2015. Innovate Finance will hold their next global summit at Guildhall in April 2016.

The City Corporation is making the case for improved access for SMEs to superfast broadband in the City and

also continues to work with a number of tech organisations and partnerships to support the growth of the digital economy including the Tech London Advocates (for whom it is lead sponsor), Tech City UK, Tech UK, and Digital Shoreditch.

The City Corporation is also seeking to work with a variety of stakeholders in this sector to best demonstrate the strategic

value the City Corporation can bring to the development of the fintech sector and on new issues as they emerge, for example, such as on regulatory technology, or 'regtech'.

Please don't hesitate to contact the author, Lucy Frew CC, for further information about this or any other matter.

City 20mph zone update

In September 2013, the Court of Common Council approved the implementation of a City wide 20mph speed limit and on July 2014 this was implemented across the City. At the same time, Transport for London (TfL) introduced experimental 20mph zones on a number of access routes into the City. The TfL routes excluded the east-west access along Lower Thames Street and Upper Thames Street. Following the introduction, the City of London Police undertook a driver awareness programme and spoke to 1500 motorists during the first two months of operation. In early 2015 Tower Hamlets also introduced a 20mph zone adjoining the City.

The key objective was to contribute to reversing the trend of the increase in traffic casualties in the City. Research by TfL elsewhere shows that a drop in

average traffic speed of 1mph leads to a drop in road casualties of 6%.

So has the first year of operation been successful?

During the period the number of motorists caught driving at above 31mph has dropped from above 50% to 25%. Across 46 sites that have been monitored, average speed is 1.5mph lower. So it has been successful in terms of reducing traffic speeds.

However, this has not resulted in a reduction in road casualties and indeed there has been an increase in injuries to pedestrians and cyclists. It is not known whether without the speed reduction this increase would have been worse. Monitoring will continue as part of the City's Road Danger Reduction Plan and

will analyse these trends in more detail both within the City and compared to trends experienced outside of the City.

TfL's own experimental traffic order affecting the routes into the City expires in January 2016 and a decision whether to continue with it will be made in December 2015. However it is worth noting that TfL has announced trials for 20mph zones in 8 other locations and both Islington and Camden have recently extended their 20mph zones. Southwark and Tower Hamlets have 20mph zones in place on all roads they manage.

Please don't hesitate to contact the author, Deputy James Thomson, for further information about this or any other matter.