

Our first pillar is the City...

We know the impact of Coronavirus on life in the City and The Lord Mayor has been fast and brave in sharing his priority to maintain confidence in the City and hasten the relaunch of a strong economy. Confidence...that's another 'C'! He believes the resilience and agility of the financial and professional services industry will be central to our long-term economic recovery and has called on the livery movement to play its part as custodians of a tradition of fellowship, entrepreneurial spirit and support for the vulnerable. The current circumstances, he says, presents us with an opportunity – indeed obligation – to demonstrate the social value of the Livery in a new way. We must all do as much as we can.

He finishes with saying that 'We continue to work hard to create A Better City For All – one that is inclusive, healthy, skilled and fair. Values we appreciate and through our Turning Things Around initiative we'll be exploring how to support him.

Before Coronavirus one of his key initiatives was '*The Cultural Mile*' a celebration of creativity within the City. His recent Gresham Lecture focussed on the need for creativity alongside technical skills. No longer do academic achievements alone guarantee successful employees; rather, those who have 'fusion skills' – creativity and communication, presentation and problem solving – promise to deliver better business growth. As you know I am passionate about the Arts and as a Trustee of the Guildhall School of Music and Drama (a key partner in the initiative) I'm keen to support. We already have links with the school through the Turners Consort and I want to build partnerships with the other core organisations, the Barbican and Museum of London to raise the profile of turning as an artistic and meaningful venture.