



ALL-PARTY PARLIAMENTARY CORPORATE RESPONSIBILITY GROUP

Annual Report

2014-2015

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Introduction



The most exciting development for the Group this year was the establishment of our new Responsible Business Champions scheme, kindly supported by National Grid.

We launched the scheme in January 2015, when we wrote to all MPs inviting them to nominate a local company which deserved to be recognised as their Constituency Responsible Business Champion because of the outstanding contribution it makes to their constituency. We were delighted to receive nominations from MPs representing constituencies from every part of the UK and for a huge variety of companies from different business sectors and of different sizes. It was immensely encouraging to see the close relationship that these MPs have with local employers and their deep knowledge of the positive impact which these companies have on their local economy and community.

In the spring a small Parliamentary judging panel had the difficult job of selecting a shortlist of 10 companies for the Group's inaugural National Responsible Business Champion award. In making this decision the APCRG judges looked for companies which have been active in addressing the issues which the Group has been promoting, as set out on the Responsible Business card sent to MPs in July 2014 and again in January 2015. This asked MPs to ask local employers if they were: supporting the local community; offering young people work opportunities; training employees; investing in energy efficiency; promoting equality and diversity in the workplace; and monitoring suppliers' action on these issues. The judging panel also considered nominated companies' overall impact in their constituency; support for the company's work from local partners; and the extent to which what the company was nominated for went beyond its legal and contractual obligations.

We announced the first winner of the APCRG National Responsible Business Champion award – London City Airport, nominated by Stephen Timms MP – at a splendid reception in Speaker's House on 15 July. We were delighted that the Speaker agreed to host this event and we are very grateful to him for his support for the scheme.

We hope this new award will help the Group to build better recognition, inside and outside Parliament, of the immense force for good in our communities that so many UK companies represent. We were delighted with the initial response which we received from MPs to the introduction of the Responsible Business Champions scheme and we hope to build on this

year by year, using the opportunity presented by the scheme to raise MPs' awareness of different aspects of responsible business practice.

We have tweaked the issues we are asking MPs to consider as they nominate Constituency Responsible Champions in 2016 because we want to support the Government's *Fuller Working Lives* agenda. So, next year we will be asking them to look for companies that are: supporting the local community; offering older people work opportunities; offering apprenticeships and training to all age groups; investing in healthy workplaces; promoting equality & diversity in the workplace; and monitoring suppliers' actions on these issues. We hope MPs' nominations will include many, if not all, APCRG Associate members so please ensure your local MPs know about the responsible way in which you operate!

In parallel with developing and launching the Responsible Business Champions scheme, the Group has continued to hold regular discussions on topical issues, as set out later in this report. We have learned a great deal ourselves from these meetings and trust that they continue to prove useful to members in raising awareness of how companies are addressing challenging issues of concern to us all. The Officers welcome suggestions from members about topics for discussion at these events, so please do not hesitate to contact the secretariat if you would like to propose a subject.

In closing, we would like to thank our fellow Officers - Baroness Gibson of Market Rasen, Baroness Howe of Idlicote and Nick Hurd MP – for their support, which is much appreciated.



Joss Clarke (National Grid), Baroness Greengross, Declan Collier (London City Airport),
Stephen Timms MP & Jonathan Djanogly MP in
The State Rooms, Speaker's House, House of Commons on 15 July 2015

Jonathan Djanogly MP

Baroness Greengross

APCRG Co-Chairs 2014-15

Meetings held 2014-15

Building a sustainable, responsible business – October 2014

Heidi Mottram, the Chief Executive of the Northumbrian Water Group, delivered the Group's Annual Lecture on 15 October 2014. Heidi spoke about corporate leadership and building a successful, responsible business founded on clearly communicated values. Heidi emphasised the significance of public trust and doing the "right thing" for customers to ensure that this is earned and retained. She also talked about the importance of businesses being receptive to external influences and suggested that the more open businesses are to their local communities, the easier it is to build mutual understanding and trust. Heidi suggested that it is important to have a holistic view of what you want to achieve and aspire not just to work well but to be the best.

Celebrating the launch of the ICRS & the APCRG Responsible Business Champions scheme - December 2014

The Group's last event of the year was a reception held to celebrate the launch earlier in the year of the Institute of Corporate Responsibility and Sustainability ([ICRS](#)) and to announce the establishment of a new APCRG scheme to recognise Responsible Business Champions at a constituency and national level. The guest speakers at the reception, which was kindly supported by Linklaters LLP, were Claudine Blamey, Chair of the ICRS, and Matt Sparkes, Global Head of Corporate Responsibility at Linklaters LLP, a founder supporter of the ICRS and an APCRG member. Baroness Greengross welcomed guests and Jonathan Djanogly spoke briefly about the Responsible Business Champions scheme.

