

### **Chairman's Report for the Year 2012-13**

I was honoured to become Chairman of the Associate Parliamentary Group on Wholesale Financial Markets and Services in autumn 2012, taking over from Stephen Hammond whom we should congratulate on his appointment as a Minister in the Department for Transport and thank for his work as Chairman of the APG. During the past year, we have continued with our successful breakfast programme and have also held some successful dinners.

The group's purpose remains as follows:

- To provide up to date and informative briefings for members of both Houses who have an interest in wholesale financial markets.
- To provide a forum for Members of Parliament and the financial services industry to meet and discuss.
- To educate Members of Parliament about wholesale financial markets and financial matters in general.

The group benefits from thriving industry and parliamentary groups. Given the importance of financial services to the UK economy, it is especially important for politicians to have a strong understanding of the sector. I know that those who attend our breakfasts and dinners find them hugely useful, and increasing attendance among parliamentarians should be included in our objectives for the coming year.

The group was pleased to welcome H.E. Mr Thambynathan Jasudasen, the High Commissioner for the Republic of Singapore. He offered us a briefing on Singapore's growth as an international financial services centre and its relationship with the City. We also had the opportunity to hear from Matthew Elderfield, Deputy Governor of the Central Bank of Ireland regarding Ireland's priorities for its Presidency of the Council of the European Union.

The highlights of the year are, however, our dinners. Our annual dinner took place last year on 23rd October and on that occasion we were pleased to welcome John Cridland of the CBI as guest speaker. We also held a dinner for City Week UK in April. We were very grateful that Dr Gerard Lyons, Chief Economic Advisor to the Mayor of London, was able to step in as the speaker at late notice. He explored the key issues in financial services and London's place in the global market. I am only sorry to have missed it.

I attach a complete list of our activities for the year.

The Parliamentary members of the APG remain indebted to the Industry members for their continuing support and input. This is much appreciated and completely invaluable. I would like to thank Roy Leighton and Anthony Belchambers for providing freely of their time and expertise for an incredible ten years, and without whom the group would not be so successful. I would also like to record my thanks to Ruth Hayward, who manages the Secretariat for the group with outstanding care and attentiveness, and to Heidi in my office, for booking the rooms etc.

I think the APG on Wholesale Financial Markets and Services can take pride in this year and look forward to the next year with confidence.

Jonathan Evans MP  
June 2013