Tackling in-work poverty & promoting social mobility - January 2015

The Group began 2015 by discussing corporate support for measures to help tackle in-work poverty and improve social mobility on 28 January. The speakers were Matthew Whittaker, Chief Economist at The Resolution Foundation; Ian Roe, Head of Corporate Responsibility at KPMG; and Sandy Macdonald, Head of Sustainability at Standard Life. APCRG members Standard Life and KPMG are both Living Wage employers and [Social Mobility Champions](#). Ian and Sandy spoke about their firms' strong commitment to these initiatives and the business benefits associated with them.

Intergenerational workplaces & employee engagement - March 2015

On 11 March the Group held a joint meeting with members of the Intergenerational Futures All Party Parliamentary Group to discuss how we can best ensure that the UK has thriving intergenerational workplaces which make best use of the talents of all employees. The guest speakers were Tim Drake, Head of Talent Management at Hudson UK; Brian Beach, Researcher at the International Longevity Centre-UK; and Steve Robinson, Chief Executive of The Beth Johnson Foundation. Tim spoke about a very interesting [report](#), *The Great Generational Shift*, published by Hudson in 2014, which provides insights into the views and

attitudes of different generations and how they interact, including some of the challenges associated with intergenerational workplaces. Brian Beach spoke about the demographic changes taking place in the UK and the implications of this for the workplace. He referred to the recent ILC *Missing Million* [report](#), which explains that 1 million people have left the workforce before pension age. The report shows that the estimated cost of older workers' early exit from the labour market is some £88 billion.

AGM/Reconstitution meeting - June 2015

At the beginning of each Parliament the Group's AGM is replaced by a Reconstitution meeting, as required by the Parliamentary rules for Approved All Party Parliamentary Groups. Our Reconstitution meeting was held on 9 June. Baroness Greengross and Jonathan Djanogly MP had agreed to be nominated as Co-Chairs of the Group and were elected unanimously. Baroness Greengross noted the sad death during the year of our longstanding Vice-Chair, Lord Sheppard of Didgemere. Our former Vice-Chair, John Robertson, lost his seat at the 2015 general election and was replaced by Nick Hurd MP. Baroness Gibson of Market Rasen and Baroness Howe of Idlicote agreed to be renominated and were re-elected as Vice-Chairs of the Group. The Officers approved the draft accounts and discussed ideas for meetings in the year ahead.

Responsible Investment – June 2015

APCRG members met to discuss responsible investment on 9 June, the Group's first meeting since the general election. The guest speakers were: James Bevan, Chief Investment Officer at [CCLA](#) Investment Management Ltd, which manages funds for many charities and faith groups; Simon Howard, Chief Executive of the UK Sustainable Investment & Finance Association ([UKSIF](#)); and Catherine Howarth, Chief Executive of [Share Action](#), a charity that promotes responsible investment.

Constituency Responsible Business Champions reception - July 2015

The Group held a reception in the State Rooms of Speaker's House at the House of Commons on 15 July to celebrate the achievement of companies nominated by MPs as their Constituency Responsible Business Champions. At the reception our Co-Chair, Jonathan Djanogly MP, announced that London City Airport (LCY) had been chosen as the winner of the Group's first National Responsible Business Champion award. Declan Collier, LCY Chief Executive, received the award for which the company had been nominated by Rt Hon Stephen Timms MP. Jonathan also announced that Fujitsu UK and Urban & Civic were highly commended by the Parliamentary judging panel and congratulated Marks & Spencer, nominated by Rt Hon Nicky Morgan MP, as the runner up for the 2015 award. Baroness Greengross thanked National Grid and the Speaker of the House of Commons, John Bercow, for their support for the APCRG Responsible Business Champions award scheme.

Membership of the APCRG

Officers:

Co-Chairs: Jonathan Djanogly MP and Baroness Greengross.

Vice-Chairs: Baroness Gibson of Market Rasen, Baroness Howe of Idlicote and Nick Hurd MP.

MPs:

Paul Blomfield, Sir Peter Bottomley, Ruth Cadbury, Rosie Cooper, Neil Coyle, Jonathan Djanogly, Flick Drummond, Nigel Evans, Stephen Hammond, Nick Hurd, Barbara Keeley, David Lammy, Tim Loughton, Ian Lucas, Fiona Mactaggart, Michael Meacher, Madeleine Moon, Jessica Morden, Jamie Reed, Barry Sheerman, David Simpson and Gareth Thomas.

Peers:

Lord Aberdare, Lord Alton of Liverpool, Baroness Andrews, Baroness Barker, Baroness Benjamin, Lord Bhatia, Baroness Blood, Lord Bourne, Lord Brennan, Baroness Brinton, Lord Browne of Madingley, Baroness Buscombe, Lord Butler of Brockwell, Baroness Chalker of Wallasey, Lord Clement-Jones, Baroness Coussins, Baroness Cumberlege, Baroness Dean of Thornton-le-Fylde, Lord Deben, Lord Faulkner of Worcester, Lord Freeman, Baroness Gibson of Market Rasen, Baroness Goudie, Baroness Gould of Potternewton, Baroness Greengross, Baroness Grey-Thompson, Lord Harrison of Chester, Lord Haskel, Lord Haskins, Lord Hastings of Scarisbrick, Baroness Hayman, Baroness Hooper, Lord Hodgson of Astley Abbotts, Lord Howard of Lympne, Lord Howarth of Newport, Baroness Howe of Idlicote, Lord Howell of Guildford, Lord Jones, Lord Jones of Birmingham, Lord Judd, Lord Lester of Herne Hill, Baroness Liddell of Coatdyke, Lord Lucas of Crudwell & Dingwall, Lord MacGregor of Pulham Market, Professor Lord May of Oxford, Baroness McIntosh of Hudnall, Baroness Miller of Chilthorne Domer, Lord Mitchell, Lord Newby, Baroness Noakes, Baroness Northover, Lord O'Neill of Clackmannan, Lord Paul, Lord Peston, Baroness Pitkeathley, Baroness Prashar, Baroness Prosser, Lord Puttnam, Baroness Richardson of Calow, Lord Scriven, Baroness Sharp of Guildford, Lord Stevenson of Coddenham, Lord Stone of Blackheath, Lord Taylor of Warwick, Lord Touhig, Baroness Valentine, Baroness Warwick of Undercliffe, Baroness Whitaker, Lord Williamson of Horton and Lord Wolfson of Sunningdale.

Associate members:

Aberdeen Asset Management, Allen and Overy LLP, ASDA Stores Ltd, Associated British Foods plc, AXA plc, Bank of America Merrill Lynch, BBC, BBC Worldwide, British American Tobacco, BT plc. Camelot Group plc, Capita Group plc, Carillion plc, Carphone Warehouse, Carnstone Partners LLP, CEMEX, Cisco UK & Ireland, City of London Corporation, Clifford Chance LLP, Coca-Cola Enterprises Limited, CSC Computer Sciences Ltd, Deloitte LLP, Diageo plc, Direct Marketing Association, E.ON UK, Flag, Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer,

Fujitsu UK, Gentoo Green Group Ltd, Hermes Equity Ownership Services Ltd, Hogan Lovells LLP, Imperial Tobacco Group plc, Institute of Business Ethics, Interserve, Intu Properties plc, JD Williams, KYOCERA Document Solutions Ltd, John Lewis Partnership, Johnson Matthey, JTI, Kingfisher Ltd, KPMG LLP, Leeds Beckett University, Legal & General Group plc, Liberty International plc, Linklaters LLP, London City Airport, Manchester Airport plc, Marks and Spencer plc, MITIE, National Grid, Northumbrian Water Ltd, Olswang LLP, PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP, Provident Financial plc, RBS, Reed Elsevier, Rolls Royce plc, RS Collaboration, Santander UK, Scottish Power plc, Serco Group plc, Shamwari Capital, Social Fidelity CIC, Southern Water, Spirit Pub Company Ltd, Standard Life plc, Thales Holdings UK plc, The Crown Estate, The Heaven Company, Unipart Group Ltd, United Utilities Group plc, Walgreens Boots Alliance, Warburtons Ltd, Whitbread, WPP, White & Case LLP, Yorkshire and Clydesdale Bank Foundation and Zurich Insurance plc.

Subscriber members:

Bupa UK, Guardian News and Media, National House Building Council, NM Rothschild & Sons Ltd, Nottingham University, Pirelli Tyres Ltd, Princes Foods and Siemens plc.

Finance and Registration

The Group is officially registered with the Parliamentary Commissioner for Standards and it is on the Approved List as a recognised All-Party Parliamentary Group. Further information about the Group is available on our website at: www.apcrg.org.uk